

Gorham Times

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

Thank You!

GORHAM TIMES STAFF



Courtesy of Kattia Lomando

Karen DiDonato was Interim Editor

The Gorham Times staff extends our gratitude to Karen DiDonato who stepped into the role of Editor at a moment's notice. DiDonato has been part of the Gorham Times family for many years, volunteering in roles such as Editor, Public Service Announcement Coordinator and Social Media Coordinator.

The role of Editor is crucial as it is the glue that keeps our many moving parts together. DiDonato was instrumental in hiring and training our new permanent Editor, Christie Paul. DiDonato's dedication, thorough approach to editing as well as training, always with a smile and good humor, are a testament to her sterling character.

We are forever grateful for her willingness to jump back into the Gorham Times. It is this commitment of DiDonato, like that of all Gorham Times volunteers, that maintains our ability to bring the news to Gorham.

Shaw Bros. Removes Barn on Main Street



Photo credit Lori Aresenault

Shaw Brothers Family Foundation removing the barn on Main Street near the Route 237 intersection. It will be rebuilt nearby at their 258-acre Cherry Hill Farm, where walking trails and Sebago Brewing headquarters are located.

Black History Month Speaker Series

GRACE FLYNN
GHS Student Intern

There has been a Civil Rights Team (CRT) at Gorham High School (GHS) for several years. This year, however, its efforts have taken on a new form in light of Covid-19 restrictions. In addition, the CRT has increased its energy and focus towards establishing a culture of anti-racism at the high school.

As a part of this work, the CRT chose to celebrate and honor Black History Month this February through a series of events highlighting Black history, voices, and activism. The CRT partnered with the GHS section of Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) to host a series of career talks featuring local Black professionals in a variety of fields each Friday in February.

CRT member and GHS sophomore Klarha Cajuste believes that this speaker series is important because it "allows us to educate students on different careers while highlighting [people of color] in our state."

CRT members Cajuste and junior Breshia Flett coordinated career talks with jeweler Ebenezer Akakpo and lawyer/policy advocate Deborah Ibonwa respectively. The CRT and JMG hosted both speakers via Zoom on Friday, February 12th.

Attendee senior Katy Morin reflected on Ibonwa's talk stating, "Her empha-



Deborah Ibonwa
Lawyer/Policy
Advocate



Ebenezer Akakpo
Jeweler

sis on work(activism)-life balance was really appreciated. I struggle with separating activism from my everyday life and because of that I get burned out and stressed easily, so for me to do that sort of work long term I really need to improve."

The CRT will be hosting at least two more career talks during Black History Month with activist James Ford and Deering High School counselor Farausi Cherry.

JMG coordinator Eliza Kenigsburg has been regularly coordinating career talks at GHS since 2019 to provide high school students with opportunities to learn about various potential post-secondary careers or fields of study. Kenigsburg assisted CRT members in coordinating the February career talks. She spoke on the Black History Month Speaker series and its role within JMG's work: "The speaker

series was designed to center Black professionals. By elevating their story, we communicate that [we] value their stories. This feels particularly essential in Gorham where our Black students and staff are in the extreme minority. I hope that students will develop a connection with a Black professional in our community and be more likely to seek them out as mentors, internship hosts, and interview subjects."

CRT does not intend to limit its work targeting racism to Black History Month. Members and adult organizers alike are looking to continue combating racism within our community into the future. CRT member Klarha Cajuste stated that she had joined the group because "since I was a little girl I had wanted to change the world. I was born black in an all-white state which changed my perspective."

JMG coordinator Eliza Kenigsburg noted that in her work inviting speakers to GHS "it's clear that my actions around race and racism need to be factored into all my decisions as an educator. In my small way, I have the opportunity to rid our educational institutions of racism."

These events ask us during this month, and every month, to consider our personal role in cultivating an environment in which marginalized voices are not just included but amplified.

Robotics Team Makes International Competition



Photo credit Beth Orlando

Students from Gorham Middle School's alternative education program advanced into the Wonder League Robotics International Competition. Pictured left (Cohort A left to right): Heather Whitaker, Nevaeh Boucher, Gage Beaulieu, Dillon Harrington, Matt DesRoches, Abigail Bubier, Dylan Dupra, Leo Kiyantsa, Matt Clark, Ethan Garnett, and Terri Dawson. Pictured right (Cohort B left to right): Heather Whitaker, Jordan St. Peter, Kory Rolbiecki, Luke Moore, Liam Mack, Landon Philpot, Matt Clark, Rena Rockwell, and Terri Dawson.

MIKAELA PELLERIN
GHS Student Intern

This year, students from Gorham Middle School (GMS)'s alternative education program advanced into the Wonder League Robotics internation-

al competition. All nine teams from within the alternative education program made it to the final round, along with 31 other middle school teams from around the world.

To qualify for the international round, students had to first com-

plete five missions, which consisted of robotics and coding challenges. In January, students virtually submitted evidence of completion to judges, who determined who would qualify for the final competition.

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GMS AND GHS
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SHOW US YOUR
WINTER WONDERLAND
SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 3

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.

Maine's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan

STACY BRENNER

It's hard to believe that it was nearly a year ago when the COVID-19 pandemic flipped our lives upside down. For many, this past year was the most challenging of their entire lives. People were forced to leave jobs, stayed apart from their families and friends, and missed out on holidays and other beloved traditions. Folks who have worked their entire lives had to learn to navigate a complicated unemployment system, and small businesses have struggled just to stay afloat. Despite the fact that we have seen some of the deadliest days from the virus in Maine and the country during the winter, our infection numbers have begun to drop and there is hope on the horizon. We currently have two approved vaccines for use against COVID-19, and another could be approved in the near future. As of now, more than 200,000 Mainers have received either one or both of the doses. I know that many in our community are eager to receive their shot, and I have received a lot of questions about when they might be able to do so. Because of that, I'd like to take this time to share some information about Maine's vaccination plan and where we currently are.

Because Maine receives a limited supply of the vaccines each week, it has adopted a phased approach to giving out doses. According to the Maine CDC, the two immediate goals of the vaccination plan are to one, save the lives of people most at risk of having severe symptoms of the virus, and two, protect those who are on the front lines of our fight against the pandemic. We are currently in Phase 1b of this plan, where Maine residents

70 and older are eligible to receive their vaccine. The next step in this phase will be expanding eligibility to folks between the ages of 65 and 69.

Appointments can now be made online at www.walmart.com/cp/1228302

Or call the CDC consult line at 1-866-962-6062.

Or visit www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines

We have also seen the number of vaccines available in Maine slowly increase. It was recently announced that Walmart and Sam's Club locations will now receive more than 4,000 doses per week in addition to Maine's allotment. These will come through a separate program with the Biden administration, and appointments can now be made online at www.walmart.com/cp/1228302. Though shipments to Maine have increased, please keep in mind that there is still a limited supply at this time, and the availability of appointments can vary from location to location. I know it's hard to keep waiting for your turn after all this time, but please do your best to be patient and understanding. As CDC director Dr. Nirav Shah says, everyone who wants the vaccine will be able to get it. Qualifying individuals can find a list of health care sites now offering vaccinations at www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines/vaccination-sites.

Maine's vaccine rollout can change on a daily basis. For the most accu-

rate, up-to-date info on the vaccine plan and distribution, you can always check the Maine CDC's website at www.maine.gov/covid19/vaccines, or call their vaccine consult line at 1-866-962-6062. Please note that this phone number is not for appointments. Between the federal vaccine supply, distribution plan, potential new vaccines and other factors, things change fast. Although this process can be frustrating at times, I'm confident that the Maine officials coordinating this effort are doing their very best, and I'm grateful for their work.

I also want to thank the men and women at Scarborough Downs, who along with MaineHealth, have stepped up to transform their facility into a mass vaccination site. Doing this certainly wasn't required of them, and it will make a huge impact in our effort to vaccinate every Mainer.

While you're waiting to get vaccinated, please continue to stay safe and use best practices. Wearing a mask, staying socially distanced, and keeping proper hygiene can go a long way. We will get through this, but for now, we have to stay vigilant.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas, you can always reach me by email at Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov or by phone at 287-1515.



Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov
207-287-1515

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,

Vet2Vet Maine reaches out to veterans and their spouses. The nonprofit matches trained veterans with other veterans with similar interests, often forming lifelong friends. The vets swap war stories about the good old days to address isolation. Meaningful communication is formed with veterans diagnosed with serious mental health issues including PTSD and Alzheimer's/dementia.

Vet2Vet Maine partners with Oxford Street Shelter and does outreach to homeless veterans on the streets.

The caregivers meet quarterly by Zoom in a caregivers' support and networking group. This group helps manage bills, prepare meals, and manage medical services. Often, they help with bathing or dressing, household chores, transportation to appointments, companionship, and employment. Through networking, they share untold service to veterans. There is a directory of caregiver names that they can call between Zoom meetings. At each meeting there is a keynote speak-

er from the community to educate and inform caregivers about issues vets may be facing.

Vet2Vet Maine evaluates the short- and long-term physical and emotional needs of its members. We welcome new members.

I am the Caregiver Support and I live on Fort Hill in Gorham. FMI call Kathy Lavigne at (207) 809-3401 or you can email me at kathylav1949@gmail.com.

Dear Editor,

As COVID-19 forced us all to stay close to home, we enjoyed a brief dip in carbon emissions and air pollution before people started near-normal levels of traveling again. Imagine if we could make those reductions long-term. There is an exciting national carbon cash-back bill — the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763) — and it has sweeping bipartisan support, including from Rep. Chellie Pingree.

A national carbon fee and dividend or "carbon cash-back" pro-

gram, proposes a fee on carbon at the extraction point. We Americans would exceed our Paris protocol goals within eight years and create 2.1 million U.S. jobs, with low- and middle-income Americans benefiting the most. HR 763 mandates the carbon proceeds to be returned to each taxpayer as a monthly dividend check, which creates a positive feedback loop where we are all incentivized to invest in a cleaner future.

I would like to applaud the state of Maine and its Climate Action Plan. However, Maine contributes less than 1% of the country's greenhouse gas emissions. So we need national action, and soon. The almost 200,000 volunteers from Citizens' Climate Lobby are working tirelessly towards this goal.

Please join us in urging Senators King and Collins to support a national carbon cash-back program by introducing the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act in the U.S. Senate.

Annie Antonacos

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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Ad deadline is the Wednesday of the week prior to issue date. Go to www.gorhamtimes.com and click on the advertising link for schedule.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Gorham Times takes all reasonable care to prevent errors and disclaims all legal responsibility for any such errors, omissions, or typographical errors. The Gorham Times will print corrections if notified within 48 hours. We reserve the right to refuse publication of unsolicited materials. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinions expressed in the Gorham Times do not necessarily reflect those of the staff or publishers.

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Upcoming Deadlines

February 24

March 10

March 24

The Valentine's Bandit Strikes Again!



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Signs of love spread throughout Gorham to celebrate Valentine's Day! How many hearts did you see?

Show Us Your Winter Wonderland

CATHY WALTER
Staff Writer

The pandemic isn't letting up and global warming has resulted in record low January snowfalls and record high temperatures here in Gorham but there is no shortage of wonderful winter whimsy out there.

What are you doing for fun this winter? Have you taken up snowboarding? Created a backyard sledding delight? What have you seen

with new eyes? Did you notice a snowy owl moving into your backyard? Are there beautiful reflections on your pond? The Gorham Times invites you to share your winter wonderland by submitting your favorite photos to gorhamtimes@gmail.com.

The photos will be visible on our website and Facebook Page and your photo might even be featured in future issues of the paper throughout the winter.



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Lovely snowy trees on South Street.



Photo credit Cathy Walter

Gorham Sightings



Photo credit Roger Marchand

Do you know where in Gorham this photo was taken? Join our visual trivia discussion by entering your best guess on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/gorhamtimes or email us at gorhamtimes@gmail.com. The photo in the January 21 issue is a walkway at the Mallison Falls Hydroelectric project.

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Since You Asked...

Dear SYA,

How do I tell my significant other that I wish he were a better listener? He tends to interrupt/contradict rather than listening to understand. He doesn't have to agree with me; I just want to be heard and validated. What is the best way to say what I want and make a positive impact?

Out of Ideas

Dear Out Of Ideas,

This is what humans do in relationships: We choose partners who complement us, then we want them to be more like us. And we are so clear! And they just don't get it! It is the classic musical, "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change." The pesky truth is, the one who wants change has to be the one to change. Ouch. I wonder what it would be like to be curious about his interruptions and contradictions? Not everybody is a validator, and there may not BE a way to say what you want and make a positive impact. Accept the poor guy for who he is. Seek your validation elsewhere.

Please send your questions to gorhamtimes@gmail.com

Patrice Lockhart, MD, has been a Gorham resident for over 20 years. She has raised 3 marvelously well-adjusted adult children, and has a dog named Judy.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

How to Respond When Risk Tolerance is Tested

JESSICA SZAFRANSKI

When you begin investing, you will generally assess your comfort with risk, as your investment choices will be guided at least partially by your risk tolerance. But once you actually experience the ups and downs of the market, this tolerance could be tested.

Risk tolerance may appear less bothersome in the abstract but seem quite different in reality. You might initially think you would not be fazed by short-term market downturns, no matter how severe. However, when the financial markets really decline (as happened when the COVID-19 pandemic struck last March), you might find yourself being more concerned than you thought you would be.

Before you change your investment strategy, it is important to understand the potential tradeoffs. By limiting your downside risk by investing less aggressively, you may also limit your upside potential. You might need to change your strategy in other ways, such as saving more or working longer. That said, the tradeoff involved in reducing your downside risk may be worth taking, if it helps you cope better with wild market swings. The best strategy may be one you can stick with through the inevitable ups and downs of the markets.

Market fluctuations are a normal part of investing, so here are some additional suggestions that may help you focus on your long-term strategy:

Look past the immediate event. While the market's pandemic-driven fall was sudden, its recovery was also fairly quick. Eight months after its March 2020 meltdown, the market had regained all lost ground and reached a new record high. During the midst of what appears to be a real threat to your investment portfolio, it

RISK TOLERANCE MAY APPEAR LESS BOTHERSOME IN THE ABSTRACT BUT SEEM QUITE DIFFERENT IN REALITY.

can be difficult to anticipate a more favorable environment. Yet, while past performance cannot guarantee future results, every historical market decline has been followed by a recovery.

Understand that the Dow is not your portfolio. When the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the other major market indexes such as the S&P 500 fall precipitously (or shoot up), it makes headlines. But the Dow and the S&P 500 only track the performance of large U.S. companies — and while their performance may be an indication of the U.S. economy, they are not going to track the results of your portfolio, which should ideally include a

personalized mix of large-company stocks, small-company stocks, international stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments.

Keep your emotions out of investment decisions. The market will fluctuate constantly, but you should always try to keep your emotions in check. Excess exuberance when the market rises, or extreme despondency when the market falls, can lead to poor decisions. Specifically, we may buy when we feel good (when the markets are up) and sell when we feel badly (when markets are down). Your heart and your emotions may drive your financial goals — creating a comfortable retirement, sending your kids to college or leaving a legacy for your family — but when you invest for these goals, you should use your head.

Your risk tolerance is a key part of your investment strategy. But by taking the steps described above, you can gain a broader understanding of how risk fits into your overall picture and a better understanding of yourself as an investor.



Jessica Szafranski is a Gorham-based Financial Advisor specializing in retirement planning, investing and saving for education. This article is reprinted by permission of Edward Jones.



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SOLD

48 Salmon Falls Rd \$589,000
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UNDER CONTRACT

STANDISH \$219,900 - Features kitchen open to dining area with front living room, HW floors, sizeable 10x39 three season sunroom overlooking the level 1.7-acre yard. Replacement windows, metal roof, paved driveway & worry-free public water.



SOLD

BALDWIN \$34,900 - 6 acre wooded lot located in the heart of some of Maine's best fishing, hunting, hiking & snowmobiling. Perfect location to park your camper for a weekend retreat, build a retirement home or year round residence.



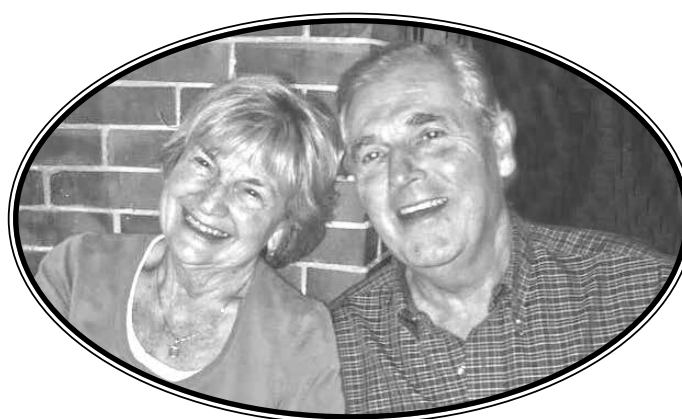
SOLD

Moody Rd, Standish \$125,000
This wooded lot offers 26 acres close to Sebago Lake and Standish Village. The Sticky River crosses the back corner of this rectangular shaped lot. Many options for this parcel located in Standish's Rural Zone.



SOLD

Parker Farm Rd, Buxton \$84,000
Two acre building lot located near the Buxton/Gorham line. Level country setting for your new home, great location to commute in all directions.



UNDER CONTRACT

GRAY \$129,900 - Offers kitchen with dining area open to a living room with a gas parlor stove, full bathroom with laundry hookup and two small bedrooms. Vinyl siding and a metal roof make for easy maintenance.

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Fire Safety Reminder

With the arrival of snow, the Gorham Fire Department wants to remind you of winter safety.

We encourage you to follow these maintenance and safety tips to prevent incidents this season:

The number one cause of fires in residential occupancies is cooking, followed by smoking, and heating appliances.

Oil and gas fired appliances should be inspected and serviced by a certified technician at least annually. Air intakes and exhaust vents need to be checked regularly and after every storm, as blocked intakes and vents will contribute to Carbon Monoxide building up in the building.

Wood-burning chimneys should be cleaned at least annually and checked at least monthly to ensure there is no build-up of creosote that will lead to a chimney fire. Combustible material should not be within 36 inches of woodstoves unless listed for reduced clearances. Ash should be stored in metal containers or deposited outdoors far from buildings.

All exits must be kept clear from ice and snow, even rarely used exits need to be clear as the fire may make the commonly used exit impassable.

Besides sprinkler systems, the next best way of surviving a fire in the home is working smoke detectors. Working Carbon Monoxide detectors will be your best defense against the colorless and odorless gas.

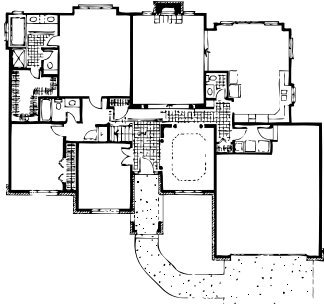
Lastly, Thank you to all who help keep the fire hydrants clear of snow, we greatly appreciate this help.

By following these fire prevention tips, we can greatly reduce the risk of an incident in your home.

CHECK OUT NFPA'S FIRE SAFETY TIPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AT NFPA.ORG.

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Scam Alert

Courtesy of Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

The Cumberland County Sheriff's Office and area Law Enforcement throughout Cumberland County are experiencing a higher than usual call volume regarding fraudulent scam calls.

The calls being placed are from individuals identifying themselves over the phone as various Law Enforcement Officials from the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office. The scammers are using a tactic that the person contacted has "Missed Federal Grand Jury Summon". The scammer then instructed the person to withdraw funds from

their financial institutions, procure gift cards and relay the information from the gift cards to the callers.

The calls are generally placed from cellular numbers that have been computer generated or otherwise are not legitimate contact numbers for the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office.

The Cumberland County Sheriff's Office and other Law Enforcement DO NOT conduct business in this manner and encourage individuals contacted to pay close attention and not provide any personal or financial information to anyone over the phone.

Further inquiries can be addressed to: Captain Craig Smith, smith@cumberlandcounty.org

Town Council Meeting 2/2/21

JACOB ADAMS
Staff Writer

Councilor Hartwell brought up the issue of clearing snow from sidewalks in Town and would like to bring it to the Council for discussion in the future. He reported that the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Committee met and voted to send that plan to the Council.

Councilor Phillips reported that the Capital Improvements and Economic Development Committee met and reviewed the capital projects that have been finished and ones that are on track to finish up soon.

Councilor Wilder Cross sat in on the Gorham Village Alliance monthly meeting and reported that there will be an Art exhibit and Sales fundraiser planned for this summer with more information to come. She also attended a GPCOG webinar on imagining Transit for Tomorrow. The webinar discussed ways for not judging ridership as a gauge

to measure whether or not transit is successful. Councilor Wilder Cross also attended the GPCOG monthly meeting and reported that they discussed land use regulations that pertain to multi-unit housing and how hard it is to build or site multi-unit housing in a lot of areas in Gorham. She also noted that the Appointments Committee is beginning to work on filing vacancies on Town Boards and Committees and will have a full slate of nominees to present at the next Council meeting.

Councilor Shepard announced that the Ordinance Committee met on January 19th and discussed three Items which will be on the Agenda tonight. The next Ordinance Committee meeting will be on February 16th.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Planning Board Results 2/1/21

Proposed amendments to the Land Use and Development Code, Chapter 2, Section 2-4 clustered residential development standards were recommended to the Town Council for approval, with Planning Board changes.

Jonathan Sturgis's proposal to subdivide one lot into two lots on William Henry Drive was discussed. The Board voted to allow septic. No waivers were granted.

Legere Builders request for approval of a 9 lot subdivision off Wood Road was discussed. No waivers were granted.

Kirk Nadeau's request for approval of a four lot subdivision off Fort Hill Road was discussed. No waivers were granted.

Plowman Development Group, LLC's request for preliminary approval of a 10 lot subdivision on Burnham Road was granted preliminary approval.

Pre-application discussion of Gorham Business Campus (zoned Industrial) was discussed.

Videos from Gorham GoCat and applicant's drone site visit to a ground mounted solar facility at 17 Nonesuch Road were reviewed.

Arrests JANUARY

Hurricane Road woman, 28, was arrested for domestic violence assault.

Baldwin man, 48, was arrested for failure to give correct name, operating after suspension, failure to give notice of an accident, violating conditions of release, OUI (two priors) and failure to notify owner of an accident.

Waterboro man, 25, was arrested for operating without a license, operating after suspension, OUI (drugs or combo) 1 prior.



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Town Council Meeting CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Councilor Kuech revealed that she attended the MMA presentation on ways to control air quality in your home and found it very interesting.

Councilor Hager reported that the Finance Committee met on January 25th and discussed the six month report of the fiscal year. He mentioned that the Town is in good shape with expenditures and on target with revenue. He also reported that the Town has received most of the expected funds from the CARES Act and expects to receive the rest in the near future. He did note that the CARES Act funds that we have received was for Public Safety, including Fire, Rescue and Police only.

Chairman Pratt thanked Public Works for their clean-up efforts during the recent storm. He also reported that he attended a virtual meeting on MS4 Storm Water Permit Training that was very interesting and gave him a little more background on what needs to be done in Gorham. He also attended the January GEDC meeting where they discussed EV Charging Stations and locations within Town, and the Mask-Up video, which will be featured on GoCam and Facebook, reminding people of how businesses in Town are helping to keep us safe from Covid. He also pointed out that the Gorham Business Campus was featured in the latest issue of The Maine Biz and urged people to check it out.

Town Manager Paraschak also thanked Public Works for their hard work during the recent storm and

reminded people of the overnight parking ban on Town roads. He reported that Department Heads have begun to work on their FY22 budgets and will present them to him in March. He also thanked the Gorham Fire Department for their continuous effort in vaccinating public safety members from Southern Maine and congratulated Ken Fickett on his recent promotion to Gorham Fire Chief.

Town Council approved renewal liquor licenses for the following establishments: Azul Tequila, located at 29 School Street; Grand Central Wine Bar, located at 7 Railroad Avenue; Lucky Thai, located at 593 Main Street; Blue Pig, LLC, located at 19 State Street; Sebago Brewing Company, located at 616 Main Street (6 years, 1 recuse: Hartwell – conflict of interest).

An Adult Use & Medical Marijuana License was approved for Green Trap LLC, located at 84 Olde Canal Way, property owned by Hani LLC. The conditions for the license require that they pass all inspections and receive a Certificate of Occupancy prior to beginning operations.

Town Council approved amendments to the Land Use & Development Code to Street Classification & Design Standards tables.

Robert Burns, Public Works Director, was appointed to the ECOMAINE Board.

Town Council forwarded amendments to the setback requirements section in the Land Use &

Development Code to the Planning Board for public hearing and recommendation.

Town Council accepted Brenda Caldwell's resignation from the Gorham Economic Development Corporation. The council also expressed gratitude for her several years of service.

The Appointments Committee was instructed to fill a vacancy on the GEDC.

Town Council instructed the Ordinance Committee to do a full review of the Firearms Ordinance and propose any changes needed with regards to the recreational Pump Track area off of Weeks Road.

The Finance Committee was instructed to review municipal fees and provide recommendations to the Town Council for adoption as needed.

The Town Council approved a yearly waste water increase over the next three years, effective on April 1, 2021, as follows:

Portland Water District Rate increase proposal				
	Current	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Base (1 HCF)	\$13.74	\$14.39	\$15.04	\$15.69
Additional HCF	\$6.29	\$6.64	\$6.99	\$7.34

Ordered that the Town Council approve amendments to the Pettingill & County Road Tax Increment Financing Districts effective on February 2, 2021.

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

SCHOOL

North Yarmouth Academy First Semester Honor Rolls 2020-21

Grade 5 – Highest Honors
Daniel Smith

Grade 6 – High Honors
Eliana Miers

Grade 7 – Highest Honors
Jackson Bartick

Grade 7 – High Honors
Gavin Thomas

Grade 7 – Honors
Samuel Grady

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Jennifer Danley, DPT

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Gorham High School Second Quarter Honor Rolls 2020-21

Grade 9 – High Honors

Cole Allen
Lillian Andreassen
William Armstrong
Claire Boudreau
Elsie Bradshaw
Amber Bretton
Luke Burns
Addison Canty
Camryn Caruso
Ethan Castonguay
Andria Cloutier
Rita Cummings
Grace Desmond
Giselle Doucette
Ella Downing
Brooke Farquhar
Taylor Farr
Abigail Fecteau
Sarah Franklin
Summer Gammon
Elizabeth Gay
Sophie Gunn
Addison Harjula
Emerson Homa
Nevaeh Joyce
Ashton Leclerc
Aidan Lee
Meryk Wellen
Corey Lorfano
Lillian Miner
Jacob Mora
Kaitlyn Nichols
Lillianna Noel
Erica Nygren
Riley Ottoson
Collin Page
Paige Perreault
Alicia Poschke
Makayla Quintal
Lily Rubin
Hadley Scaplen
Caden Smith
Emma Smith
Tristan Smith
Kyleigh Staples
Jonathan Stein
Madison Stewart
Julia Wareham
Makenna Wheeler
Anna Yahwak

Grade 9 – Honors

Brady Arsenault
Gabriel Badeau
Dylan Bauer
Emily Bennett

Moortada Beshir
Chloe Blanchard
Jackson Brassard
Macey Brenner
Elijah Castro
Gage Cathcart
Krove Chubbuck
Ayress Cook
Cory Coyne
Dakoda Coyne
Dayton Crockett
Dylan Cummings
Thomas Curtis
Jack Decrow
Alexis Deschaine
Sophia DiPhilippo
Hilary Douglas
Anna Dumais
Sheldon Dyer
Mohamed Elshafie
Nolan Feyler
Lydia Fluet
Jayden Forgitano
Aiden Fortier
Kaylee Gonneville
Natalie Haskell
Briinn Irish
Jesse James
Calvin Johnson
Anthony Jordan
Noah Kennedy
Owen Kennie
Eleanor LaBarge
Jack Luciano
Channitra Ly
Erin Lawrence
James McColl
Aislyn McLean
Libbie Merrill
Gabriel Michaud
Amy Morin
Caroline Morrell
Jackson Morrell
Arianna Morse
Samuel Parenteau
Jenna Pequinot
Brayden Perrin
Dylan Phillips
Bryce Pyle
Zoie Rand
Brayson Reed
Ethan Sadowski
Blake Small
Cleveland Small
John Small
Cole Smith
Logan Vail

Noah Vaughn
Samantha Whidden
Cole Whitehead
Cameron Whittemore
Gretchen Wilichoski Dixon
Izak Young

Grade 10 – High Honors

Julia Altham
Hayden Anderson
Hayden Battaglia
Christian Butler
Lexi Caron
Miranda Chasse
Junbei Chen
Faith Connolly
Ryan Cooper
Jasper Crane
Rachel Cummings
Annie Cunningham
Angela Dellasala
Zoe Diffin
Quinn Dillon
Jonah Doucette
Madeline Downey
Kylie Foley
Brooke Gordon
Tedi Gould
Lotus Graves
Olivia Hopkins
Braeden Johnson
Grace Johnson
Elizabeth Keil
Alexis Landry
Samuel Larkin
Erin Lawrence
Jacob Lehmann
Kevin Luo
Savannah Lyon
Trevin Macomber
Sofia Mankin
Kate Martin
Kaci Mollison
Mikaela Pellerin
Madyson Quimby
Sarah Rathbun
Tyler Reynolds
Abigail Rosingana
Emma Sands
Eli Sjostedt
Odessa Sylvester
Rylee Tenuta
Daniela Trias
Kieran Wilkins
Hailee Willey
Delaney Wright
Lillian Zidle

Grade 10 – Honors

Waeil Ahmed
Owen Ballard
Lucien Beardsley
Cole Bishop
Basil Bob
Olivia Bryant
Bode Coleman
Ian Connors
Patrick Cyr
Makenna Delaney
Devin Dobson-Jacques
Maeve Donnelly
Owen Dugas
Holly Dupra
John Frank
Ty Gammon
Andrew Gaudreau
Brooke Gerry
Julie Goldman
Marin Graham
Kayleigh Greenlaw
Corinna Hahn
Austin Hanscom
Owen Harmon
Graham Henderson
Jude Huckaby
Aryahna Hult
Lucy Hyde
Josephine James
Quinn Lachance
Madeleine LaPierre
Aedan MacDougall
Brady Marquis
Hannah O'Reilly
Lucas Ouillette
Zachary Paradis
Kate Pelletier
Nicholas Phinney
Qasim Rabbani
John Reidy
Keira Rosario
Kate Sands
Andrew Scribner
Cody Sellick
Aidan Shepard
Brady Smith
Alysha Sok
Mason Sommers
Trent Stevens
Alexandra Sutton
Eleanor Szostalo
Reagan Tibbals
Megan Wentworth
Elizabeth Willette
Hermayla Wilson
Wyatt Woodsum

Grade 11 – High Honors

Erin Abrams
George Allison
Basil Bob
Olivia Bryant
Owen Begley
Allison Bishop
Brylee Bishop
Erin Castonguay
Morgan Chapman
Ainsley Christianson
Sydney Connolly
Sadie Cyr
Aiden Dever
Mary DeWitt
Katherine Dupuis
Sadie Dyer
Hailey Edwards
Madeline Fadrigon
Olivia Falagario
Andrew Farr
Benjamin Fecteau
Jillian Feyler
Annie Frey
Elizabeth Frey
Nikolas Gagne
Maya Garand
Charles Gay
Emma Green
Sydney Haskell
Caleb Hendrix
Kiara Hodge
Kyle Landry
Alexandra Light
Elisabeth Loranger
Bryce Lambert
Shantearra Ly
Anya Mazaris-Atkinson
Aidan Meredith
Sophia Michaud
Ambrosia Moore
Isabella Morrell
Emma Mullin
Alexandra Myles
Anna Nagle
Anna Nelson
Hunter Pellerin
Ellie Perry
Grace Pierce
Anna Provost
Quentin Riiska
Vanessa Russell
Brandon Sadowski

Grade 11 – Honors

Colin Albert
Noah Badeau
Brett Barney
Ryan Bechtel
Sean Boylen
Aaja Breton-Jalbert
Kiely Burns
Connor Callahan
Alyvia Caruso
Lucas Castles
Nathan Chase
Kayleigh Cloutier
Hunter Connors
Nathan Corey
Sakara Crawford
Jessica Crocker
Parker Curry
Kaitlyn Cushing
Michelle Darling
Izabella Densmore
Alden Dimick
Doucette Deseray
Quinn Doyle
Sarah Duff
Grace Bradshaw
Logan Butler
Beck Carrier
Haley Crosby
Kelly Curran
Ava Dolley
Katherine Downey
Kirsten Drew
Andrew Duncan
Emily Duncan
Olivia Duong
Julia Edwards
Nathan Eichner
Jada Emery
Aidan Enck
Grace Flynn
Paige Fogg
Gracie Forgues
Campbell Fowler
Sydney Fox
Sophie Gagne

Grade 12 – High Honors

Corey Blake
Grace Bradshaw
Logan Butler
Beck Carrier
Haley Crosby
Kelly Curran
Ava Dolley
Katherine Downey
Kirsten Drew
Andrew Duncan
Emily Duncan
Olivia Duong
Julia Edwards
Nathan Eichner
Jada Emery
Aidan Enck
Grace Flynn
Paige Fogg
Gracie Forgues
Campbell Fowler
Sydney Fox
Sophie Gagne

Grade 12 – Honors

Luke Adams
Reighley Adams
Oluwasheyi Ajayi
Dawson Allen
Griffin Banks
Tatyanna Biamby
Jordan Blakeslee
Elijah Bullard
Veronica Corbeau-Hasenflu
River Cummings
Samantha Cummings
Sierra Cummings
Aidyn Curlee

Grade 12 – Honors

Hayden Desmond
Robert Dowdle
Jillian Dugas
Zen Duplisea
Samuel Estey
Alexandra Ferrigan
Nolan Gava
Brandon Gordon
Stacey Hakizimana
Ryan Harjula
Devyn Harrington
Hannah Heady
Reed Henderson
Leah James
Benjamin Johnson
Evan Koenig
Gabrielle LaBarge
Sophie Lachance
Alexandra Leary
Joshua Lehmann
Mikayla Leskowsky
Christopher Lewis
Nevin Libby
Tess Libby
Andrew MacFeat
Joshua Martin
Alice Peterson
Charles Pierce
Alexander Pierson
Skylar Prince
Caitlin Randall
Molly Rathbun
Cassidy Rioux
Devin Robichaud
Eva Rodrigue
Erin Sands
Delaney Seed
Ryan Topham
Alison Walker
Bailey Wentworth
Jordan Williams
Marissa Wilson
Anthony Romero
Treyton Rosario
Kelly Sahabo
Gage Sjostedt
Garrett Smith
Andrea Thibeault
Madigan Thibodeau
Madison Tryon
Benjamin Tukey
Caitlyn Wheeler
Nicholas Williams
Amelia Yahwak

Gorham Middle School Second Quarter Honor Rolls 2020-21

Grade 6 – High Honors

Daniah Al Asadi
Luna Button
Sheila Casco
Lily Keene
Logan Mills
Owen Todd
Henri Wichmann

Grade 6 – Honors

Landan Anctil
Rigel Arlet
Fatima Beshir
Zachary Bourgoin
Arwen Bravo
Lillian Burgos
Josh Castonguay
Myles Clark
Owen Cummings
Jack Cyr
Bennett Deveaux
Erica Donnelly
Maia Downing
Antoine Dube

Jackson Durgin
Hunter Finck
Jack Foisy
Eli Gow
Eddie Grimard
Kailey Hanscom
Everett Hurder
Ryan Johnson
Claire Kennedy
Tyler Krouse
Daniel LaBarge
Brandon Levesque
Audrey Livingston
Hannah Manchester
Arwen Bravo
Lillian Burgos
Josh Castonguay
Jack Mesires
Larissa Moore
Elsie Moreno
Kevin Munyaneza
Anna Nichols
Samuel Ottoson
Molly Peters
Keaton Pollard

Hailey Racine
Jasmine Radjabova
Rowen Reed
Logan Rench
Stephen Richards
Madison Rogers
Lauren Roy
Adriana Russo
Nicholas Sallinen
Madison Sampietro
Milo Saucier
Wyatt Sawyer
Jack Sellick
Max Shvets
Kylie Martorano
Sawyer Smith
Logan Spera
Alex Stueber
Alexander Tukey
Ayden Tuttle
Isaac Vail
Lola Vance
Charlotte Wallace
Cooper Whitehead

Grade 7 – High Honors

Abigail Buckelew
Grayson Cole
Aidan Dudley
Laurel Emerson
Taylor Ernest
Amanda Nicholson
Tyler Olson
Taylor Tenuta
Haley Vickery
Sawyer VonderHaar

Grade 7 – Honors

Hope Barney
Kaleigh Bauer
Lily Beardsley
Gianna Berthiaume
Miles Brenner
Aiden Cahill
Jocelyn Clark

Grade 8 – High Honors

Andrew Collins
Aubriana Cossitt
Ruby Couture
Grace Cunningham
Abigail Dalphonse
Isabella Davis
Ava DeVinney
Aaron Dumais
Emily Fluet
Logan Foley
Abigail Fortier
Brooklyn Giroux
Lauren Greenier
Elle Hanley
Henry Holland
Benjamin Keil
Reece Leclerc
Hanna Logan
Derek Luo
Jack MacDonald
Lorisse Matta
Riley McCallister
Rylyn McInnis
Gavin Monkiewicz

Grade 8 – Honors

Whitney Ball
Laura Burt
Abigail Chamberlin
Ashley Connolly
Gwyneth Dubail

Grade 8 – High Honors

Lucia Dubail
Emily Fadrigon
Mason Finck
Aryana Flett
Hadley Foster
Cameron Gasbarrone
Terra Rioux
Shawn Rumery
Addyson Simcock
Elizabeth Springer
Graham Staples
Kimberly Stoddard
Thomas Sylvia
Tobias Wane
Sasha Weston
Atticus Whitten
Natalie Wilkins
William Willette

Grade 8 – Honors

John Adams
Raiyah Babinsky
Brianna Beaulieu
Jakob Buckley

Grade 8 – Honors

Caira Nobert
Payson Plummer
Claire Rancourt
Abigail Rogers
Evelyn Rush
Victoria Sands
Brooklyn Sandstrom
Mina Sayed
Jacob Shvets
Aidan Smith
Alison Smith
Denali Tetrault
Payton Thibodeau
Madison Tibbals
Lily Tukey
Logan Wilson

School Notes

Gorham's incoming Kindergarten parent/guardian information meeting for the 2021-22 school year will be held virtually via Zoom this year on Tuesday, March 2 at 6 p.m. At this meeting, parents/guardians will meet school staff, learn about a day-in-the-life of a Kindergarten student, and receive information about the enrollment process. Enrollment materials will be available for parents/guardians to pick up at their student's elementary school the week of February 22. Visit www.gorhamschools.org and click on the student's school and pre-register using the Kindergarten registration link. If unsure of which elementary school the student will attend, please call any of the elementary schools (Great Falls, Narragansett, or Village,) directly to verify this information.

The Maine Association of School Psychologists honored Elizabeth Howe of the Gorham School District with its Lifetime Achievement Award. As school psychologist, Howe identifies the specialized needs of students in all five district schools.



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Aspire Gorham New Poster Initiative



Photo credit Jen Belanger

Aspire Gorham's new poster initiative hopes to spark conversation and a connection between students and staff about career aspirations, said Eliza Kenigsberg (featured above).

AISLYN McLEAN
GHS Student Intern

High schools around the world aim to prepare students for life beyond their hometowns. What happens once the football games and school dances come to an end? One of Gorham High School's (GHS) main missions is to ready graduates for the next chapter of their lives and to aid them in making big decisions.

Aspire Gorham is a community-wide initiative that works to introduce K-12 students of Gorham Schools to different career paths and options. Choosing a job or a college that is the right fit can be daunting. Fortunately, students now have this program to aid in that process. The initiative collaborates with Gorham businesses and employers to directly connect students with professionals. Students can introduce themselves, ask questions, and have quality conversations with these experts.

In December, eight virtual career sessions were held over Zoom. Students gained insight from guest speakers, which included psychologists, engineers, tradesmen, the game operations manager for the Boston Celtics, and more. Aspire Gorham has also introduced a monthly newsletter, featuring their projects and plans.

Jen Belanger is the communications coordinator for Aspire Gorham, which involves connecting administrations to schools and beyond. She mainly works with elementary and middle school levels. Eliza Kenigsberg, on the other hand, is the career coordinator at GHS. She typ-

ically collects student data and interests, then sets up career meetings, like the Zoom sessions. Most recently, Belanger and Kenigsberg have developed a new poster initiative within Aspire Gorham.

These posters, spread across Gorham Schools, feature staff and members of the community. Along with their job title, a few prompts are included on the poster with answers. The prompts ask about the individual's journey through job discovery. What jobs did they once want? How were they exposed to them?

Kenigsberg hopes these posters will "spark conversation and connection between students and staff about career aspirations." She also believes that the visually appealing posters will attract readers as well as help Aspire Gorham become more familiar to the student and staff body.

Belanger and Kenigsberg outlined the process in a video on the Aspire Gorham YouTube channel. Belanger explained that they had created some exemplar posters and found a solid way to do it. First, they gathered information through Google Forms. Then, they ran all the information through a template. "Our intention is to start at GHS (where this culture already exists), then extend these posters into the rest of the Gorham Schools," said Belanger.

This exciting initiative is just one of Aspire Gorham's many ideas. Plan on seeing more of this program in the future.

For more information, visit the Aspire Gorham website: <https://www.gorham-schools.org/apps/pages/aspire-gorham>.

ERIC S. THISTLE, Esq.



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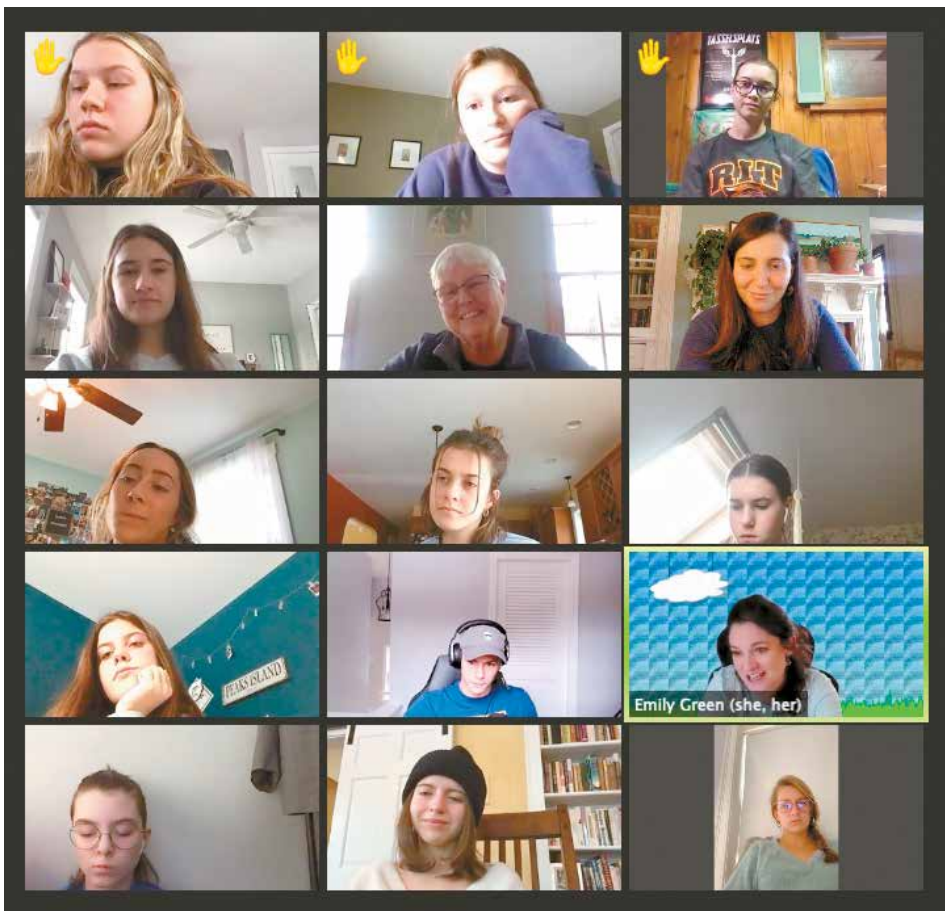


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Aspire Gorham Hosts Virtual Career Talks



Courtesy of Eliza Kenigsberg

Gorham High School students recently attended a virtual zoom meeting to learn about careers related to the environment.

COLLIN PAGE
GHS Student Intern

Aspire Gorham is a local partnership between Gorham public schools, the Gorham High School (GHS) Civil Rights Club, the GHS Interact Club, Jobs For Maine's Graduates (JMG), and the Maine Educational Loan Marketing Corporation (MELMAC). Its mission is to encourage students of all ages to think about and plan for their future.

"My hope is that it is a first step in gaining a sense of direction and interest in a field," said Eliza Kenigsberg, the Career Coordinator for Aspire Gorham.

Every Friday, Kenigsberg hosts virtual talks with people of all different professions and gives students the chance to learn about different careers and ask questions. Students are given a list of upcoming Zoom meetings each week that will be held on Fridays. There is always a large variety of career

choices to attend, and that variety is what makes the program so great.

"I think it is such a great resource to offer to high school students, and I'm glad to see this program gaining momentum," said Nate Moody, a retirement advisor for Lebel & Harriman, LLP.

Aspire Gorham reaches almost every student who knows their desired path, while at the same time helping those who are unsure to have a better understanding of future paths. The meetings are set up in an interactive way for the students to ask questions and get answers from the person who is being interviewed.

Kenigsberg always manages to keep the meetings smooth and fun, and is a great encouragement to those who may be nervous to speak up.

As Aspire Gorham grows larger, they plan on making further connections in order to best benefit students and their future choices.

Easy Cheesy Chicken Bake

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1-1½ lb. chicken strips cut into pieces | 1 bag baby carrots or carrot slices |
| 1 can broccoli cheddar soup | ¾ bag Monterey Jack blend cheese |
| 1 can creamy shiitake-cremini mushroom soup | 2 tsp Montreal chicken seasoning |
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup | ¾ can chicken broth (you may want to add more, your call) |
| 2 containers sliced mushrooms | Seasoned Panko breadcrumbs |
| 1 bag broccoli flowerets, chopped | |

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Mix all of the ingredients except Panko together in a large bowl. Spray a large (9x13") glass baking dish with olive oil; spoon mixture evenly in dish (not too thick). Shake seasoned panko over the top and more shredded cheese. Bake for 40 minutes or until golden brown on top. YUM!

Questions about the recipes can be e-mailed to Barbara Schneider at bts@maine.rr.com.

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School Committee Report 2/10/21

KATHY CORBETT
Staff Writer

At the February 10 regular School Committee (SC) meeting held on Zoom, Superintendent Heather Perry announced that Gorham Schools will receive \$777,000 in federal funds which will be used to address student learning regression caused by COVID, as well as for continuing remote learning options in the fall if necessary. She reported that the District Leadership Team has submitted an initial proposed FY22 budget to the SC. The committee's first all-day budget workshop will be February 27 on Zoom.

Kathy Hamblen, Director of Special Service, and Assistant Director, Nicole Poole, presented an overview update of special education programs and resources at each of the five district schools. The number of students receiving services by the department has increased from 396 in 2013-14 to 406 in 2020-21. They described the type of individualized programs created for each student. These have been adjusted in response to the COVID hybrid schedule. Hamblen would like to offer students more in-school time if adequate space and transportation becomes available. The staff is short two ed techs, a shortage smaller than in many districts, and they are working with The University of Southern Maine (USM) and immigrant communities to reach more potential applicants.

Proposed state legislation will increase the department's future responsibilities if services for 3 to 5 year old children in the Child Development Services (CDS) program are moved to the public schools and if age-out is extended to 22 years of age. Currently, Hamblen and her staff are working to provide professional development opportunities to employees of early childcare education facilities. They also work with the state Vocational Rehabilitation program and the local ASPIRE program on developing employment

training and opportunities.

Mohammad Humza Khan, human resources consultant and graduate of Gorham High School (GHS) and USM, presented a summary of the diversity hiring audit he conducted for the district. He interviewed district staff with hiring responsibilities and some people from the applicant pool, as well as reviewing current policies and procedures.

He assessed strengths and identified "gaps in hiring opportunities to attract diverse talent." Among the district's strengths, he found a commitment to inclusion, consistency in hiring practices, and a positive reputation. To increase diversity, he recommended strategies for enlarging the applicant pool; currently 35% of applicants are Gorham residents. These include advertising beyond the Gorham Schools website, providing flexibility in the interviewing process, and improving the district's good retention rate by celebrating diversity, mentoring, and providing pathways for advancement.

Chairman Darryl Wright explained that federal COVID Relief Funding (CRF) for free lunches this past year was greater than the money the district collected from the government and parents under the regular program, but that was because they could not sell a-la carte items, which contributed to a deficit. The CRF program will pay for FY21 lunches, but not FY22. Wright praised Michael Sanborn for his excellent work as Director of School Nutrition.

The SC voted (7-0) to adopt a new policy on the storage and handling of hazardous chemicals in the Gorham schools and a policy on grievance procedures for persons with disabilities. Both are in line with state and federal requirements.

They voted to table adjustments to the Ad-Hoc Anti-Racism Advisory Committee since it will be discussed at the February 24 workshop. They approved the FY21-22 school calendar.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Atlantic Dance Arts Studio

ANGELINA KHOMENOK

"Dance is pretty much my whole life," says Mariel Roy, owner of the Atlantic Dance Arts Studio at 29 School Street. Since she was fourteen, Roy dreamed of opening her own studio so she could share her passion for dance through teaching it. Roy has been part of the local community from birth, so she decided that Gorham would be the perfect place in which to have her dance studio. Roy believes that she would not be able to find such a supportive community as Gorham anywhere in the world.

Thanks to Roy's experience and education (she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Dance from Dean College and later taught at the Center of Movement dance studio), Roy's business has done well right from the start. Of course, there were many new things to learn, such as bookkeeping and taxes; nevertheless, Roy and her staff have successfully navigated the waters of running a small business, and are now in their fourth year of operation.

Speaking of staff, Atlantic Dance Arts has four certified teachers who are always open to new ideas and willing to help their students as much as possible. Dance styles the studio offers are so diverse that anyone would be sure to find the style that matches his or her expectations and abilities. The offerings include tap dancing, jazz, ballet, lyrical, contemporary, hip-hop, musical theatre, and acrobatics. Besides this impressive list of dance styles, the studio also has stretching and heels dance classes. It may be hard to believe all those styles are offered in a studio that has only two dance rooms. However, Roy was able to make it possible and became quite successful thanks to lots of hard work and, of course, her endless love of dancing.




Photo credit Angelina Khomenok

Students at Atlantic Dance Arts vary in age from three to thirty thanks to the variety of dance styles the studio has. This difference in the students' ages supports Roy's claim: "Anybody can dance, I think. It just takes persistence, and you have to be really open-minded and willing to try new things."


Indeed, it seems students at the studio are not only passionate about dancing but also are eager to follow Roy's advice. For example, last year quite a few students learned and then filmed their dance for the Annual Recital, which was fully virtual because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual contest alone shows how persistent and serious the Atlantic Dance Arts students are. Even though currently the studio's main goal is to make it through the pandemic, Mariel Roy has already set her sights on adding a third dance room and hiring more instructors who would add to the diversity of dance styles for her studio.

The studio's slogan, "Where friendships are formed and talents are nurtured", is truly the best way to describe this local business. If you have any questions about the Atlantic Dance Arts Studio or its class offerings, please feel free to reach out to the owner, Mariel Roy, at mariel@atlanticdancearts.com or 207-671-5161. Also, the studio's website contains a lot of helpful information and can be found at: <https://www.atlanticdancearts.com>.

You're in the Know. Gorham Times



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Recreational Dog Musher Event to be Held at Cherry Hill Trails

DESTINY COOK
Sports Editor

Saturday February 27, 2021 there will be a recreational dog mushers event called Dog WAG (Winter at Gorham) held at the Shaw Farm Cherry Hill Trails. This is a collaboration between the Gorham Recreation Department and the DownEast Sled Dog Club. It will be a self-timed event with random prize drawings throughout (there will be no prizes or awards for placements).

Katie Jordahl, a member of the club and organizer of the event said, "We are always looking for good, safe trails to run our dogs without a lot of traffic. Sometimes if you want a good local event, you must create it yourself, thus the reason for Gorham came to mind." She went on to say, "The Shaw Farm Trails are great wide trails and, once snow covered, they provide a lot of the wonderful qualities for a small recreational venue. They also happen to be adjacent to a nice brewery with great food."

According to Jordahl, dogsledding is most commonly thought of as an event only practiced by large kennels and teams (8 or more dogs on a team). "I admire those that have that ability to support and train such teams," she said. However for her, having a family, smaller amateur or less practiced sportsman teams are groups she targets with her races. "We are advertising it to the household teams to encourage participation in the sport." She called them the "weekenders" who are curious about the sport.

The local snowmobile group Snogors will be grooming the trails, however, should there be insufficient snow, the event will be moved to dryland format which is typically a fall sport in preparation for snow racing, though it can also be run in the spring. Jordahl said the safety of the participants and the dogs are first and foremost.

The Dog WAG is on public property, and spectators are encouraged to come out; the public will be notified of the race day in advance and no other individuals or domestic animals should be on the trails at the time of the event. All times are subject to change dependent upon the number of participants/class and the weather. It is online Registration only, which will close February 25th at 11:59 pm. For more information on the event and how to register, please visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/ME/Gorham/DogWAGWinteratGorhamMushersEvent>.

It is the primary goal of the Down East Sled Dog Club to host a safe event for all participants, support crews, and spectators. With this in mind, the organizers have several steps that everyone in attendance must take in order to maintain the safety of others. The following are guidelines that



Photo credit Katie Jordahl

Jordahl and her youngest canine companion, Ripple, after Scooterjoring (kickbiking with a dog)

must be followed while on the property of Shaw Brothers Cherry Hill Farm and in attendance of the race:

- All persons must wear a face covering when social distancing is not available.
- Social distancing is defined as being 6 or more feet from the nearest person.
- Face coverings will be required any time you leave the area around your vehicle set up. This is defined as further than 6 feet in any direction beyond your vehicle.
- Face coverings will be required for all handlers, spectators, and officials in the start and finishing chutes.
- Mushers who are actively racing are not required to wear a mask, however it is recommended for the start and finishing chutes.
- If you are feeling sick, have come in contact with someone who has been sick, or are unable to wear a mask due to health issues, please stay home!
- Refusal to abide by the COVID-19 guidelines by mushers or their support crews, will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and may result in disqualification.
- Please refer to the Maine State guidelines for further information and instructions. <https://www.maine.gov/covid19/restartingmaine/keep-mainehalthy>

Schedule for the day:

8:30 - Drivers Meeting

9:00 - 2 Dog Skijor

9:30 - 1 Dog Skijor

10:00 - 4 Dog Sled

10:30 - Canicross

11:30 - 1 and 2 Dog Kicksled

12:00 - 2 Dog Fat Bike

12:30 - 1 Dog Fat Bike

1:00 - Demonstrations

Gorham SnoGoers Fundraiser



Gorham SnoGoers help maintain the trails behind Sebago Brewing Tasting Room on Main Street. Beginning Friday, February 19th at both Gorham Sebago Brewing locations, "Braap! Braap! Gorham SnoGoers Gold" a golden ale made especially for the Gorham SnoGoers will be released. \$1 per pint sold will be donated to the SnoGoers through the month of February.

GMS Robotics Team CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Heather Whitaker, GMS alternative education teacher, is incorporating this STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) experience into her curriculum. She's using it as a project-based way to meet the required standards. Terri Dawson, GMS' technology integrator, is also collaborating with the teams.

In this year's competition, students had to learn how to use functions and variables. These functions and variables needed to be included in the code students were creating. To do so, high level thinking skills and perseverance were required.

"We had ups and downs and argued, and we had different ideas, but it was good to collaborate," said Gage Beaulieu, GMS student. "We finally combined our little ideas for a big idea."

Even before COVID-19, the Wonder League Robotics competition was done virtually. With that being said, in person students at GMS still need to collaborate. In order to safely do so, students are physically kept six feet apart while working together and being creative. While learning at home, students Zoom into class to get synchronous instruc-

tion to help keep the process moving forward.

Currently, students are working on their final project to submit to the competition, which is due February 22, 2021. They are required to write code, use attachments, create a 10-minute filmed presentation, design their set, and keep a detailed, reflective journal.

For students' final presentations they are encouraged to use multimedia, VR and augmented reality, green screens, and anything else creative. The goal is to make their presentations connect with the community and be visually appealing. This year's theme has to do with environmental stewardship.

Students are competing against teams from Saudi Arabia, Bulgaria, Australia, the Philippines, and North Korea, to name a few. The winning prize is \$5,000. The first five finishers in each age category also receive their own robot worth \$200.

These students have now acquired an intermediate level of knowledge on coding, which gives them a head start on their future aspirations. Students are building the foundation to get ahead and prepared for high school technology classes or even careers in STEAM.

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COMMUNITY

GRADUATIONS

Nina Greenwood, Bachelor of Arts in International Relations, cum laude, Wheaton College, Norton, Massachusetts

Audrey Perreault GHS '17, Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Karen G. Stemm, Husson University, Bangor, Maine

Melanie G. Wright, Husson University, Bangor, Maine

DEAN'S LIST

Joshua J. Ball, Husson University, Bangor, Maine

Kyren Bettencourt, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts

Jamie Carter, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona

Shawn Philip Crosby, Husson University, Bangor, Maine

Brandon Desjardin, Bryant University, Smithfield, Rhode Island

Abigail Flint, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

Bennett Gasowski, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

Katelyn Gendron, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts

Nina Greenwood, Wheaton College, Norton, Massachusetts

Saoirse Herlihy, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts

Maeve Higgins, Quinnipiac University, Hamden, Connecticut

Diana Kolb, Stonehill College, Easton, Massachusetts

Kate Larkin, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

Jenny Leo, University of Maine at Augusta, Augusta, Maine

Caitlin McCutcheon, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts

Lindsey Nygren, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

Emily O'Donnell, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

Olivia Owens, University of Maine at Fort Kent, Fort Kent, Maine

Jonathan Scribner, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Massachusetts

Erica Thibeault, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

Lisa Worster, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Albany, New York

Emily Yager, Endicott College, Beverly, Massachusetts

ACADEMIC DISTINCTION (3.5 AND ABOVE)

Maxwell Harvey, Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington

HONORS LIST (3.4 TO 3.59)

Gina O. Breggia-Reidy, Husson University, Bangor, Maine

Nolan Floyd Brown, Husson University, Bangor, Maine

Quinn Riley Young, Husson University, Bangor, Maine

OF INTEREST

Gorham Parks & Recreation Department offers a variety of recreation opportunities for all ages, all seasons. Check their website at gorhamrec.com often to see what programs, events and activities are being offered, and like them at [Facebook.com/GorhamRec](https://www.facebook.com/GorhamRec). FMI 207-222-1630

The Gorham Lions are meeting at a new location, Moody's Collision Center at 200 Narragansett St. (Rte. 202). Regular meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting is February 23 at 6:30 p.m. New members always welcome. FMI 929-9182.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879 will be holding a virtual meeting on March 9. If you are interested in attending the meeting or in more information about the VFW, please contact the Post at vfwpost10879@gmail.com.

Living Waters Church on Parker Farm Road in Buxton will hold a Haddock Supper on Saturday, February 27 at 5 p.m. \$8 adult, \$4 child, \$20 family. All safety protocols will be in effect, and a take out option is also available.

LIBRARY NEWS


The North Gorham Public Library, serving Gorham and Standish since 1897, is located next to the fire barn at the corner of Standish Neck Road and North Gorham Road. The library serves the surrounding community with a focus on fiction for adults and children, although most any book is available through inter-library loan. The library has WiFi service and computers for patron use. The library is open on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Home Delivery and contact less parking lot pickup is also available. Visit on the web at north-gorham.lib.me.us.

Come to Baxter Memorial Library on Thursday, February 18 for Gorham Feathered Friends, and stroll along the walkway and gazebo area. Bring your binoculars to find all 12 "birds" and learn some fun facts. An identification/color page will be available inside the doors of BML and also to print off at home to use in your own yard. On Friday, February 19, join Ms Heidi for this groovy experiment. She will show you how to make a lava lamp with common household items. You will need: a smooth-sided plastic or glass container, vegetable oil, water, food coloring drops, and alka seltzer tablets.* *We've bought plenty of tablets, so stop by the library if you need one. On Wednesday, February 24, join Ms. Deb on Facebook for a virtual STEAM activity. Activities are geared toward K-5 learners and require minimal supplies that you'll likely have right on-hand at home. In this program, we'll learn a bit about how sound works. We'll recycle some aluminum cans and turn them

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13


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into simple yet effective phones that you can use around your house any time you want. Preschool Discovery Times with Ms. Heidi and Toddler Discovery Times with Ms. Dani are held each week on Facebook. Check the calendar for upcoming times, and learn about all the great offerings of the Library at baxterlibrary.org.

USM NOTES

The Office of Intercultural Student Engagement (ISE), in collaboration with the Office of Student Engagement & Leadership (SEAL), has extended a humble welcome for this year's Black History Month Celebration with a lot of amazing, celebratory, educational, social, and impactful programming planned taking place during this month. The majority of events have taken place in a virtual format. Finish out the month with any or all of the following events. On Thursday, February 18, watch USM performances of slam poetry at 7 p.m, then at 8 p.m. engage in an amazing performance of Joan 'Lyric' Leslie, called the epitome of what it means to be "more black girl than magic." She uses her stories, poems and comedy to empower youth and communities of color to share their truth. On Friday, February 19, join the Watchman Series Viewing Party for Episodes 5 and 6 from 1 – 3:30 p.m., Black History Virtual Trivia Night on Tuesday, February 23, then "Hate Crimes in the Heartland" Documentary via zoom on February 25 at 7 p.m. with Dr. Leroy Rowe, and Watchman Series Episodes 7-9 on February 26 from 1 – 4:30 p.m. Visit the BHM '21 Programming Calendar to get access to all of the Zoom and event links. For any questions please contact the Office of Intercultural Student Engagement, usm.maine.edu/bhm-events, or call 207-228-8200.

Great Gigs! Alumni Event - On Friday, February 26 from 5 to 6:30 p.m., join four USM School of Music alumni, including Gospel pianist Warren McPherson '13, Choral conductor Becca DeWan '06, '18G; Trombonist MSG Sam Woodhead '96; and Mezzo soprano Megan Marino '05 for a virtual evening of music, conversation and more. Hear musical performances and learn how they're making their mark in the music world at this exciting event. A donation of any amount to the USM Foundation Strategic Investment Fund gains you entry to this virtual event. How much you'd like to give is entirely up to you. Additional accommodations (such as ASL interpretation or closed captioning) are available upon request. Please email alumniusm@maine.edu by February 11 to secure the accommodation. Make your reservation at <https://usm.maine.edu/music/great-gigs-alumni-event>

The USM Art Department's "Open Studios," typically held in person on the last Friday of classes, is now online. The second "Virtual Open Studios" shares the Fall 2020 work of USM's resilient student in a variety of modalities, including 2-D Art, Drawing Art, Media and Strategies, Ceramics, Visual Books, Paintings, Photography, Digital Art and Design, and Advanced Problems in Art. Visit the studio at usm.maine.edu/art

Detailed information regarding the COVID-19 response at USM is available on a dedicated section of the University website, Healthy Huskies, that is updated regularly. Find answers to frequently asked questions — from new and returning students to faculty and staff to community members — that cover all facets of the institution. Visit usm.maine.edu/healthy-huskies.

Going to college? Going back to college? Join USM Admissions for a 30-minute online Information Session for an in-depth look at the University of Southern Maine (USM) academic community. Through this online event, you'll meet an admission counselor, and a current student, and have an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. FMI admission@usm.maine.edu

Focus On Family

ELIZABETH WILKINS

"Mom! Come wrestle!" comes a yell from the living room. It's the second, maybe third time today, and I take a deep breath. What might function as a room to sit and relax in some people's homes, is the center of an incredible amount of activity in our house. I would say it looks more like a gym — mats on the floor, pull-up bar on the wall, and a pair of rings hanging from the ceiling. I finish what I'm working on and though I want to say no, I decide to engage.

We have always wrestled, usually on weekend mornings or occasionally in the evenings, but since the pandemic has forced us all to be at home so much more, wrestling has increased. It has almost become like a chore, but the moment I hear those squeals of pleasure and see the smile on his face, I can't help but enjoy it. His favorite part is when I put my full body weight on him, pressing him to the mat — the pancake maker we call it.

As a person who loves to be physically active, it was not hard for me to acknowledge and provide for this child of mine who rarely stops moving. He was not going to be like his brothers, who could spend solid hours reading a book or playing with Lego. This one was going to need more outlets for movement. Being a pediatric occupational therapist has also given me a valuable perspective on meeting this sensory need, knowing how much happier we all will be when these needs are being met.

From the very earliest years, children are developing and training their sensory systems. It drives their actions and behaviors at almost every waking moment. This includes not only the senses we are all familiar with — vision, taste, smell, hearing and touch — but also the more foundational

senses which help organize our brains — the vestibular sense (spatial awareness and balance) and the proprioceptive sense (body awareness and regulation of force). Children naturally crave experiences that bring in a lot of sensory input; it gives their brains the information it wants. In childhood, our brains are working to figure out how to control this physical body that contains it and how to interact with the outside world. And sensory information (green trees against a blue sky, the feel of sand between the toes, the wonderful sensation of spinning or swinging) is like brain food. Without it, the child may react in ways similar to when they haven't eaten, and we all know how scary that can be.

So next time your child is "misbehaving", step back and consider if their sensory needs are being met, especially these foundational body senses. Deep pressure to the muscles and joints that comes from wrestling, shoveling dirt or snow, jumping and landing on the ground, pulling a heavy load in a wagon, or climbing a hill are all nourishing and calming to the nervous system. Rolling down a hill, swinging on a swing or trapeze bar, hanging upside down — these are all things that kids naturally do when movement is not restricted, and they need to have opportunities to do them everyday whether in the living room, at the local playground, or right outside your backdoor. You may find that your child is happier, more content, can more easily regulate their emotions and bring their attention into better focus. This may leave you with a moment to dream about enjoying a cup of tea in a quiet living room.

Elizabeth Wilkins, owner of TimberNook of Greater Portland Maine, has been a mom for 17 years, a teacher in Waldorf settings for 13 years and recently earned a degree in occupational therapy. She and her family live in Gorham.

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Wilma Gould Johnson

CHRIS CRAWFORD

Wilma Gould Johnson is a neighbor you may never meet. You probably will not run into her at Hannaford or any other local store because she has not lived in town for almost 60 years. But if you are a regular reader of the Gorham Times, you will recognize her work. While Wilma no longer lives here, she is still actively involved in the Gorham community as she works to preserve its history through her Remember When articles which she began writing in January of 2018. She receives many fan emails from readers of the paper.

History matters to Wilma. She is passionate about saving it and does so by contributing amazingly detailed histories and photos of life in Gorham from the early to mid 20th century. She believes that a shared history helps to build strong bonds and community pride. It is also how Wilma honors her mother and grandfather who also shared a love of history. Their meticulously labeled journals, photos and news-clippings form the bedrock of Wilma's articles, along with helpful posts from members of You Know You're From Gorham When Facebook Page. Wilma said, "I am grateful to my grandfather and my mother for all of the history and information that they collected over the years, most of which has been passed



Photo credit Wilma Gould Johnson

Wilma Gould Johnson, an avid nature photographer, captures a beautiful cardinal in the snow.

on to me." In time, she plans to share this wealth of history with the Gorham Historical Society.

A friend once described her by saying, "You can take Wilma out of Gorham, but you can't take Gorham out of Wilma." Wilma considers that to be high praise and also very true.

Born and raised here, Wilma is the daughter of Frank and Jeanette Gould and the oldest grandchild of George and Velma Mitsmenn. She grew up in a house on Church Street, surrounded by her extended family of grandparents, aunts and uncles, and Mitsmenn

cousins. A member of the class of GHS 1962, Wilma married her high school sweetheart, Samuel Johnson, in 1964. They moved to Connecticut where Sam was an Industrial Arts teacher but they happily returned to live in Eliot, Maine in 1970 and have lived there ever since. Interestingly, Wilma shared that there is a strong family history of long, happy marriages and also of marrying childhood or high school sweethearts.

Wilma does return to Gorham, occasionally. Her younger brother, Bob Gould and wife Barbara, still reside

here, and when Covid ends, Wilma is looking forward to getting together with her High School group of friends dubbed the Girls of '62. She said, "There were about 12 of us, some of whom have known each other since grade school. We have different backgrounds and different views, but we still stick together." Wilma is a good friend, kind and steadfast. She credits Martha Harris with bringing the group back together after their 40th reunion. "Although we lost dear Martha, we have stayed together ever since," she said.

In addition to writing for the Gorham Times, Wilma is an avid bird watcher and outstanding nature photographer. A number of her exquisite photos have graced the pages of the Gorham Times. Wilma credits Martha Harris, a founding member and original photographer for the Gorham Times, for helping her to become a photographer. Her other hobbies include gardening, enjoying nature, walking on the beach and spending many happy summers at a family camp on Bonny Eagle Pond.

Wilma and Sam have two daughters and four grandchildren. Their oldest daughter lives in Fort Fairfield, Maine and they have one son. The youngest daughter lives in Windham and they have three daughters.

Wilma can be reached at iamwilma@comcast.net.

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Armed Carjacking, Stabbing and Pursuit ends in Gorham

SHERI FABER
Staff Writer

On February 13, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) located a 2005 Buick LeSabre that had been stolen in Limington by a man armed with a knife who had stabbed the Buick's driver and fled in the stolen vehicle. The victim suffered a minor injury. Officers pursued the stolen vehicle through Standish, Baldwin, back through Standish and into Gorham where the chase ended.

Officers from the CCSO, York County, Gorham and the Maine State Police were involved in the pursuit. Law enforcement deployed spike mats three times, disabling the vehi-

cle which was stopped when a Maine State Trooper positioned his cruiser using a pit maneuver to permanently disable the vehicle. The offender then fled on foot, pursued by CCSO and their canine team. Suspect was bitten by the canine and sustained a minor injury before being arrested and taken to jail.

Mason Day, 31, of Brownfield was arrested on multiple warrants unrelated to this incident. He was charged with armed robbery, eluding, reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon, passing a police roadblock, assault on an officer, refusal to submit to arrest/detention and violating conditions of release. He is being held at Cumberland County Jail without bail.



SUSPICIOUS STARGAZER

Suspicious person in a vehicle in a parking lot off a walking trail was looking at the stars.

Caller reported someone walking on New Portland Road who seemed intoxicated. Officer was unable to locate anyone walking on New Portland Road.

Officer served protection from abuse order on a Lombard St. resident and seized firearms.

Caller had questions in regard to crime statistics in relationship to Covid 19. Caller was told some crimes are less frequent, some are more common.

School Street caller stated that a vehicle had been parked in front of his home for days. He said it had been abandoned and he wanted it towed. Vehicle was legally parked and the owner parked it there every day for work. Vehicle had never been left there overnight.

Man on Main Street was walking home to Sebago Lake Road. He had recently had shoulder surgery and was resting on the side of the road. He was in an arm sling and clearly in pain. Officer offered to call rescue but the man just wanted a ride home. Officer drove him home.

Woman called and wanted to know why someone from the Police Dept. had called looking for her. Officer did not find any information about a call. Woman was very agitated that the officer didn't know about the call but would not say what the call might have been regarding. She said the officer could find out the information since they had called her. She said she would call back in a few days to see if anyone knew anything about it.

Many vehicles were reported off the road following a snowstorm on December 5th.

Weeks Road caller was concerned that a trash bag in front of Gorham Middle

School had a dead animal inside. Bag was checked. It contained trash. School Dept. was notified to remove the bag.

Dana Street resident had a friend drop off a chair, and they carried it into the house. A neighbor called the police. There was no incident except a new chair.

Caller reported a criminal trespass complaint on Preble St. It was an argument among neighbors about a shared shower. The instigator left before the police arrived.

Caller was looking for a place to park his camper to live in it for the winter. Officer gave him some suggestions on where to look.

Laurence Drive caller complained about littering. Man admitted to dumping clippings just prior to the officer's arrival. He returned and picked up items. He was warned for littering.

Dow Road caller reported he felt disrespected by staff manager. He was told to file a complaint. No police action was needed.

Shaw's Mill Road caller reported Social Security fraud. The caller had threatened to arrest her. She was told to screen her calls and if it was important, the caller would leave a message.

Main St. caller reported being threatened by text messages. She was told to block sender and not to have any contact with him until they could handle their affairs civilly.

Caller wanted to report a backpack in the road on Main St. in front of the Police Department. It was a black trash bag that had probably fallen from a vehicle.

Several cows got loose on North Gorham Road. Owners were able to find and secure them.

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Baxter Memorial Library, Gorham Feathered Friends on Facebook, 10 a.m.
USM Black History Month event via Zoom: Slam Poetry & Performer Joan "Lyric" Leslie, 7:30 p.m. FMI 207-228-8200

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Baxter Memorial Library, Lava Lamp with Ms. Heidi on Facebook, 10 a.m.
USM Black History Month event via Zoom: Watchmen Series Viewing Party continues, 1 - 3:30 p.m. FMI 207-228-8200

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Baxter Memorial Library, Preschool Discovery Time with Ms. Heidi on Facebook, 9:30 a.m.
Gorham Lions regular meeting, 6:30 p.m., Moody's Collision Center
USM Black History Month event via Zoom. BHM Trivia. 7-8 p.m. FMI 207-228-8200

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Baxter Memorial Library, STEAM, Tin Can Telephones with Ms. Deb on Facebook, 10 a.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Baxter Memorial Library, Toddler Discovery Time with Ms. Dani on Facebook, 9:30 a.m.
USM Black History Month event via Zoom, Hate Crimes in the Heartland. 7 p.m. FMI 207-228-8200

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

USM School of Music Alumni event, "Great Gigs" 5-6:30 p.m. usm.maine.edu/music
USM Black History Month event via Zoom, Watchman Series Viewing Party (Episodes 7-9), 1 - 4:30 p.m. FMI 207-228-8200

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