

Gorham Times

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Will Sedlack to Lead Land Trust

Gorham Times Staff



Photo credit: Brenna Crothers

Will Sedlack, PRLT new Executive Director

Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, a regional land conservation organization in the Greater Portland area, announced that it has appointed Will Sedlack to be its next Executive Director. Sedlack will assume the leadership position held for nearly a decade by Rachelle Curran Apse, whose last day will be Dec 14. Sedlack will join the staff of the Land Trust in the last week of November to transition into the position and begin as Executive Director on Friday, Dec. 15.

The Land Trust primarily serves Gorham, Gray, Standish, Westbrook, and Windham. In the last decade, the Land Trust has grown to over 500 supporting families, nearly 3,000 acres of conserved lands, and over 30 miles of trails that are free and open to the public. In addition, the Land Trust monitors the water quality of the Presumpscot River watershed, coordinates the 28-mile

Sebago to the Sea Trail, and provides educational programming to hundreds of youth and families each year.

Sedlack brings years of experience working in the nonprofit field, most recently at Maine Conservation Voters, managing a wide range of projects that engage communities in democracy, environmental, and conservation advocacy and policy making. Sedlack has a Law Degree from the University of Maine School of Law and a Master of Policy, Planning, and Management from the Muskie School of Public Service at USM. Sedlack has also had the opportunity to work at two other local nonprofits as a legal fellow: Maine Farmland Trust and Friends of Casco Bay. Sedlack began his career at Gorham High School as a technology integrator and a teacher in the BRIDGES program for at-risk students. Sedlack has also served on the Board of Directors for MaineShare, a coalition of over 40 nonprofits statewide, and on the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Portland.

Sedlack, states, "I am passionate about publicly accessible trails, and I am honored to become the next Executive Director of the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust. I love seeing how space

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Thank You to the Town of Gorham Staff

Gorham Times Staff

This Thanksgiving Day, we give thanks to those who work for our Town to help make Gorham a great place to live and work.

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Visiting Artists Bring Cultural Depth to USM Art Gallery

John Ersek, Staff Writer



Photo credit: Jack Stolz, Courtesy of USM

Installation view, *Embodying Softness/Excavating Delight*, 2023. University of Southern Maine Art Gallery, Gorham, Maine

Two visiting artists, Libby Paloma and Jackie Milad, currently have side-by-side shows at the art gallery on USM's Gorham campus, and both shows are well worth seeing. While each artist created her own show separately, the pairing has been conceptualized with the title "Embodying Softness, Excavating Delight."

Libby Paloma is a multidisciplinary artist based in the New York area and the nearby Hudson River Valley. She is known for creating three dimensional installations, for her performance art, and for her soft sculptures. She has been described as an artist who creates gentle environments, often fea-

turing humorous encounters. Her installations are seen as "invitations" to enter a more "restful, tender world", where things can be "fluffy and puffy."

Paloma's current soft sculpture installation at USM is entitled "No Picnic." It focuses on a whimsical yet somewhat bittersweet view of a picnic scene, which includes a large plate of enchiladas, a fish, fried eggs, a roast chicken, a lemonade pitcher and lemons, a pink birthday cake, clouds, raindrops, the sun, and rainbow-colored balloons.

Nearby, two dimensional prints depict related objects, such as milk, pickles, can of worms, fish, a hot air balloon, a picnic basket, and a spoon, many with clever, witty captions. Paloma has stated that the installation's combinations of elements are metaphors for living with a chronic illness, and that the bittersweet quality is a necessary byproduct of efforts to work toward a new, softer reality.

The exhibit of Jackie Milad of Baltimore, Maryland comprises several large mixed media wall hangings. The content of the various collages reflects Milad's diverse influences, which could also be seen as having a whimsical quality. These influ-

ences range from images of recently discovered artifacts from Honduras' indigenous Lenca culture, to lyrics by Bad Bunny and other rappers. Milad's interest in the Lenca people of El Tigre Island in Honduras stems from her mother's heritage in that region, as well as the fact that many culturally important objects have recently been unearthed there by archaeologists.

Milad has stated that her creative process sometimes mimics the processes of excavation which archaeologists might use, yet emphasizing her own interest in interrupting the usual linear way that history is depicted.

The two exhibits will remain on display until Saturday, Dec. 9. The USM Art Gallery is located on the Gorham campus at 5 University Way, near the main campus entrance, just off College Avenue. The gallery is housed in a historically significant 200-year-old building, which once served as a Gorham town meeting hall.

Gallery hours are from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday. The gallery will be closed during Thanksgiving weekend. A \$2.00 payment is requested from all visitors.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
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inside the Times



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GHS DRAMA
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NEWS FROM AUGUSTA

Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 109 and House District 110 to provide us with "News from Augusta." We publish their articles on a rotating basis. The submissions are devoted to updates of legislative and administrative news, proposed and passed bills and laws, and developments and events that are of interest and have an impact to Gorham residents. The Gorham Times reserves the right to edit the submissions and it further reserves the right to reject any submission, in its sole discretion.

From the Ground Up: Supporting Legislation to Continue Tackling the Housing Shortage

Rep. Jim Boyle

Housing is the foundation on which a community is built, but over the decades, housing production throughout Maine has dropped significantly, leading to a shortage in the state. In October, the Maine State Housing Authority released a study that set a production target of 84,300 homes by 2030 (whole state) to compensate for underproduction and keep pace with demand. Additionally, our aging housing stock requires reinvestment. This insufficient supply has not kept up with an increase in demand, causing prices to skyrocket in recent years.

In the Legislature, my colleagues and I are working together to pass laws that will help support housing developers in combating this crisis. Building more housing statewide will create greater availability and increase affordability, and last session, we passed legislation that will invest \$70 million to boost funding for the Low Income-Housing Tax Credit and the Rural Affordable Rental Program. Both initiatives will spur the development and construction of affordable rental housing projects.

To continue meeting this moment, we are focusing on initiatives that will make building easier. On Nov. 14, I testified before the Joint Select Committee on Housing in support of two bills that strive to support home production. The first bill is LD 1134, An Act to Improve Housing Affordability

by Amending the Definition of "Subdivision" Under the Site Location of Development Law, which I sponsored.

This bill would adjust the legal definition of a subdivision, increasing lot capacity to 20, including more significant acreage and creating a shorter time period between the phases of a project. Currently, the definition of subdivision stipulates that once a development reaches a threshold of 15 lots, all planning progress must stop, and the project is put on pause while it is passed up to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for review. However, depending on the DEP's workload, developers could be waiting on review results for a long time, causing cumbersome delays.

Municipalities are already working to assess whether the subdivision project complies with ordinances and regulations. They have already vetted how the development will affect wetlands, natural areas, traffic patterns, soil erosion, water quality and storm resiliency. So, the state is essentially adding another level of review to what's being done by municipalities. The result is that the accumulated expenses accrued by the developer in this waiting period are ultimately passed onto future home buyers. By increasing the lot number to 20, less projects will need to go through this process, ultimately improving affordability in the long run.

The second bill I testified in support of is LD 772, An Act to Establish a Process to Vest Rights for Land Use Permit Applicants. This bill would ensure the review process for a land use permit remains subject to the stipulations and ordinances that were in place at the time of application. Ensuring that the rules stay consistent through the review process would help protect an applicant's investment, allowing the construction of a project to reach completion. Like LD 1134, this bill would help to ensure that projects reach completion without being hindered by unexpected, unnecessary costs.

I am hopeful that both measures will be passed into law. To adequately address the housing crisis, we must begin at the foundation of the problem – an undersupply of housing stock – and ensure that there is support to build from the ground up.



Rep. Jim Boyle, D-Gorham, is serving his second term in the Maine House of Representatives and previously served two years in the Maine State Senate. He is a member of the Energy, Utilities and

Technology Committee. Contact him at Jim. Boyle@legislature.maine.gov.

Around Town

Studio 51: A new voiceover studio is opening in January on the Gorham Campus at the University of Southern Maine, made possible by a generous donation from the family of well-known actor and audio producer, Bill Dufriis. The new "Dufriis Studio/ Studio 51" will allow students to learn voiceover, radio drama, podcasts, audio production, and more. A new internet radio stream will be launched by WMPG from Studio 51 so students can create radio from the Gorham campus.

Gorham Light Parade and Tree Lighting: Sunday, Nov. 26, includes Reindeer Games, food trucks, raffles and a visit from Santa. Reindeer Games begin at 3 p.m. at the Gorham Municipal Center. Light Parade steps off at 4:30 p.m. (If you would like to be in the light parade, please email zlambert@gorham.me.us with your name and vehicle information. FMI: www.gorhamrec.com)

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Land Trust CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

transforms throughout the seasons and how communities creatively access nature. The trails and rivers of southern Maine have provided me space to think, act, connect, and learn about myself and the world around me. I enjoy fly fishing, cross-country skiing, gardening, and walking. I am excited to lead the Land Trust and ensure that the legacy of public access to nature in Gorham, Windham, Westbrook, Standish, and Gray continues for generations to come."

Dave Cole, Co-President of the Board of Directors of the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust, states: "We are delighted to hire Will to lead the organization. Will's thoughtful, approachable, and energetic style will bring the leadership needed to continue the momentum that has resulted in over 800 acres of land conserved and open for the public in Gorham, Westbrook, and Windham this year."

The Land Trust's three-person staff team will continue with Toby Jacobs as Program Manager and Brenna Crothers as Community Engagement Manager. The Land Trust is also actively hiring a part-time Development Coordinator. To learn more, go to: www.prlt.org.

Sedlack will be at the East Windham Conservation Area opening on Saturday, Dec. 2, co-hosted by the Land Trust and the Town of Windham. The event is free and open to the public, but due to space constraints, everyone must register to attend in advance. Register at www.prlt.org on the events page.

Gorham Times

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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The Gorham Times takes all reasonable care to prevent errors and disclaims all legal responsibility for any such errors, omissions, or typographical errors. The Gorham Times will print corrections if notified within 48 hours. 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 ADVERTISING DEADLINES

November 29
- Winter Break -
December 27
January 10

Heather Perry and Jon Smith Recognized by SMCC

Patrick and Cindy O'Shea, Staff Writers

Heather Perry and Jon Smith were the recipients of prestigious awards at the "A Light on the Point" event held at Southern Maine Community College. This ceremony celebrated outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to their community and the college.

Smith was honored as Outstanding Alumnus for his journey from student to successful owner of Great Falls Construction Company. Smith's journey from student to successful business owner serves as an inspiration to current and future students. Smith started his company right after graduation and it has grown to 65 employees. GFC is known for building or renovating everything from residential, municipal, commercial, educational, historical, to retail properties. The company is known for maintaining high industry standards. In addition, Jon has served the Town of Gorham in many roles, including the Gorham School Committee, Gorham Educational Foundation, Ethical and Responsible Behavior Committee and the Gorham Schools and Business Roundtable. He also served on the SMCC Building Construction Advisory team.

In his acceptance speech, Smith expressed his gratitude for his wife and business partner, Cindy, his family, and the entire Great Falls Construction team. He believes

strongly in creating a culture that brings out the best in everyone. Smith also highlighted the power of personal and professional growth by volunteering and giving back.

Perry, Superintendent of Schools in Gorham, was honored as the outstanding business leader of the year for making a significant impact through her leadership. Perry spearheaded the creation of the Educator Apprenticeship Program that addresses the shortage of special education teachers. This program allows individuals to learn and become certified as they work. Participants become certified as Educational II Technicians and then, if they choose, continue their education and become certified special education teachers while working and being paid. This program not only addresses the need for increasing the numbers of employable teachers, it also introduces the model that school districts can create earn-as-you-learn programs. This program can and will be recreated throughout the state. Countless students, teachers and school districts will benefit from this model program.

In her acceptance speech, Perry cited the willingness of Southern Maine Community College, the University of Southern Maine, the State Department of Education and many individuals willing to help make this vision a reality.

Old Friends Team Up on New Film

Chris Crawford, Staff Writer



Photo credit: Brando White

L to R, GHS grads, Mitchell Perrin, Ian Hawkes, and Nathaniel Dombek have teamed up to produce an upcoming psycho thriller film set on Peaks Island.

Three GHS grads, Mitchell Mahar Perrin, Ian David Hawkes (both GHS '11) and Nathaniel Dombek (GHS '12) have joined forces on a new psychological thriller titled "Ash Woman," which will be filmed on Peaks Island.

Hawkes wrote the script and will direct the film. Production is set to begin on a short version of the film in early November which will be submitted to film festivals in the Spring of 2024. The full-length Feature film is scheduled for production in the Fall of 2024.

Perrin, a cinematographer, will be Director of Photography. He has a degree from the North Carolina School of the Arts and is known for his work on "All You Can Carry (2018), "Mare of Easttown (2021) and "I'm Thinking of Ending Things" (2020).

Dombek is an entertainment rigger for many touring productions in New England. He attended film acting school at the New York Conservatory for the Dramatic Arts. Their cooperative effort became possible when Hawkes moved back to Maine in 2021 along with his young family. Hawkes said, "Without a doubt the most fulfilling part of this project has been collaborating with childhood friends who have impressive portfolios that fit perfectly with my vision for the project."

An enticing part of this creative project is that anyone interested in supporting the film can become a sponsor of the film and receive weekly progress updates. Other perks include a password protected link to view the finished short film and a special acknowledgement in the scrolling credits. To find out more about the Ash Woman project, visit AshWomanFilm.com. Hawkes and the team hope that many people will help

to build something beautiful together.

Hawkes is thrilled to continue his creative pursuits as a writer and film maker in the place that he says feeds his creative inspiration. "Everything I was writing took place in Maine, and I wanted to film my scripts here with local artists who understand and love this place," he said. He is a big fan of film maker, Dario Argento, known as the "Master of Horror" and of Gregory Crewdsen, whose eerie photographic style blends surreal, incongruent images.

Hawkes earned a BA degree in Film/Cinema/Video Studies and a minor in Sociology from Brigham Young University in 2017. He worked at Creatably, a video marketing agency that specialized in comedic online advertising for Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. As the company grew, he moved up the ranks to become the Creative Director. "I wrote and directed dozens of projects, honing my craft as a filmmaker and writer," he said. In 2021, he launched his own agency, Dangerfield + Hawkes, which allowed him to spend more time writing features and collaborating with local directors on indie films and shorts. Hawkes also owns Bait Shop, the production company for his fiction films. He also finds time to write features for directors around the country.

Hawkes now lives in Portland with his wife of eight years, Anna, and their two children with another on the way. Hawkes said, "Maine has been such a welcoming community for artists. We are excited to grow here and hopefully give back to this place." Anna, a talented opera singer, is breaking into the theater scene in Portland.

Hawkes can be reached at iandavidhawkes@gmail.com

Winter Craft & Book Sale
North Gorham Public Library
Saturday, December 2
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
2 Standish Neck Rd.
Local Crafters & Artists
Books priced "as you wish"

All proceeds to benefit the library collection and programs

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GORHAM TREE FESTIVAL
Join us in making this holiday season brighter by participating in this year's 7th Annual Tree Festival

HERE'S HOW:

- Pick or Set Up a tree outside your business or home to decorate.
- Come up with a theme, color scheme, etc. and decorate your tree.
- Have your tree decorated prior to Gorham Recreation Department's Light Parade on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 4 p.m.

Feel free to share your masterpiece to the Gorham 2023 Tree Festival Facebook Group.

Send us an email of the location of your tree to be judged.

Winners will be announced on or by New Years Eve.

Grand Winners will be presented with a Traveling Plaque to hold onto for the year and this year a donation can be made to the winner's choice.

For more info please reach out to: gorhamstreefestival@gmail.com

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Support Sustainability

Bruce Webb, Contributing Writer

It's imperative that individuals take actions that can help slow the rate of global warming. The earth is warming at such a perilous rate that some scientists are declaring a climate emergency and urging immediate actions if we are to survive as a species. This is supported by our own experience with warming oceans, devastating forest fires, record warm temperatures, intense hurricanes, widespread flooding, and record rainfalls. This is a wake-up call for us humans to act while we still have options because we may reach the tipping point where it is too late.

It's easy to conflate global warming and sustainability because they both address environmental degradation, but sustainability actions are only marginally related to warming - the more serious threat. We can certainly multitask and incorporate both paths. Actions to promote sustainability are easy for individuals to accomplish, produce satisfying results, and give a sense that we have some control over our condition. The major benefits include a perpetuation of life forms, a more pleasant environment, a cleaner community, and a healthier perpetuating environment.

What actions can help improve the environment and improve our lives?

Recycle. Our throwaway culture is changing as we focus on reusing items and recycling. This is easy to do and reduces the waste stream while being a financially viable process. Fabric, paper, cardboard, glass, and metal can all be converted to useful products. Furthermore, hazardous waste - batteries, sewage, PFAS, and other substances can be disposed of safely to protect our health.

Reduce food waste. Nearly 40% of purchased food gets tossed into the trash creating a smelly, unpleasant, and unhealthy situation. This waste can pollute the water, create methane, attract rodents, and create a noxious environment. Instead, food can be recycled and used to make compost.

Plant Native Grass and Shrubs. The iridescent green lawns and shrubs so valued in our communities are costly to maintain without chemically dangerous addi-

tives and are not well suited to a rapidly warming climate with alternating wet dry cycles. A gradual transition to lower cost and sustainable native landscaping would help lower maintenance costs, maintain appearances, and increase property values.

Conserve Water. Clean potable water is essential to human life but shrinking aquifers, extended drought, the increasing salinization of the water supplies, and record flooding threaten our access to safe water. We cannot afford to irrigate our landscaping in the face of drought and reduced water supplies. We must conserve this precious resource by carefully monitoring our usage for humans and wasting less.

Education. We have an obligation to increase awareness of these threats to our well-being and promote learning at all levels. Keep current on the latest developments in promoting sustainability, encourage others to stay informed, support climate education and actions in our communities.

Advocate. Join an organization that promotes climate actions, attend their workshops, stay current on research, donate to their development, disseminate their publications, encourage others to support them. There are multiple organizations engaged in this important work in Maine which deserve our attention and support.

Vote. Register to vote and cast your ballot for candidates and initiatives that support sustainability. Climate deniers are still active, and we don't have the time to debate the issues. The threats are here and impacting our lives. The time for action is now.



Bruce Webb has been a Gorham resident for 40 years. He was a home energy auditor and is an environmental activist.

CryptoVerse by A. Logophile

PH OHCT JCJMHK XTS, PH PCLXO LOHF ATBP,

LOHS'EE EHCTG FBTH LOCG PH'EE HDHT NGBP,

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 11

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Anchored in Health: Stop Your Scroll

Taryn Beaumont, Contributing Writer

Put your phone down and connect to something more meaningful. I recently deleted every game app from my phone except one. Before bedtime, I'd been getting caught in a continuous loop, going game to game. Hours passed without accomplishing anything remotely meaningful or healthy. I began to wonder why we feel the need for hours of mindless scrolling and gaming to fill up our emotional cup.

Screen addiction is just as real as substance addiction and has just as profound an effect on our daily lives, our mood, and our relationships. We turn to external things that give us positive feedback and satisfaction we may not be finding in ourselves or our daily life. Game apps are designed to tell us "Good job!" and "keep going!" When we win at something, we feel successful and want more. So, we play the next level, get to the next accomplishment, relentlessly scroll to find the next heartwarming meme to make our day.

Not unlike turning to a drug or substance to numb our minds, we turn to our phones and games to pass hours without having to feel or think about what our day has brought us.

Have you ever just sat in a room with no TV on, no phone beside you, no noise, just simply alone with your own thoughts? Does that thought seem scary? Give it a try, just 5 or 10 minutes. See what thoughts start to flow and what emotions rise to the surface. You might be surprised by the creativity within you.

When my son says he's "bored", I encourage him to wait it out. Some of his best creative and imaginative moments have come from purposefully not filling his "bored void" with another screen or planned activity. Simply letting his thoughts go where they will can be a very powerful tool.

Like any addiction or vice, it takes time and effort to build good habits to break the screen cycle. Here are some tips to get started.

Take inventory. Gauge how much time

you spend scrolling social media, playing games, or doing things that otherwise take up valuable time. Check the 'screen time' section in settings on iPhones to quantify how much time you spend on your phone each day and which specific apps you are using.

Start small. Spending 6 hours a day on your phone? Cut it down to 5. Playing a game for 2 hours a day, cut it down to 1. Delete a couple of game apps on your phone. Extensive research shows that cumulative small changes over time add up to eventual big change. Deleting all apps and social media at once is too drastic. Set yourself up for success and start small.

Fill your extra time with something new. Start a hobby. Pick up a book. Play an instrument. Start Christmas shopping early. Do something that fills your cup in a way that is intrinsically motivating.

If you want to build a new habit or change the ones you currently have, I recommend reading *Atomic Habits* by James Clear. This well researched, highly actionable book explains why humans develop the habits we do, and suggests how to build and maintain a healthy relationship with our habits.

As we roll into this holiday season, take inventory; what is serving you in your life and what is not. We can all use more human connection, connection to ourselves, and more meaningful joy in our lives. Stay well my friends.



Taryn Beaumont has been a Doctor of Physical Therapy for over 12 years, most currently working in

home health care. She is also a mom, a Lymphedema Specialist, and fitness lover.

Rob Woodman Receives Award at National Water Summit

Aislyn McLean, GHS Student Intern

A Gorham resident, Rob Woodman, was recently honored at an event held in Tucson, Arizona called One Water Summit. Each year, the US Water Alliance celebrates recipients of the US Water Prize in eight separate categories.

Woodman was selected from a group of over 75 candidates and was awarded one of these eight prestigious awards. He received the "Outstanding Rising One Water Leader" award which is given to an individual who exemplifies the Alliance's six main objectives. These include shaping culture, vision-setting, possibility thinking, trust-building and collaboration, innovation, and adaptive learning.

Through his work with Ferguson Enterprises as their Green Stormwater Solutions Manager, Woodman has demonstrated these efforts and proved himself to be an impactful leader. With increasing climate change and national water issues, the Alliance aims to find sustainable solutions for accessible drinking water and management. The eight impressive accolades



Photo credit: Courtesy of Rob Woodman

Rob Woodman with his daughter Sadie at the One Water Summit in Tucson.

are given to leading pioneers of this cause.

Woodman was joined at the event by his fourteen-year-old daughter Sadie, where he shared his journey with Ferguson Enterprises and the investments they've made for a greener infrastructure. Woodman leads a great team with a focus of educating and engaging communities across the country on safe stormwater solutions. Congratulations, Rob.

MUNICIPAL

Town Council Meeting, Nov. 14

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

The Councilors thanked Ron Shepard for his years of service and dedication to the Town.

The Council voted 7-0 to elect Suzanne Phillips chair for 2023-2024.

Lee Pratt was elected Vice Chairman. Priscilla Wheatley, Fort Hill Road, voiced her opinion on recent school budgets that were presented to voters and asked the Council to investigate and come to a resolution using the Town Charter.

Ken Curtis, South Street asked for information on the amount of taxes generated by commercial businesses in Gorham that help offset what homeowners pay. He also requested an update on progress on the expansion of the Industrial Park.

Councilor Segal announced the birth of his first child, Vaiva, on Oct. 25.

Newly elected Councilor Simms said he is "ready to get to work for the Town". He mentioned the statewide grant program being offered to local businesses to help them grow their domestic trade.

Councilor Gagnon reported that the Robie Park Steering Committee had met and had more public input about the three potential designs. He hopes to wrap up the committee's work by the end of April.

Councilor Wilder Cross reported that the State of Maine Housing Production Needs Study has a goal of having 24,000 new homes by 2030 of which 75% will be located near where jobs are (coastal region) and priority will be given to mid-low income housing. There is a new State of Maine Office of New Americans which will help municipalities prepare to welcome immigrants and asylum seekers. Four families will soon be housed at First Parish Church.

Councilor Pratt congratulated the GHS Girls Volleyball team for winning the State Championship. He reminded residents who burn wood to have their chimneys cleaned and, as always, urged residents to donate blood.

The Town Manager thanked the Recreation Department and Public Works for getting the Town holiday ready and for installing lights around Town. Nov. 25 is Small Business Saturday and he urged citizens to shop locally.

The Council voted 6-1 (Gagnon) to adopt a tax increment financing district to provide opportunities for significant new commercial development and new employment opportunities. The proposed district is a 13.70-acre site located at 60 Hutcherson Drive to be developed by Cross Town Energy Storage, LLC as a 175 MW battery energy storage system with a tie line to CMP's Mosher Substation. The tax revenue from the increased assessed value of the property would be retained by the Town.

The Council voted 7-0 to update the maximum levels of assistance as required by the State.

The Council voted 6-1 (Lavoie) to update the Animal Control Ordinance.

The Council voted 7-0 to send a recommendation to adopt an aquifer protection district to the Planning Board.

The Council voted 7-0 to grant an abatement of taxes in the amount of \$3,378.84 for the 2020-21 tax year for Map 22, Lot 17-1041, a correction due to the property being taken by eminent domain in May 2021 by the Maine Turnpike Authority.

Voted 6-1 (Gagnon) to instruct the Ordinance Committee to review Land Use Code about Accessory Dwelling Units to recommend changes that would encourage further utilization of accessory dwelling units where permitted.

Voted 6-1 (Wilder Cross) to instruct the Ordinance Committee to review the possibility of new school impact fees.

Voted 7-0 to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with Bisson Transportation, Inc. for approximately 52.5 acres (Lot A) in the Gorham Industrial Park West Campus.

Voted 6-1 (Pratt recused) to award Phase 1 of road construction for Gorham Industrial Park West to Shaw Brothers and authorizing the Town Manager to expend federal grant funding for construction to begin in 2023.

Voted 6-1 (Gagnon) that the Ordinance Committee review the standards for 1 lot private ways or propose a back lot provision for single lots and provide recommended changes to the Town Council.

The Council voted 7-0 to establish Dec. 12 as a Town Council Workshop to discuss Town Council Goals for 2024.

Ryan Chicoine, of 239 County Road, request for approval of a contract zone to allow for a recreational, agricultural, and social gatherings facility was discussed and moved to the next Planning Board meeting for a public hearing.

Planning Board Meeting, Nov. 6

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

Corex Partners proposal for a cold storage facility consisting of freezer warehouse space, office space, cold docks and battery charging, and material handling equipment storage was discussed. A waiver was granted to reduce parking requirements.

Grand Jury Indictments

Sheri Faber, Staff Writer

Richard Magee, 66, of Gorham was indicted for unlawful possession of drugs (cocaine), criminal OUI and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Michael Morehead, 45, of Gorham was indicted for unlawful possession of scheduled drugs (cocaine base) and operating after suspension on charges brought by South Portland PD.

Jacob Plourde, 27, of Auburn was indicted for domestic violence (weapon), domestic violence assault and criminal

OUI on charges brought by Gorham PD.

Whitney Quint, 33, of Gorham was indicted for theft by unauthorized taking on charges brought by Scarborough PD.

Jason Spiller, 44, of Gorham was indicted for unlawful possession of scheduled drugs (fentanyl powder) on charges brought by MDEA.

James Weare, 53 of Standish was indicted for unlawful possession of scheduled drugs (methamphetamine) and violating conditions of release on charges brought by Gorham PD.

SCHOOL

New Preschool Program at Narragansett School

Michael Lortie, School News Editor



Photo credit: Lindsay Veilleux, Teacher, Narr. School

Gorham Public Preschool students explore learning materials in their classrooms.

Gorham has always been a town that values education and there have always been high quality preschool options for parents of four-year-old learners. This year, due to a State of Maine grant, the educational priorities set by the Gorham School Committee, and the vision of Superintendent Heather Perry and the Littlest Rams Committee, there is a new public school program for four year old "Little Rams."

The new Pre-K program is housed at Narragansett School. It is a professionally staffed and well equipped set of classrooms that are abuzz with the sounds and sights of curious and excited four year olds enthusiastically learning through exploration, play and friendship building.

The program is staffed by two preschool teachers, Leela Pollard and Lindsay Veilleux; two educational technicians, Meghan Duquette and Marissa Young; Special Educator, Susan Hodgson; Speech Therapist, Rita Schlegel; and Occupational Therapist, Chelsea Osgood. This team works together to provide a student centered, play based, and educationally rich experience for fifty-nine four-year-olds.

The rooms are alive with active learning and discovery. Erin Eppler, the Principal of Narragansett, has welcomed the program to the school this year and is excited by her observations. She described the learning process this way, "Teachers provide materials and vocabulary for an exploration and students take off. To have four-year-olds explaining to each other that magnets attract and repel each other, is a wonderful learning experience to observe."

Teacher, Leela Pollard, comes to Gorham with sixteen years of public preschool experience. This is her third opportunity to help initiate a public

preschool program and she welcomed the opportunity to join this educational team. She describes the advantages of this program saying, "This is a team that works together. Learning specialists and therapists know all of the students and if there is a question about motor skills or language, it can usually be answered that day rather than having a delay until the specialist is available. Services happen quickly within the classroom and are reinforced by other adults in the program."

Teacher Lindsay Veilleux has over ten years experience in private schools and preschools. She sees "a wide range of success for students socially and academically. For some students this program is the first time they can access needed supports on a regular basis. Students are making huge gains." Both classroom teachers were enthusiastic and excited about the program.

Mrs. Eppler explained that because this was the first year of the program, it was not filled to capacity. They have fifty-nine students assigned to four half-day classes, with a maximum allowed population of sixty-four. The school is able to provide services for learners with and without special needs. They also have partnerships with two private preschool programs, Gorham Arts Alliance and Seedlings to Sunflowers, so students in those programs are able to access needed services through the specialist in the Gorham classes.

This is an exciting new program for the Gorham School District and a wonderful service to the community. Four-year-olds are getting needed support services, building relationships with other four year olds, learning about how school works, riding the bus, and exploring learning materials and activities. Entering one of the classrooms, the students were excited that there was a visitor but very quickly returned to listening to the story that was being read to them. The students appear to be eager to learn new things and this experienced and well-qualified professional staff has the skills and talents to keep them engaged.

Parents with a child who will be four next year may want to investigate this public-school option for their child. There are still a few remaining openings for this year and interested families can call the Narragansett office at (207) 222-1250. Enrollment information for the 24-25 school year will be shared widely with the public in January.

GMS Student Council Members Attend Leadership Conference

Donna Pastore, GMS Teacher



Photo credit: Donna Pastore

Gorham Public Preschool students explore learning materials in their classrooms.

The Gorham Middle School Student Council recently attended the Maine Youth Leadership Day in West Bath, hosted by the Maine State Leadership

Alliance and the students of Hyde School.

Isla Rutherford, an 8th grader remarked, "It was really informative, and the campus was beautiful." Students from all over the state enjoyed the spacious campus while attending student run workshops and listening to guest speakers.

Jade Tibbetts, an 8th grader felt, "It had interesting topics, and the presentations were very well put together, I would love to do it again." This is the middle school's second year attending the conference and they are sure to return next year. This is a wonderful opportunity to continue to inspire our leaders of tomorrow.

Coming Soon!



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2023 Best Places to Work in ME



Gorham GOP Connection

When: Last Tuesday of the month
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Why: To Network & Interact
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Time: 6:30

For more information gorham.gop@gmail.com

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A Midsummer Night's Dream at Gorham High School

Michael Lortie, School News Editor



Photo credit: Lily Rubin, GHS Senior

GHS senior Emma S. holding up senior Aera H.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" by William Shakespeare was presented by the drama department at Gorham High School during the week of Nov. 10 through 12. There were four performances over the three days.

Performing Shakespeare is always a challenge. The language is sophisticated and complicated and the plots are always intricately interwoven. Despite this, the students successfully met the challenge. These superbly trained and directed thespians not only knew their lines but controlled the action with their bodies, facial expressions, and physicality. They all delivered outstanding performances.

The story centers around the interplay of four groups of characters: The Duke's Circle, The Lovers, The Mechanicals (tradesmen by day, actors by night), and The Fairies. The four distinct factions are introduced, and their stories quickly merge and become entangled. The fairies complicate the story using spells and magic to have mortals fall in love. Puck confuses the entanglements before getting it right in the end and resolving the situation in a satisfying way.

Nick Tinkham dominated the stage through his performance as Puck. His comic timing and physicality captured the essence of the mythical being who complicates the action of the story. In addition, the lovers, Aera Hyson (Hermia), Logan Mills (Lysander),

Emma Smith (Helena), and Zack Waters (Demetrius), excellently conveyed the emotions of their characters.

Performances by Noah Williams as Theseus and Cece Dellosso as Nick Bottom stood out, as they met the challenges of long speeches and, in the case of Cece, the challenge of a large animal mask. Each of the twenty-two actors presented excellent performances, while the crew of ten students professionally and quickly managed all the props and scene pieces.

The production was directed by English teacher Josie Tierney-Fife. She chose to set the show in the early 1970s and the music and costuming added to the atmosphere of the story. Ms. Tierney-Fife was able to bring out the best in her actors. The set, designed and constructed by Peter Tierney-Fife and aided by Ben Scott, added to the success of the show. Each component of the show, the set, the lighting, the sound, the costuming, and the organized effort by the backstage crew, coordinated together to triumphantly conquer the challenge of a Shakespearian play.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" was an excellent show that was enjoyed by the audiences. It is important to support and attend GHS stage productions. They are always well directed, professionally produced, and thoroughly entertaining. We can look forward to "Mama Mia," the school musical in February and the One Act state-wide competition in March.



Photo credit: Lily Rubin, GHS Senior

Fall Drama #2: Rigel Arlet, Corey L., Amy M. and Hailey R. listen to the story telling of Cecelia D.

SPORTS

Post Season Finales

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Photo credit: Eric Tirrell

Varsity Volleyball Team post State championship win

Gorham Volleyball Class A State Champs

The Gorham Volleyball Team earned a repeat trip to the state finals and is the 2023 MPA Class A State Champions with a 3-1 victory over Scarborough. Congratulations to Coach Emma Tirrell and the entire Volleyball team in winning the state championship.

Gorham Girls Soccer Regional Finals Runners Up

The Gorham Girls Varsity Soccer Team also earned a repeat trip to the Regional Finals game held at Kennebunk High School. Gorham battled back in the last 13 minutes of regulation to score 2 goals to send the game into OT. The game ended in sudden death OT with a Scarborough goal. Congratulations to Coach Zarrilli and the Girls soccer team and to all of the Rams programs this season, it was a memorable one.



Photo credit: Katie Brown

Girls Varsity Soccer Regional final game v. Scarborough

Flag Football Champs

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Photo credit: Trey Bachner

Gorham Packers Flag Football Team after U14 Championship team in October

On Saturday, Oct. 28, at Fitzpatrick Stadium the Gorham Packers won the NFL Maine Flag Football League U14 Championship, defeating the South Portland 49'ers 20-14. The Packers went 8-1 in the regular

season play, outscoring opponents 271 to 115, and went undefeated throughout the playoffs to win the championship. The Gorham Packers then went on to compete in the NFL Flag Regionals on November 11 in Taunton, Massachusetts. The ultimate goal being to compete nationally in Orlando, Florida. The team gave it their best shot and went 3-0 in pool play but lost a tough game in the single elimination playoffs which ended their run. The team placed 4th in the Regionals out of 13 teams in the division. The total record for the year was 16-2. Offensive Coordinator Bill Clark shared "the boys all played hard and each player individually contributed in a significant way to our success this season and even more so in the regional tournament."

November School Committee Meeting

Kathy Corbett, Staff Writer

New members of the School Committee (SC) were welcomed at the Nov. 11 meeting. They are Nicole Yeo-Fisher, Michelle Littlefield, and Mia DeScantis. Sarah Perkins was reelected. The SC elected Perkins chair and Stewart McCallister vice-chair.

Six Narragansett students described the school's Leadership Program. 43 5th graders were chosen to serve as role models for younger students, be helpful during the day, and make the school a welcoming place. They make kindergarteners feel comfortable, help in the cafeteria, hold up bus numbers at dismissal, and always use kind words. The students said the program teaches them the difference between being a leader and a boss, to appreciate differences, and respect boundaries.

Brian Jandreau, principal of Gorham High School (GHS), introduced the Extended Learning Opportunities Program (ELO). The program lets students safely explore career opportunities while still in high school. Led by Eliza Kenigsberg and Grace Olsen, the program received a \$250,000 grant from the Maine Department of Education. Olsen was hired using these funds, but the position would

need local funding after this school year.

While working with students, Olsen facilitates opportunities for them to job shadow or intern with local businesses. Students get school credit for hands-on-experiences, much, but not all, in trades. Two seniors spoke. Owen Duplisea wants to be a teacher and is in his second year in the program. He has worked with two teachers and taught a class in narrative writing. Collin Page, who wants to be in aero-space engineering, has an internship at age 18 with a local company.

The program started with nine students in 2020. By 2024 there could be 53 students participating. Sixty mentors have worked with students, along with dozens of Gorham businesses and organizations offering them opportunities to, as Jandreau said, "get out of GHS in their senior year and build bridges in the community."

The third presentation was an overview of the GHS Technology Program. The three teachers, Randy Perkins, Robert Weed and Eamon White, teach processes and knowledge related to technology. They explain to students that technology is more than just understanding computers and cell

phones. We use technology to meet human needs and solve human problems. There are 484 students enrolled in technology courses that range from an introductory course to classes in digital media, graphic arts, architectural drawing, video production, and modern shop skills. One unit of technology is required for graduation.

Kia Armstrong and Julia Wareham spoke about how they benefited from their technology course work, both as introduction to potential career choices and as useful knowledge.

Superintendent Heather Perry commended Police Chief Chris Sanborn and Gorham first responders for their responses to the Lewiston shooting. She also announced that substitute pay for special education classes has been increased. There are 16 new substitutes. A third training session will begin soon.

School Committee members voiced support for Lewiston and thanked administrators for how they handled the situation. They also thanked voters for support on Election Day.

They approved (7-0) changes in the Graduation Policy. Of the 22 credits

required for GHS graduation, students in classes 2024 and 2025 will need ½ in health. Beginning in 2026, they must have a full credit. Students are required to have 20 hours of community service to participate in the graduation ceremony.

They voted (7-0) to approve a contract with J&J Company for \$1,341,250 to complete the 3rd phase of the GHS HVAC project that involves installing a cooling system.

They voted (7-0) to shift Attendance Zones next year rather than change building grade configuration. Perry said there would be no significant savings by changing configuration and that too many student transitions are undesirable. SC member Yeo-Fisher commented that the previous attendance shift had been difficult for her children.

The SC voted (6-1, McCallister) to approve asking the Department of Education to give a waiver on student attendance for the two days the schools were closed due to the Lewiston shooting. This would mean reducing required days from 175 to 173. Perry said that approving this now would have financial benefits. McCallister felt that they should not decide now but look later at the number of snow days used.

COMMUNITY

THANKSGIVING DAY IS NOVEMBER 23

Happy Thanksgiving to the Gorham Community.

OF INTEREST

The Presumpscott Regional Land Trust announces the Grand Opening for Phase I of the East Windham Conservation Area will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 1 to 3 p.m. The program will include about 2.5 miles of walking on hilly terrain. The inclement weather date is Sunday, Dec. 3, at 1 p.m. The event is free, but space is limited, so registration is required at <https://prlt.org> and click on Events. Please note: The East Windham Conservation area is closed to the public until after the Grand Opening Event due to construction of new parking and miles of new trails. Phase II will occur in 2024 and will include additional trails plus a 1-mile accessible trail. Phase III will include an observation tower at a later date.

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

Veterans of Foreign Wars, Gorham Memorial Post 10879 will be meeting on Tuesday, Dec 12 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fire Department Training Room, 270 Main Street. For information contact the post at vfwp10879@gmail.com.

The Gorham Lions Club meets at Elmwood School on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. FMI: Ken Aldrich, (207) 929-9182.

The Bookworm is once again providing books for Christmas baskets at St. Anne's Church in Gorham to benefit over 100 children. To contribute, stop by the Bookworm at 42 Main Street and add your donation to the stocking. Volunteers at St. Anne's make the baskets, and also accept gift cards from Hannaford for food, and from Walmart and Target for gifts.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Gorham Medical Closet located at the Municipal Center 75 South St is free and available to Gorham residents in need of wheelchairs, shower seats, commodes, walkers, canes, crutches and more. Hours are by appointment with a volunteer. Call Gerry Day at (207) 756-2210 or (207) 839-3859 and she will connect you with a volunteer.

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

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

The Reed Allen Foundation, supported by members of the Gorham community, exists to provide "financial support for individuals, families, and businesses in the immediate aftermath of a catastrophic event." Learn more about this 501(c)(3) Gorham charity and consider making a donation at <https://reedallen.org>.

SENIOR NOTES

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

The Lecky Brown Senior Center at First Parish Church is open. Gather for Cribbage and board games on Mondays at 10 a.m., all levels welcome. Weekly guest speaker program, the Originals, is on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. with a different speaker each week. Recent speakers include Gorham's K9 officer, Tombstone art, Maine Button Society, Friends of the Presumpscot River, and Pinetree Guide Dogs. Upcoming speakers: American Chestnut Tree restoration, Roadside Motor Courts and Cabins, Gorham History/Chicken and Egg Production, Gunpowder Mills Documentary makers, and Holiday concert with the Carol Bailey String Band. FMI: contact Lisa Becker at Leckybrowncenter@gmail.com.

PUBLIC SUPPERS

Tired of Turkey? Living Waters Church is holding a Haddock Supper Buffet on Saturday, Nov. 25 at 5 p.m. Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$10 Adult, \$5 Child, \$20 Family. Take out containers are available, and hand sanitizer, and face masks are optional.

White Rock Community Club House Public Bean Supper, 34 Wilson Road, Saturday, Dec. 2, 4 – 5:30 p.m. Eat in or take out. Homemade baked kidney and navy beans, coleslaw, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, biscuits, hot dogs and desserts. \$10 adults, \$5 under 12. FMI: <https://facebook.com/whiterockcommunityclub>

CRAFT FAIRS

The White Rock Friendship Club is hosting the 39th Annual Tree Lighting at the White Rock Community Clubhouse on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 4:30 p.m. Listen to the reading of the Christmas story. Sing Christmas carols while sipping hot cocoa around the Christmas tree. Santa will arrive on a White Rock Fire Station fire truck! <https://www.facebook.com/events/3161492787493713>

First Parish Church is having a Christmas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Online shopping at <http://firstparishgorham.org>, click "shop."

North Gorham Public Library Winter Craft and Book Sale will be held at 2 Standish Neck Road featuring local crafters and artists books priced "as you wish." All proceeds will benefit the library collection and programs. Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

LIBRARY NEWS

The North Gorham Public Library has a weekly All Ages Children's Story Time at 10 a.m. every Wednesday. The NGPL Annual Craft & Book Fair will be on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., and book donations are being accepted now. Library hours are Monday and Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. FMI: (207) 892-2575 or (207) 642-2327.

Baxter Memorial Library's next Author Event features Regina Strongheart, author of "When My Mother Was a Mountain" on Tuesday, Nov. 28; and ghost writer Jeff Wuorio discussing his writing career on Tuesday, Dec. 5, both events at 6 p.m.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason

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GORHAM



GORHAM \$379,000 – The interior is as appealing as the exterior where you will find the kitchen with stainless steel appliances open to the dining room which overlooks the private backyard and a spacious living room. Much of the first level is finished in classic hardwood floors.



GORHAM \$595,000 – You'll love the natural light and open first floor plan with 9' ceilings. Desirable hardwood floors throughout the first floor & primary bedroom suite. Features an open kitchen with island, 36" upper cabinets for extra storage and stainless-steel appliances.



BALDWIN \$109,900 – The Mt Etna Grange Hall awaits a new owner to rehab this building into a residential home. Private septic exists. Being sold in 'as-is' condition. Many possibilities.



GORHAM \$825,000 – This remarkable Federal style home is a perfect setup for a multi-generational living arrangement with 5600+ square feet and 153' of Presumpscot River frontage with dock. Gorgeous interior with wood floors, exposed beams, custom granite kitchens, built-ins & period details throughout.



GORHAM \$650,000 – Just completed! Gorham's new Deerfield Subdivision located in the heart of Gorham Village. Tucked away on a dead-end street at the end of Maplewood Drive where you can enjoy sidewalks to schools, restaurants, shopping, bowling & the Greater Portland Metro Husky bus line.



WESTBROOK \$250,000 – Solid home that needs to be redone from top to bottom offering a newer metal roof, replacement windows, newer boiler, circuit breakers & water/sewer. Many original features are still intact including the classic wood floors throughout, huge front to back living room with fireplace & built ins.



STANDISH \$395,000 – Home offers 4 bedrooms 2 baths with new laminate wood flooring throughout, 1st floor bedroom & added mudroom for extra storage. Low maintenance with new windows, doors & metal roof. Spacious floor plan, large primary bedroom upstairs with 3 closets. Full dry basement with woodstove & potential for added living space.



GORHAM \$159,900 – 2009 manufactured home. Spacious kitchen, dining area, large living room with laminate flooring, master bedroom with full bath & laundry area. Newer storage shed with electricity, paved driveway, new deck. Excellent 55+ community with clubhouse. Great location to all points. Well maintained park.



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CONCERTS

The Casco Bay Wind Symphony presents "Sounds of the Season: A Musical Holiday Celebration" on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. at McCormack Performing Arts Center. Family friendly, Christmas Carol Sing-Along, and a reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by special guest vocalist Matt Laberge. \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door, (65+ pay what you can), students/kids free. FMI: cascobaywindsymphony.org.

The Gorham Community Chorus performs "What Sweeter Music: A Choral Concert" on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. at McCormack Performing Arts Center at Gorham High School. Free and open to the public, donations appreciated. FMI gorhamcommunitychorus@gmail.com.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE NOTES

Learn about the new "PAY BY PLATE" parking system on the Gorham campus (Portland also). Visit <https://usm.maine.edu/parking-services> for the details, rates, and policy updates.

The Osher School of Music upcoming events include the Osher Chorale and Chamber Singers in "Joyous Sounds" on Tuesday, Nov. 28; the Osher Jazz Ensemble Concert on Thursday, Nov. 30; the Composers Showcase on Saturday, Dec. 3, Vocal Jazz Ensembles on Wed. Dec. 6, all at 7:30 p.m. FMI: <https://usm.maine.edu/music>, or call (207) 780-5555.

The USM Art Gallery's current exhibit, Embodying Softness/Excavating Delight, opened on Oct. 12 and runs through Saturday, Dec. 9. The Gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and by appointment. Suggested donation \$2 is requested for exhibition visits. FMI: <https://usm.maine.edu/gallery/>, usmartgalleries@maine.edu, or call (207) 780-5008

USM Theatre will present "30 Neo-Futurist Plays from Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind (30 plays in 60 minutes)" by Greg Allen, directed by Rachel Price Cooper. Can a theatre ensemble possibly perform thirty plays in under an hour? Find out at this high-octane, interactive theatre experience, one of Chicago's longest-running theatre phenomena. Part theatre, part sporting event, each night is different as the audience picks the plays and cheers on the cast to make it past the finish line before the buzzer sounds. Runs from Nov. 30 to Dec. 3, Russell Hall, USM Gorham Campus. <https://usm.maine.edu/theatre> or call (207) 780-5151.

Visit <https://southernmainehuskies.com> for all things athletic at the University of Southern Maine, everything from earning a degree to attending summer sports camps and season events.

CLOSE TO HOME

The next Saco River Theatre performance will be Erica Brown and the Bluegrass Connection, Saturday, Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills. Tickets: \$15 General Admission at <https://www.sacorivertheatre.org> or call (207) 929-6473 for reservations.

CLASSIFIEDS

Two local vacation homes available for winter rental, weekly or weekends for ice fishing/snowmobiling. One on Sebago Lake, west shore between Harmon's Beach and Wards Cove, has an outdoor hot tub. One on Little Sebago Lake in West Gray, with access by Campbell Shore Road, has an indoor sauna. Both are three bedrooms, two baths, fully furnished, with automatic generators for power outages, and include all utilities and plowing, 35 minutes drive to Portland, 60 minutes or less to ski slopes. Text 860-729-1522.

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CALENDAR

Thursday, November 23

Happy Thanksgiving to the Gorham Community.

Saturday, November 25

Living Waters Church Haddock Supper Buffet, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. 5 p.m. \$10/\$5/\$20
Saco River Theatre presents Erica Brown and the Bluegrass Connection, 7:30 p.m., (207) 929-6473

Sunday, November 26

White Rock Friendship Club's 39th Annual Tree Lighting at the Community Clubhouse, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 28

Baxter Memorial Library
Family Discovery Time (ages 2-5), 10 a.m.
Dogs Dig Reading, 4 - 5 p.m., visit Youth Services to sign up (207) 222-1190
Author Event with Regina Strongheart, 6 p.m.
Gorham Lions Club meeting, Elmwood School, 6:30 p.m.
Osher Chorale and Chamber Singers "Joyous Sounds"

Wednesday, November 29

Baxter Memorial Library Baby Discovery Time (birth-18mos), 9:30 a.m.
North Gorham Public Library All Ages Children's Story Time, 10 a.m.
Lecky Brown Senior Center "The Originals" guest speaker program, with Roadside Motor Courts and Cabins. leckybrowncenter@gmail.com

Thursday, November 30

Baxter Memorial Library
Toddler Discovery Time (18mos-3yrs), 10 a.m.
Sewing Club, 3 - 4 p.m.
USM opens 30 Neo-Futurist Plays from Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind (30 plays in 60 minutes)" <https://usm.maine.edu/theatre>

Friday, December 1

Presumpscott Regional Land Trust Grand Opening for Phase 1, East Windham Conservation Area, 1 - 3 p.m.

Saturday, December 2

Baxter Memorial Library LEGO Club, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Casco Bay Wind Symphony Concert, McCormack Performing Arts Center, 2 p.m.
First Parish Church Christmas Fair, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
North Gorham Public Library Winter Craft and Book Fair, 2 Standish Neck Road, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Presumpscott Regional Land Trust Grand Opening Phase 1, 1 - 3 p.m., register at <https://prlt.org>
White Rock Community Clubhouse Public Bean Supper, 34 Wilson Road, 4 - 5:30 p.m., \$10/\$5

Sunday, December 3

Gorham Community Chorus, "What Sweeter Music: A Choral Concert" at 3 p.m. MPAC. Free, donations appreciated.

Wednesday, December 6

Baxter Memorial Library Baby Discovery Time (birth-18mos)
Lecky Brown Senior Center "The Originals" guest speaker program, with "Gunpowder Mills" makers discussing the documentary. leckybrowncenter@gmail.com

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

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Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

the blotter

Officer told a man sleeping in his car on New Portland Road that he could move to the Park and Ride on South Street and no one would bother him there. Officer waited 15 minutes, then went back and ordered the man to move his car. Driver complained but did move his vehicle to Hannafords.

Officer responded to Kemp Road at Mallard Drive for a report of two people fighting. Caller could not stop them on his own. Officer escorted family back to their camp as caller said he could handle it from there.

County Road caller heard two shots fired behind his house and was worried as he had seen deer lately. Officer spoke to neighbor who said he was just sighting in a .308 for his son.

Mosher Road caller had a shed delivered to her yard which had been torn up by the trailer. She had been reimbursed and they were there to fix up the yard. She didn't want them there so they left and were fixing up a neighbor's lawn.

A cat was roaming around on Longfellow Road but was gone when officer arrived.

Maple Ridge Road caller reported neighbor's dog was barking all day and he wanted something done about it.

Woman came to the Police Department to show officers a text from a bank with which she did not have an account. The text said that she had spent money she had not actually spent. She called the number provided and was immediately asked for her bank account number. She thought it might be a scam. Officer checked the number and advised her it was definitely a scam and to ignore it.

Main Street man heard a loud bang while at home. He was convinced it was a large explosion as items in his house began to shake and he and his neighbors went outside to see what it was. There were no reports to the Police and they did not know what had caused the noise.

Woman reported someone had bumped into her bumper as she drove past Beal's. The other vehicle left the scene. Officer checked car and there was no damage.

Cressey Road caller received a call from a purported bail bondsman who said man had a warrant and bondsman wanted

money. He did not believe caller and did not give him any money. He was calling Police to confirm there was no warrant. He did not have a warrant out against him.

Caller spotted a suspicious vehicle behind a Main Street business. It had been parked there for a while and he wanted it moved along. Driver worked nearby overnight and was falling asleep at the wheel so she stopped to rest. Officer told her to make sure she was rested before she moved on. She left a short time later.

Man came into the PD looking for an explanation as to why an officer performed a u-turn "on him and two other vehicles" and then did not make a traffic stop. Officer explained it to him.

Officer responded to Mosher Road for a keep the peace situation. Caller retrieved her vehicle and left without issue.

Dogwood Lane caller initially reported a motor vehicle burglary but did not wish to make a formal complaint. She just wanted the incident documented.

Officer doing a building check at the Municipal Center observed male leaning against Baxter Library. Man told officer he was just charging his phone and enjoying the peace and quiet.

Sebago Lake Road caller reported a suspicious vehicle in a driveway. It was an Uber driver who was at the wrong address. Officer responded to a report of a man wrapped in a blue blanket laying in the parking lot at Millett Drive. It was not known if he was breathing. Man appeared to be sober at this time and was returned to his apartment.

Power lines were down on Church Street and were laying across the road. Officer blocked off the road and contacted the Fire Department.

Officer found an abandoned vehicle on the side of Fort Hill Road. The owner's phone number was not in service. Vehicle was well out of the roadway and not a traffic hazard. Officer left it alone.

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AND WE THINK TO OURSELVES,
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WE HEAR BABIES CRY, WE WATCH THEM GROW,



Happy Thanksgiving


Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving from our families to yours!



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