

Gorham Times

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A Visit to Baxter Museum with the Curiosity of a Child

Gorham Times Staff



Photo Credit: Patti Friedlander

The museum's Music Room features an antique piano, an Edison record player and a stained-glass fire screen.

Visitors to the Baxter House Museum can step back in time just by stepping over the threshold.

"We call the top step 'the confessional'" says tour guide Suzanne Ennis, "because many visitors arrive

confessing that they've lived here for decades but have never been inside."

Ennis says she loves showing native Gorhamites and newcomers alike around the 1800s home, walking them through the town's founding in 1736

and up to the turn of the last century. Third-graders from all over town may be the museum's most important visitors. They study the history of Gorham in their curriculum at Village, Narragansett and Great Falls schools.

"They arrive in May with answers as well as questions" says the tour guide, noting that some teachers even assign to students the roles of Gorham notables. "I'll mention Captain John Phinney, our town's founder, and students will point to a classmate and say, 'That's him!'"

In the War Room, named for a large painting of the Civil War Battle of Chancellorsville, a student is asked to hold up a canteen that was owned by William Strout, so the whole class can see it. One student asked whether the soldier from the 17th Maine Regiment survived the war. Ennis says she told him, "I'll find out, and every tour after this one will know because of you." Roughly two hundred students visit the Baxter House every year in a tradition that goes back for decades.

Visitors can see what the first records and record player looked like in the Music Room. Students in class tours who have taken piano lessons can even give

an impromptu demonstration for their friends. The tour guide encourages the children to return over the summer and help her give the tour to their families. "We've already had a few students come back this summer" she said last week.

James Phinney Baxter donated his birthplace to the town in 1907, and it opened as a town history museum the following year. Because the Baxter family is so well known in Maine, there is also a bedroom dedicated to their history.

Volunteers at the museum have helped set up a new child's bedroom on the third floor, where classroom tours do not go. "It's a little too small for large groups," the tour guide says. She encourages students to satisfy their curiosity with a return visit.

Ennis says she may have hosted the museum's oldest visitor last month when a nonagenarian made his confession on the top step. "This gentleman is a delight and he was able to confirm some of our stories from his own childhood experience."

The Baxter House Museum is open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. through August. Tours by appointment may be arranged through the Baxter Memorial Library.

Gorham Students Complete Construction Immersion Program

Kelli Deveau, Staff Writer

This summer, 200 Maine high school students, 18 from a program in Gorham, will have much to share when answering, "How I Spent My Summer Vacation." For the third year, Gorham High School hosted one of 16 statewide Construction Immersion Programs, an innovative, four-week, hands-on pre-apprenticeship program offered in partnership with Maine Construction Academy(MCA), an education and workforce development operated by the Associated General Contractors of Maine (AGC-Maine).

Gorham resident Kelly Flagg is AGC-Maine's executive director. She shared how this program exemplifies what's possible when schools, industry leaders, and community partners collaborate to open doors for Maine youth and build a strong future workforce. This program includes both classroom learning and onsite experiences with five different companies, ensuring that students are both prepared for and exposed to the vast occupational opportunities in the construction industry.

Participants aged 16-20 are responsible for timely attendance Monday thru Friday, 8 am-2pm, during which they earn three nationally recognized creden-

tials including worksite CPR and First Aid, OSHA 10, and National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Core. NCCER Core covers eight introductory industry units, including construction math, power and hand tools, and construction employability.

On the jobsite, students engage in hands-on experiences such as welding, operating an excavator, and learning to use a climbing system to scale a roof. They also interact with employees and leaders at each company, and learn about this industry as well as what to expect and consider related to salaries, benefits, and growth pathways.

This year the Gorham Program spent days at PC Construction and Great Falls Construction, both commercial builders; Wyman and Simpson, a transportation infrastructure company; Revision Energy; where they learned about solar and clean energy careers, and R.J. Grondin and Sons, a Gorham-based earthworks company.

Larry Grondin, president and 3rd generation owner of R.J. Grondin and Sons is one of the business leaders who took time out to meet with students from the program. Grondin says he



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

On July 23, eighteen Gorham or former Gorham students ages 16 to 20, graduated from a statewide construction immersion program. The program ran five days a week for four weeks during which time small groups of them completed small construction projects. As part of their ceremony they each received a tool kit containing basic tools that they would need in continuing their learning.

commits his 150-employee business to the program because it promotes the industry, but also because it helps young adults decide on a career. He noted that students are also learning important workplace expectations, such as timeliness, and the art of introducing and presenting oneself as a professional. His message to students? "If you show up with a great attitude and want to put the

work in, you will do well and advance."

An additional contributor to the program, Bangor Savings Bank met with students to explain money management, budgeting, retirement planning and 401(K) accounts, breaking down benefits packages, as well as how employee-owned businesses might work.

Workforce Solutions also meets with

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**GORHAM GRAD FUTURE
STORIES PAGE 5**

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**LOBSTER BOWL CLASSIC
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Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 108 and House District 109 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 on Gorham residents. The Gorham Times reserves the right to edit the submissions and it further reserves the right to reject any submission, at its sole discretion.

Moving The Needle To Make Maine More Affordable

By Rep. Ellie Sato

Last month, the Legislature concluded its work for the session and successfully passed a balanced budget that helps working families across the state. We have done a lot of good for Maine people, from funding an increased child tax credit to put money back into the pockets of young families and investing in our child care and direct care workers who support aging Mainers, to measures that reduce costs for first-time homebuyers and increase protections for mobile home park tenants. I also had the opportunity to sponsor successful legislation to support survivors of sexual assault this year. Whether you’re a working family facing skyrocketing child care costs or have a partner who stepped out of the workforce to care for your children, too many families are struggling with the lack of affordable child care. This year, we passed and funded legislation that doubles Maine’s Child Tax Credit to \$600 per child for children under six, for families earning under \$150,000 per year. Additionally, the Legislature rejected proposed child care cuts and instead invested in our care workforce and families. We passed measures that expand access to child care, particularly in rural areas, and provide a cost of living adjustment for our essential direct care workers who help our increasing population of older Mainers. This session, we also worked to address the high cost of living by continuing to

confront the housing crisis. We passed legislation to support first-time homebuyers by eliminating the transfer tax on their home purchase as well as additional protections for residents of mobile home parks, which are an important affordable housing option for Mainers on fixed incomes and affects our neighbors here in Gorham at Friendly Village. These measures include requiring mobile home park owners to give residents 90-day notice of any rent or fee increase, expanding rent-to-own protections and creating a right of first refusal for resident cooperatives to match a third-party offer to purchase the park they live in. Lastly, we also established a statewide property tax relief task force, which will help us fix the burden of high property taxes in future legislation. As mentioned previously, I was also honored to have sponsored successful legislation to support survivors of sexual assault this session. LD 412 prohibits the sale of self-administered sexual assault forensic evidence (SAFE) kits, which are advertised as “evidence kits” to increase access to justice for survivors. However, they are unlikely to be admissible in criminal proceedings, and only further isolate survivors from critical care provided at medical facilities — evidence collection is just one of many time-sensitive services. Furthermore, state kits are already free for survivors because they are covered under the Victim’s Compensation Act.

Despite these wins, we have a lot of work ahead of us to continue improving Mainers’ quality of life. In the next legislative session, we will have to address many of the federal funding challenges resulting from President Trump and the Congressional Republicans’ agenda to provide the ultra-wealthy additional tax breaks at the expense of everyday Americans. Maine people deserve a government that works for them, through maintaining health care access, emergency storm preparedness and a reasonable cost of living. We will work hard in the interim and through the next legislative session to continue to preserve and improve on these policies. I encourage you to reach out to me any time with concerns about issues you care about, questions on policy or legislation, ideas on ways to better our community, or even just to introduce yourself. Please do not hesitate to email me at ellie.sato@legislature.maine.gov, or call the House Democratic Office at 207-287-1430.



Rep. Ellie Sato, D-Gorham, is serving her first term in the Maine House of Representatives and is a member of the Legislature’s Judiciary Committee.

CORRECTION: Everyone loved the story in the last issue about the coin that was found under the tennis court. We have since learned that the hero of the story, DJ, does not work for Shaw Brothers, but for Gorham’s Public Works Department.



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Job duties include Snow Plowing, lawn mowing, maintenance of town roads, and other duties as assigned. This job consists of manual labor including lifting, shoveling, raking, operation of chainsaws, large trucks, and other equipment.

High school diploma or GED required. Active Maine Class B CDL required, Class A preferred. Prior experience preferred. May train the right candidate.

This is a full-time position with benefits. Pay rate \$23-24.47 per hour. For more information or to get an application, contact:

Kevin Kimball, Public Works Director, at 207.929.4400

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**Upcoming Advertising
Deadlines**
August 6
August 20
September 3
September 17

Seedlings to Sunflowers - Non-Profit Childcare Center

JoAnn Leib, Staff Writer



1. Sunflower Community Playspace & Cafe located at 3 Gorham Industrial Parkway open to the public. 2. Sunflowers growing at the entrance of Seedlings to Sunflowers' Infant and Toddler location at 11 South Gorham Crossing. This outdoor space also includes a large greenhouse. 3. Lead Teacher, Mr. Levi, reading outside to Gardeners 2 Public PreK Classroom at Seedlings to Sunflowers Gorham Industrial Parkway campus.

Seedlings to Sunflowers describes itself as a high-quality, non-profit school and family center with a progressive approach to early education and child development. Since the founders believed that all roads lead back to how we value our children, they wanted to provide the best health and education plan possible for the children in their care.

Meghann Carrasco, executive director, and the professionals who work with her at the two campus locations for Seedlings to Sunflowers, still agree with the original premise: let's help families to create happy, thriving kids.

S2S (as Seedlings to Sunflowers is tagged) is a twin hub of bubbly child activity located at 11 South Gorham Crossing and at 3 Gorham Industrial Parkway in Gorham. Our visit to the sites was designed to learn more about both the history and the evolution of the program.

The doors opened at the first location in June 2018 with room for 20 pre-K children and 70 spots for infants and toddlers. There were teachers, administrators, and a chef. The staff was steeped in early ed philosophy and eager to set up tidy, inviting classrooms.

Fast forward, and the present atmosphere is genuinely welcoming. The classrooms are cheery and colorful; kids are busy and smiling. S2S has expanded, and the program mission has grown. The Industrial Parkway site opened in October, 2023.

In 2024 the doors opened on Sunflower Community Playspace and Cafe, an inviting part of the same building and serving beverages and light snacks.

A recent Maine Community Foundation Community Building Grant of \$10,000 will outfit a new community room that will offer children's and parenting classes.

The principals envisioned teaching space of course, but simultaneously hoped to build raised-bed gardening stations so that littlies could dig in the soil. They initiated the additions of a seasonal butterfly release, a large greenhouse, a nature playground, and imaginary travel, currently, a cultural "visit" to Costa Rica and Australia.

Practically speaking, these teachers were and are also informed by holistic approaches to pre-K and early childhood education, and in that way their current



Photo Credit: Caitlin Diggles

curriculum is rich and creative. They saw the need for after-care coverage and set up a plan for monitoring the 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. hours for up to ten-year-olds.

They wanted both arts and science offerings and built in special guest educator visits, including monthly collaboration with Dance Studio of Maine and KindKid Music. Special educators include Sparks Ark, Tinker Bus, Maine Audubon and others. Add visits to Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens and from the UMaine Touch Tank, Dragon Fire Martial Arts, and Mad Science, and you have a slice of their adventurous and now-available content.

S2S is partnered with Gorham Public Schools and has two public pre-K classrooms. They are currently enrolling students at both of their school locations. At their Industrial Parkway location, there are two private pre-K classes (where there are currently nine spots available), in addition to the two public pre-K classes (where there are currently two spots available), and 2 preschool classrooms (where there are currently eleven 3-4 year old spots available). Their infant and toddler location at 11 South Gorham Crossing has three infant spots, four 1-2 year old spots, and ten 2-3 year old spots available.

There are options for 3, 4, and 5 days of care. Equitable access is supported by discounted tuition for low-income families. Additionally, Seedlings to Sunflowers maintains an optional healthy food plan which includes breakfast, two snacks and lunch.

For those parents who want to plan ahead, there is a summer camp for pre-K graduates and other options, with more information on year-round programs at the seedlingstosunflowers.org website.

For enrollment questions and to schedule a tour, Executive Director Meghann Carrasco is reachable at: meghann@seedlingstosunflowers.org. Marketing Coordinator Caitlin Diggles is available to discuss all aspects of the day-to-day S2S media operations at: caitlin@seedlingstosunflowers.org. Look for announcements on two upcoming open house events, one on Friday, Aug. 1 at 5 p.m., and one on Aug. 7 at 5 p.m., and note that S2S is on Facebook and Instagram.

Freshly Cooked Meals Delivered to Your Door

Patrick and Cindy O'Shea, Staff Writers

Every week Johanna Conlan and Sophie Sawyer can be found in the First Parish Church kitchen creating classic recipes with a creative twist. They are the owners of Pine Point Provisions, a meal delivery service that delivers fully prepared meals to your door in Gorham, Scarborough, South Portland, Cape Elizabeth, and Buxton every Friday. They currently have over 300 subscribers who receive their weekly menu.

Conlan and Sawyer were inspired to start their company because of their mutual love for cooking. They were both avid home cooks often preparing meals for family and friends. While working together at a local kitchen they developed a loyal following that made them realize there was a market for their food.

They knew that owning their own business would give them the freedom to get creative with menus and serve the kind of food they love to eat. However, finding a space for a small startup was a challenge. They were fortunate to come across an ad for a kitchen rental at the First Parish Church in Gorham. They said that everyone at the church has been supportive and encouraging. They feel fortunate to have found them.

Each week they put out a new menu featuring soups, salads, entrees, quiche, pasta salads and desserts. The idea is that customers can order from their

website anytime between Friday afternoon through Monday. The order is delivered to your door on the following Friday and you have delicious, home-made provisions for the entire week. Hence the name Pine Point Provisions.

Some of their most popular items are: dinners such as home-style meatloaf, ham, pork loin, chicken salad, quiche, pasta salads, pumpkin bread and rice pudding.

If you want to try their food before placing a full order you can find them at the Gorham Farmers Market. Beginning Saturday, July 26, they will be at the Gorham Farmers Market every other Saturday. Find more information at pinepointprovisions.com



Photo Credit: Patrick O'Shea
Johanna and Sophie preparing meals for their customers.

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Strangers in a Strange Land

Bruce Webb, Contributing Writer

For those of us over 65, the world seems to be less familiar and more alien by the year. This is counterintuitive because the expectation is that age bestows wisdom and a greater cumulative knowledge about how the world works. While this is largely accurate in my experience, I am baffled by some of the changes experienced in the last 20 years especially regarding technology.

As an early adopter of technology, I love science and am always eager to embrace new technology yet there is a disconnect between the comfortable world we once knew and the reality of today's world. If you ever operated a slide rule, used a party line phone, and thrilled to 8-track tapes, the current world can be a mysterious place and one for which we are poorly equipped.

Many colleagues are even more baffled about navigating the intricacies of smart TVs, Google search, mobile phones, and the Internet - so I am not a solo traveler on this journey through the wilderness. This bewilderment comes at a stage of life when cognitive acuity is declining just as technology is accelerating at warp speed. Many in my generation are flummoxed by questions such as - what is my password, what is an authentication code, why do I need it, where can I find it, what is an app and how do I use it?

This added complexity and confusion is frustrating and contrary to the expectation that we would enjoy our "golden years." We can spend hours trying to figure out how to get access to our online banking accounts, filling out forms, learning new apps and chasing down contact information. Social networks have varied rules; some people will use email and avoid texting, others vice versa thereby missing out on important information, leading to confusion and also to social isolation. One of the major risks of aging is that we tend to lose friends, relatives or work colleagues, and become more withdrawn from

our normal relationships and contacts.

Given the plethora of new products and services, we each need to consciously decide what technology tools to adopt and avoid those that are not worth the effort. I have decided to give up on any social media because they can be a real time-suck, and they distract me from tasks that I find more enjoyable. Some technical tools can be helpful - Google wallet, Gmail, online banking, messaging, a limited number of news sites, and document apps.

The following strategy can help manage technology challenges:

- Limit tech to a few applications that offer the greatest benefit with the least effort.
- Reduce interaction with online tools - simple is best.
- Learn new skills to help you master a few useful tech tools.
- Ask for help when needed and recognize that things will change soon. Younger people are helpful and there are lots of YouTube lessons.
- Focus on tools that make life easier, help you stay in contact with others who are important and increase the quality of communication and learning.

This sense of alienation is becoming more acute because the rate of technological change is accelerating at a time when people are living longer and spending more time in retirement than in their work lives. The core skill needed as we age is to embrace and adapt to change and do the best we can with the tools we have available.



Bruce Webb has been a Gorham resident for 40 years. He was a home-energy auditor and is involved in environmental activism.

The Gorham Times acknowledges the lands and waters of the Dawnland, where we live and do our work, as the unceded homelands of ancestral peoples indigenous to these places. We honor them. We acknowledge the difficult truths of settler colonialism as well as the healing work that remains for us to do.

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Good News About Plastic

Chris Crawford, Features Editor

It's difficult to believe, but virtually all the plastic that has ever been produced is still right here on earth. Millions of tons are in our landfills, oceans, our food, and worst of all in our bodies. Even newborns have it in their systems from the moment they are born. It's also in the breast milk they drink.

Traditional plastics, made from petroleum, are virtually indestructible. It is cheap to make, easy to mold into shape and extremely durable. This pervasive material is part of every aspect of our lives. The Japanese government estimates about 150 million tons of plastic waste currently drift throughout our oceans, a figure that is rising by about eight million tons each year.

More bad news for us and our planet is that it can take 100's to 1000's of years for even a flimsy ziploc bag to break down. Far worse is the fact that plastic never fully disappears. Instead, it breaks down into ever small particles, which still last forever and are easily ingestible by every living creature on our planet. It is becoming more difficult to find companies willing to accept plastic for recycling.

In a significant development, Japanese scientists have developed a durable, non-petroleum based, biodegradable plastic that dissolves in seawater (and other saline solutions) within three to six months. In soil, it only takes about

10 days to break down into nitrogen and phosphorus, natural ingredients which can be helpful, in small amounts, acting like a fertilizer for plants and microbes. In larger amounts, nitrogen and phosphorus could be somewhat hazardous, so recycling facilities might still be needed to guard against excessive amounts building up and harming the environment.

The developers of this new plastic claim that even if some of these new plastics do end up in the ocean, they would be considerably less harmful than petroleum-based products. The new plastic is also non-flammable and non-toxic.

How is this new product made? Without getting too technical, by slightly tweaking the two main ingredients, sodium hexametaphosphate (a common food additive) and guanidinium sulfate, (a glue-like substance) the scientists were able to produce plastics that had varying degrees of hardness, thickness and strength. This means it can be customized according to purpose: hard scratch-resistant plastics, rubber silicone-like plastics, strong weight-bearing plastics are all possible. The new plastic can be used in 3D printing and medical or health-related products, too.

Sohurrayfor scienceand research. While they helped create the dangers of an overabundance of plastic in our environment, now they are developing ways to help fix it.

Couscous Sausage Pepper Bake

- 2 to 3 cups cooked couscous
- 1lb turkey sausage cooked and crumbled
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 red pepper, chopped
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 4 tablespoons Mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 4 green peppers, top off and cleaned for stuffing

Combine all ingredients for stuffing green peppers. Stuff peppers firmly with mixture. Top with shredded Mozzarella cheese. Place in baking pan and bake for 35 minutes, until top is golden brown.

Questions about the recipes can be e-mailed to Barbara Schneider at btsme21@gmail.com

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CryptoVerse

by A. Logophile

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DI BYBAE ABXHN, NXSLU NBI HUUN HXAOB.

DF'J XVUTF FDNB FU ZTF CUNBI DI SLXAOB!

CLUE: X = A

SOLUTION ON PAGE 11

Future Stories of GHS

Class of 2025

John Adams, Northern Maine Community College	Sophie Kaczmarek, Wheaton College
Wafi Ahmed, 4 year college	Jack Karlonas, Husson University
Batool al Shammari, Saint Joseph's College of Maine	Brooke Kazimer, Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Jack Albert, Employment	Alivia Keniston, Southern Maine Community College
Reichen Albert, Southern Maine Community College	Nicholas Kim, Southern Maine Community College
Mahmood Almkhtar, Southern Maine Community College	Kathryn LaPierre, University of New England
Ana Alonso Carcedo, Universidad Francisco de Vitoria Madrid	Jeffrey Legere, Southern Maine Community College
Sofia Andrade, Marymount Manhattan College	Adam Lembarra, Central Maine Community College
Harrison Baber, Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Landon Levan, Employment
Raiyah Babinsky, Brigham Young University	Abigail Libby, Central Maine Community College
Whitney Ball, Southern Maine Community College	Rebekah Libby, Employment
Emily Beal, Johnson and Wales University	Aidan Madore, Southern Maine Community College
Brianna Beaulieu, University of Maine	Grace Mahaney, Gap Year
Gage Beaulieu, Employment	Nasir Manahe, University of Maine
David Bechtel, Employment	Evangeline Mann, Southern Maine Community College
Derek Beck, Southern Maine Community College	Ben Mason, Employment
Michael Briggs, Southern Maine Community College	Chafek Matta, Boston University
Teagan Brown, Employment	Kayla McLean, Wheaton College
Jakob Buckley, Employment	Samuel Merrow, Wentworth Institute of Technology
Laura Burt, Western New England University	Natalie Miner, University of Vermont
Leigha Buteau, York County Community College	Emma Miramontes, Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Abigail Capponi, University of Southern Maine	Lindy Moreland, Southern New Hampshire University
Caleb Carrier, University of Southern Maine	Xavier Morey, Employment
Joshua Cenate, Saint Joseph's College of Maine	Katrice Morgan, Central Maine Community College
Abigail Chamberlin, American University	Amanda Morin, Hofstra University
Benjamin Champagne, Employment	Ryan Morrill, University of Tampa
Zach Chandler, University of Southern Maine	Danilo Morton, Southern Maine Community College
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Solange Chitala, Southern Maine Community College	Wyatt Nadeau, Vanderbilt University
Riley Chubbuck, Southern Maine Community College	TJ Nagle, Florida Atlantic University
Owen Clough, Central Maine Community College	Jamie Nelson, Employment
Preston Coffelt, Asbury University	Amelia Olaru, Pace University
Ashley Connolly, University of South Carolina	Lucy Orlando, Blackbird Academy
Isabelle Cook, University of Maine	Jimena Perez Massa, Universidad Francisco de Vitoria Madrid
Xavier Coplin, Employment	Diego Perez McLeod, American University
Timothy Curtis, Eastern Maine Community College	Rowan Peterson, Employment
Katelyn Cyr, St. John Fisher University	Brooke Piawlock, Central Maine Community College
Aspenelle De Los Reyes, Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Payson Plummer, American University
Cecelia Dellosso, University of Southern Maine	Kyle Poillucci, Employment
Cheyann Densmore, Employment	Olivia Price , Apprenticeship/ On the job training
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Lucia Dubail, Boston University	Kory Rolbiecki, Employment
Andre Dube, University of New England	Sarah Rosingana, Simmons University
Dylan Dupra, Gap Year	Cooper Rossetta, Northeast Technical Institute
Gavin Edwards, University of Maine	Roxy Rovin, Husson University
Makayla Edwards, Southern Maine Community College	Celia Roy, Southern Maine Community College
Taylor Ernest, United States Air Force	Matthew Sallinen, Employment
Gabby Evans, Plymouth State University	Sarah Sanborn, University of Maine
Joshua Faatz, University of Maine	Victoria Sands, University of Maine at Presque Isle
Emily Fadrigon, University of New Hampshire	Brooklyn Sandstrom, Wheaton College
Brent Files, Thomas College	Juliet Sargent, Southern Maine Community College
Mason Finck, University of Southern Maine	Rhiannon Saunders, University of Maine
Elise Finley, Assumption University	Rhys Saunders, University of Maine
Aryana Flett, University of Maine	Mina Sayed, Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Piper Forgues, Florida Atlantic University	Ella Senatore, Providence College
Hadley Foster, College of Charleston	Jacob Shvets, University of Maine
Lauren Fredette, Southern Maine Community College	Casey Skolfield, Florida Gulf Coast University
Haley Frie, Southern Maine Community College	Alison Smith, Wheaton College
Griffin Gammon, University of Pennsylvania	Natalie Smith, University of Maine
Eddie Garnett, Southern Maine Community College	Owen Spera, University of Maine Farmington
Sherry Garnett, York County Community College	Ronny Stephan, Employment
Cameron Gasbarrone, Saint Joseph's College of Maine	Brooke Stevens, Quinnipiac University
Meghan Gendron, YWAM (Youth With A Mission) Brisbane Australia	Dylan Taiani, Employment
Chloe Goodwin, Apprenticeship/ On the job training	Alicia Terry, Southern Maine Community College
Ava Googins, University of Maine	Denali Tetrault, University of Maine
Royce Guptill, Employment	Payton Thibodeau, University of Southern Maine
Gavin Hakizimana, University of Maine	Madison Tibbals, Babson College
Sydney Ham, Southern Maine Community College	Annabelle Towle, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Gabriel Harrington, Employment	Lily Tukey, University of Maryland
Bailey Hatch, LeMoyn College	Elias Urriola, Charleston Southern University
Ethan Heady, Southern Maine Community College	Ethan Verrill, Employment
Finn Henderson, University of Maine	Liam Wagner, Employment
Ellery Herrick, United States Navy	Vanessa Walker, University of North Carolina Wilmington
Amaury Hirwa, Southern Maine Community College	Benjamin Walsh, Employment
Lucia Holloway, University of Maine	Logan Walsh, Employment
Sophia Hutton, Summit Child Care Center	Sarah Wilcox, Southern Maine Community College
Violet James, Bentley University	Madisson Willey, Roger Williams University
Chuma Johnson, Brandeis University	Logan Wilson, University of Maine
Griffin Johnson, University of Maine	Alauna Worden, University of Maine at Augusta
William Johnson, Vassar College	
Kuba Kaczmarek, Massachusetts Maritime Academy	

more than 50 signatures of persons who are registered voters of the Town of Gorham. Please contact the Town Clerk's Office at (207) 222-1670 if you have any questions.

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GHS Teacher Publishes Maine-inspired Book

Abigail Chamberlin, GHS 2025 Graduate Intern

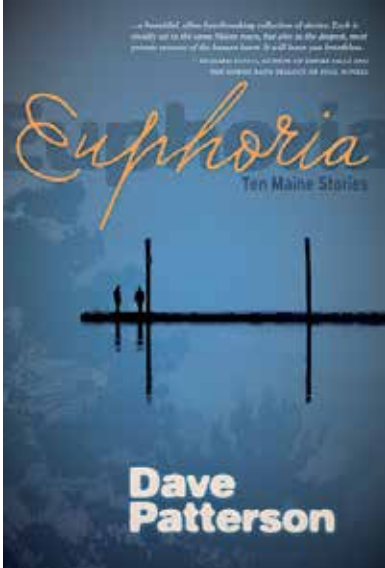


Photo Credit: Courtesy of Dave Patterson

Dave Patterson and his new book "Euphoria" released in early July, 2025.

Dave Patterson, affectionately known as Mr. Patterson to his GHS English and Creative Writing students, published his new book entitled "Euphoria" in early July. The book is a collection of ten short stories that take place in Euphoria, a fictional Maine town. These connected stories paint the picture of a "struggling mill town far from the ocean with its bright tourism glow and Vacationland aura. The characters sticking it out in Euphoria live in a setting that offers both solace and brutal indifference," Patterson describes. All of these simultaneous perspectives and lives occur over the course of one dreary winter; the stories in "Euphoria" range from escaped zoo animals, to honest and tragic depictions of struggles with addiction, to old friends, to domestic unrest. Despite not being from Maine originally, Patterson believes that Euphoria's "rural grit, sagging mill, and indifference to its charac-

ters is an amalgamation of [his] scrappy childhood in northern Vermont near the Canadian border and [his] twenty-plus years of living in Maine and working in rural high schools in the state." He is passionate about telling the stories of rural New England towns that have fallen from thriving communities to struggling to stay afloat, as he came from these towns and grew up among people with similar experiences. "It's my greatest literary ambition to make high art out of lower-middle-class lives," says Patterson. He draws inspiration from Richard Russo, a Pulitzer Prize winning author who is in conversation with Patterson for his book launch at Print: A Bookstore in Portland, on Tuesday, Aug. 12. The publication of the realistic and vivid stories that make up "Euphoria" has advanced Patterson's journey as an author, and GHS and its students are simultaneously proud and fortunate to call him a teacher and friend.

Grads Named Mitchell Scholars

Gorham Times Staff

Gorham graduates Mina Sayed and Madison Tibbals have been named 2025 Mitchell Scholars by the Mitchell Institute. According to the Mitchell Institute, the scholars join more than 3,800 past recipients who have been unlocking their potential, having successful college experiences and contributing to the vitality of their communities since 1995. Students receive a \$10,000 scholarship award, along with ongoing personal and professional support to ensure they find success in their journey throughout college and beyond. Jared Cash, Mitchell Institute CEO said, "Senator Mitchell realized a bold vision when he created the Mitchell Institute -- to increase the likelihood that young people from every community in Maine will aspire to, pursue, and achieve a college education. In our 30th year, his vision is more important than ever before. We're proud to support these remarkable young people as they begin journeys that will

benefit Maine for generations to come." Each year the Mitchell Institute receives more than 1,600 applications and is tasked with choosing at least one student from every public school in the state. Scholars are chosen with a balanced view of their financial needs, academic achievement, and community impact. This year marks the largest class in Mitchell's thirty-year history - with 200 scholars in total. 2025 is unique in more ways than just the numbers: "Every part of the Mitchell community had a hand in choosing who made up the incoming class," said Casey Near, scholarship director. "I was joined by our access ambassadors to help promote the Mitchell Institute on visits to high schools, and alumni were able to read applications for the first time ever, along with the staff and board to help select recipients." The Mitchell Institute strengthens Maine communities by providing a path to success in college and beyond.

Gorham MAINE

- Planning Board Full Board Workshop, Aug. 4, 6 p.m.
- Planning Board Meeting, Aug. 4, 7 p.m. p.m.
- Regular Town Council Meeting, Aug. 5, 6:30 p.m.
- Planning Board Optional Meeting Date, Aug. 18, 7 p.m.
- Conservation Commission Meeting, Aug. 19 - CANCELLED
- Gorham Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) Meeting, Aug. 20, 8 - 10 a.m.
- Capital Improvement Improvements/Edonomic Development (ED) Committee Meeting, Aug. 21, 11 a.m.
- Board of Appeals Meeting, Aug. 21, 6:30 p.m.
- Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, Aug. 25, 5:30 p.m.

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Gorham Represents in 35th Lobster Bowl Classic

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Photo Credit: Coach Sam Morrison
Jack Karlonas with the 35th annual Lobster Bowl Classic trophy

The 35th Annual Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic kicked off Saturday, July 19 at Lewiston High School's Don Roux Field. The event featured 140 of Maine's premiere high school football all-stars. Jack Karlonas GHS '25 laced up his cleats for the event one last time. Karlonas started the game for the West team, in the outside linebacker position. According to his high

school varsity coach, Sam Morrison, he was also a part of several special teams. The East was led by Portland High school quarterback, Louis Thurston, who led the Bulldogs to the state championship this past season. Similar to Karlonas, Thurston said, "this game means the most, it's probably going to be the last time I suit up, and to do it for a great great cause couldn't be a better way to end it." This event means so much to the entire football community and exceeded expectations for the players and the coaches. All participants broke a fundraising record, raising \$236,000 for Maine Shriners Children's Hospitals. A lot of memories were made all week long, starting with the team training camp held at Foxcroft Academy where players participated in many practices, a lake trip, bowling trip, and a leadership trip with the national guard. The team then made their way back to Lewiston for the banquet celebrating coaches, players, and cheerleaders for their incredible efforts in raising money for the Shriners Children's Hospitals. After months of preparation and their week-long training camp, on July 19 it was time to shine on the field with the annual

East v. West football game with a spectacular halftime performance put on by the all-star cheerleading squad. The West scored early and with a slow start in the second half for both sides, the West would pull away with a cool touchdown from MVP quarterback Jamier Rose (Noble) to CJ Cooper (Bonny Eagle). The West would prevail for a second straight year with a 41-6 win, with

the biggest accomplishment, of course, being surpassing their fundraising goals. This would be the final football game of Karlonas's career after being a two-time all conference player, Fitzpatrick trophy semifinalist, and the National Football Foundation Scholar Athlete. Kudos to Karlonas and to Coach Morrison for being key players in this momentous event.



Photo Credit: Coaching staff
Jack Karlonas with Coach Morrison at Foxcroft Academy for training camp

Gorham Scout Troop 73 Canoe Trip

Nicholas Stinson, Contributing Writer



Photo Credit: Warren Allison
Standing L-R: Meyer Zaninelli, Orion Provencal, Vinnie Romano, Simon Wallace, Cole Stinson, Daniel Deprez, Jared Burt, Joshua Allison, Zeke Provencal, Harper Winkley, Ryan Wallace, Richard Burt, Chris Winkley, and Mitch Zaninelli. Kneeling L-R: Warren Allison, Nick Stinson

Gorham Scout Troop 73 recently completed a four-day canoe trip down the Moose River in Jackman, Maine. The scouts applied their whitewater knowledge and paddling skills, facing various challenges throughout the expedition. In preparation for the trip, the scouts learned how to read and navigate whitewater. They also had a paddling clinic at Shaw Park to practice their techniques. The Moose River trip offered a chance to experience real whitewater conditions and test their newly acquired skills. "Running whitewater on the trip was a whole different experience than practicing in the park," said one of the troop leaders. "But these boys really rose to the occasion. Their preparation paid off." The expedition began with a challenge on the first night when the group endured a microburst while camped on the shores of Holeb Pond. This sudden, intense downdraft brought high winds and heavy rain, testing the scouts' ability to maintain

their composure and secure their camp in adverse conditions. During the trip, other challenges included a quarter-mile portage around Holeb Falls, where they had to carry their canoes and gear over rugged terrain. One day also involved a longer paddle that ended with a three-mile crossing of Attean Lake against a stiff wind. These experiences provided the scouts with valuable lessons in outdoor skills and teamwork. Despite the physical demands and unexpected obstacles, all participants had a great time, with the trip fostering camaraderie and a deeper appreciation for the outdoors. The adventure not only reinforced their paddling and navigation skills but also instilled confidence and self-reliance in the young scouts. Gorham Scout Troop 73 thanks Cindy Hazelton of Gorham Parks and Recreation for lending them canoes, and the community at large for supporting their recent rummage sale fundraiser, which helped make the trip possible.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Gorham School Department was a strong proponent and early adopter of

This program is free to participants, and Flagg hopes that not only will these programs continue, but that the model and the collaborative partnerships will grow. "AGC Maine is committed to this program and to our local Maine communities," said Flagg. "We look forward to offering Gorham area students this program for years to come."

John Ersek, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: Lake Ersek

In this photo (left to right) Tracey Jasas-Hardel, Kate Beever, Christina Chute, and Sam Schuth perform "Silk and Bamboo" by contemporary Chinese composer Wu Man.

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after hours: hello@thirdspacemarket.com



COMMUNITY

GRADUATIONS

Ryan Desanctis, Master of Architecture, Graduate Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning, and Graduate Certificate in Preservation Practices, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Ambrosia Moore, Merrimack College, North Andover, Massachusetts

DEAN'S LIST

Emily Feagans, Simmons University, Boston, Massachusetts
Brayden Harjula, University of Tampa, Tampa, Florida

OF INTEREST

Cressey Road Christian Church will host a free concert featuring two-time Grammy Nominee Brad White. Brad's performances use vocals, piano artistry, and the saxophone to bring humor, heart, and hymns of the generations together. Refreshments to follow. Wednesday, July 30 at 6 p.m. 81 Cressey Road. FMI <https://cresseyrdcc.org/>

Tory Hill Congregational Church will hold their Summer Lawn Fair with food, raffle baskets, music and yard sale, open to the public. Saturday, Aug. 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 1197 River Road in Buxton.

Gorham Memorial VFW Post 10879 supports local veterans and their families through community service, patriotic programs, and veteran outreach. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Gorham Fire Station. FMI, vfwpost10879@gmail.com, facebook.com/vfw10879, or call Quartermaster Jakob Bauder at (207) 607-0370.

The 50th Reunion of the Gorham High School Class of 1975 will take place on Saturday, August 30 from 4 - 9 p.m. at Red City Ale House, 8 Main Street, Windham. FMI: Contact Donna (207) 831-2203 or Diane (207) 756-3740.

Cherry Hill Farmers Market is every Wednesday, Route 25 (Main Street) in Gorham near the Westbrook line.

The Westbrook-Gorham Rotary resumed regular meetings on July 29 in the WRVC Dining Room, 125 Stroudwater Street in Westbrook. FMI: Christine Johnson, (207) 797-3747, <https://www.westbrookgorhamrotary.org/events/calendar>

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Gorham Medical Loan Closet is available to Gorham residents in need of medical equipment temporarily. Wheelchairs, walkers, canes and scooters are just some of the items available. The closet is only open Monday thru Thursday, and only by appointment. Call Gerry Day at (207) 756-2210 or (207) 839-3859.

The Mission of Hope Clothes Closet is open the first and third Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon at Cressey Road Christian Church on Cressey Road to anyone who needs

clothing. The Closet also takes donations of clean clothing, and now has all types and sizes of spring and summer clothing. Share a cup of coffee with the staff while you browse.

The Gorham Food Pantry, located at 299-B Main Street (parking lot of St. Anne's Catholic Church) is open every Thursday morning from 10 a.m. to noon and is free for any Gorham resident in need. FMI, (207) 222-4351, visit www.gorhamfoodpantry.org or contact the director at director@gorhamfoodpantry.org

PUBLIC SUPPERS

"Summer Thursdays" Weekly Food Truck Festival is in Gorham at the Little Falls Recreation Area every Thursday from June 26 until Aug. 28 with a rotating weekly line-up from 4 - 8 p.m. at 664 Gray Road in Gorham. Learn more at gorhammaine.org (207) 222-1620.

LIBRARY NEWS

Baxter House Museum at 67 South Street is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays during the months of June, July, and August. FMI: (207) 222-1190.

North Gorham Public Library welcomes Local artist Hope Armstrong Place to read a story to the children and then help them paint an image from the book. She'll bring all of the painting supplies (You may want to send along an apron or shirt to cover your child's clothes.) Parents are welcome, but if you want to paint, too, there will be a \$10 fee. Find NGPL online at <https://north-gorham.lib.me.us>. The North Gorham Public Library is open Monday 3 - 6 p.m, Tuesday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3 - 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday closed, Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Sunday closed. Story Hour is every Wednesday 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. FMI: (207) 892-2575.


Bater Memorial Library welcomes Marine Mammals of Maine presenting "World of Whales" on Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 6 p.m. Whales play a vital role in the ocean ecosystem that helps to support all life on Earth. Join Marine Mammals of Maine (MMoME) for a deep dive into the world of whales. The BML calendar is filled with programs and events for all ages. Visit <https://baxterlibrary.org/events>. Baxter Memorial Library hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, and closed on Sundays. FMI: (207) 222-1190.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE


News and information about the University of Southern Maine can be found online at <https://usm.maine.edu>. It's not too late to sign up for fall classes, or visit a department you'd like to learn more about..

Send calendar items, public service announcements and events to
Lori Arsenault, public service coordinator: loriaam@gmail.com


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You'll love the sunlit open 4 bedroom/2.5 bath floor plan featuring a gorgeous granite kitchen open to the dining area and front living room. On the second level you'll find the primary bedroom with its own bathroom and two walk-in closets. This home was constructed with an upgraded spray foam insulation package realizing you a lifetime of savings for heating and cooling. Thoughtfully built by a reputable local builder with over 50 years' experience.




STANDISH \$49,900 –
Spacious 1979 3 bedroom, 1 bath singlewide 14'x70' mobile home located in desirable Pine Tree Estates in Standish. With 924sf, this home offers a kitchen, living room & dining area with all the appliances. This well maintained park offers a community playground & building for functions. Very nice lot & great location makes this a wonderful opportunity. Only 35 minutes to Portland & close to schools, shopping & Sebago Lake. Seller is motivated.




STANDISH \$659,000 –
Brand new colonial in popular Woodbrey Heights offering 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths & 2-car garage. You'll love this sunlit open floor plan. The kitchen with a pantry & island is open to the dining room & front living room. The unfinished bonus room over the garage is ready for you to finish offering an additional 400+ square feet of future living space. Enjoy relaxing on the front farmer's porch or entertaining on the maintenance free rear deck overlooking the backyard.




STANDISH \$525,000 –
This brand-new 1685sf free-standing condo offers the best of both worlds... Easy worry-free living with the feel of a single-family home including a 1-car garage & full basement. This condo is nicely appointed from top to bottom with central air conditioning throughout. The fully applianced kitchen with quartz counters is open to the dining area & living room with gas fireplace. The den/office, tiled entrance area & powder room with laundry completes the 1st floor.




GORHAM \$150,000 –
This new North Gorham subdivision offers 3 lots left, ranging in size from 1.47-acres to 3.20-acres. The lots are all surveyed with soils tests available. Relatively flat and level building envelopes. The 200+ feet of street frontage on each parcel is along paved public roads. You'll love NO HOA fees, restrictions or bylaws to live by. Convenient North Gorham location just minutes to North Windham and Sebago Lake Station boat ramp.



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Town of Buxton
Junk Removal Bid

The Town of Buxton is accepting bids for the immediate removal of junk, including vehicles & debris at 25 Depot Street (Tax Map 12 Lot 8)

Each bid must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked.

All bids must be received prior to Aug. 27, 2025 at 4 p.m.

Bid forms at: Buxton Town Hall, 185 Portland Road, Buxton, Maine 04093

The Town reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

CALENDAR

Wednesday, July 30

Cressey Road Christian Church free concert with Brad White. 6 p.m.

Thursday, July 31

Baxter Memorial Library, STEAM Thursday, 2 - 3 p.m.
"Summer Thursday" Weekly Food Truck Festival, Little Falls Recreation, 4 - 8 p.m.

Monday, August 4

North Gorham Public Library, Free Painting Class for Kids, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Tuesday, August 5

Baxter Memorial Library,
Pirate RPG Tuesday, 2 - 3:30 p.m.
French Language Discussion Group, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 6

Baxter Memorial Library, Books an Bubbles, 10 - 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, August 7

Baxter Memorial Library, Art in the Park, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, August 9

Tory Hill Congregational Church Summer Lawn Fair, 1197 River Road, Buxton, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, August 12

Gorham Memorial VFW Post 10879 meeting, 5:30 p.m., Gorham Fire Station

Thursday, August 14

"Summer Thursday" Weekly Food Truck Festival, Little Falls Recreation, 4 - 8 p.m.

Tuesday, August 12

Baxter Memorial Library,
Pirate RPG Tuesday, 2 - 3:30 p.m.
World of Whales, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, August 13

Baxter Memorial Library, Books an Bubbles, 10 - 10:30 a.m.

AROUND TOWN Phinney Lumber, established in 1928 at 114 Fort Hill Road, was sold in 2021 to Ware-Butler. On Monday, July 21, it was announced that on Aug. 1, 2025 all Ware-Butler stores will become Hammond Lumber, including the Gorham Location.

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Gorham Times

Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

the blotter

Caller was concerned about finding a pile of lighters and rolling papers in her old barn.

Three Good Samaritans helped an individual to keep her safe. Officer felt they should get a coin and a certificate of merit for their actions.

Caller stated that she had a photo captured of a person at 0300 hours and wanted to ask if the department needed it for anything. Officer informed her that the department didn't need it.

Trespass notices served via phone as individual would not tell officer where he was in order to be served and would not come pick up.

Caller complaining about another individual and the junk on the lawn. Officer referred her to code enforcement. Caller wanted to make GPD aware that she saw a male subject in their backyard the day prior and thought it was suspicious. Officer informed her that if it happened again to call us right away and not wait a day. She understood.

Individual brought his toddler to the station as he was interested in the police and had not met any before. After turning it off and securing it, officer showed him the inside of his cruiser and taught him about some of the things in it. The toddler was shy but seemed interested.

Officer observed a truck pulled over with its hazards on just after the roundabout. Officer spoke with the driver who told him his truck was okay and just needed to idle for a bit before getting back on the road.

Caller told officer that she believed an individual had placed a tracker in her car, and it was the reason her headlights were out. She told officer that the other individual used an app on her phone to locate radio frequencies that were coming from her car. Since she is a resident of Standish, officer referred her to the deputy at the substation.

Caller was upset about some bumper stickers she had seen on a car parked in town. Officer advised that the bumper stickers fell under the freedom of speech, and there was nothing the Police Department could do.

Individual called in to report vehicles that had been driving fast up and down Middle Jam Rd. Officer spoke with him on the phone and he told officer that it was occurring regularly in the afternoon in that area. Officer told him that he would be around that area at that time in order to enforce traffic. Later on when officer was on Middle Jam Rd., a different home owner flagged him down and informed him of a similar complaint happening nearby in the morning. Officer placed a role call to the rest of the Department regarding the numerous speed complaints.

Arrests, March 2025

Gorham Times Staff

Female, 51, of Gorham, one count each of OUI (Drugs or Combo)-No Test, Traffic in Prison Contraband, and Unlawful Possession of Scheduled Drug.

Male, 20, of Gorham, one count each of OUI (Alcohol), operating while license suspended or revoked, and violating condition of release.

Female, 57, of Gorham, one count of OUI (Drugs or Combo).

Female, 23, of Gorham, one count of obstructing a public way.

Male, 29 of Gorham, one count of violating condition of release.

Male, 20 of Gorham, one count of OUI (Drugs or Combo).

Grand Jury Indictments, March

Gorham Times Staff

Jeffrey Crewe, 50, DV aggravated assault, domestic violence assault.

David Lichtenstein, 34, criminal OUI, operating after suspension, violation of condition of release.

Arrests, April 2025

Gorham Times Staff

Female, 37 of Gorham, one count of OUI.

Male, 47 of Gorham, one count of domestic violence assault.

Male, 42 of Gorham, one count each of domestic violence terrorizing, domestic violence aggravated assault, and obstructing report of crime.

Grand Jury Indictments, April 2025

Gorham Times Staff

Melissa A. Croteau, 49, theft by unauthorized taking and forgery.

Maleek Louise Dias, 25, theft by unauthorized taking.

Jonathon P. Ebert, 39, three counts of unlawful possession of scheduled drugs, and violation of bail.

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Lions' Classic Car Show

Gorham Times Staff

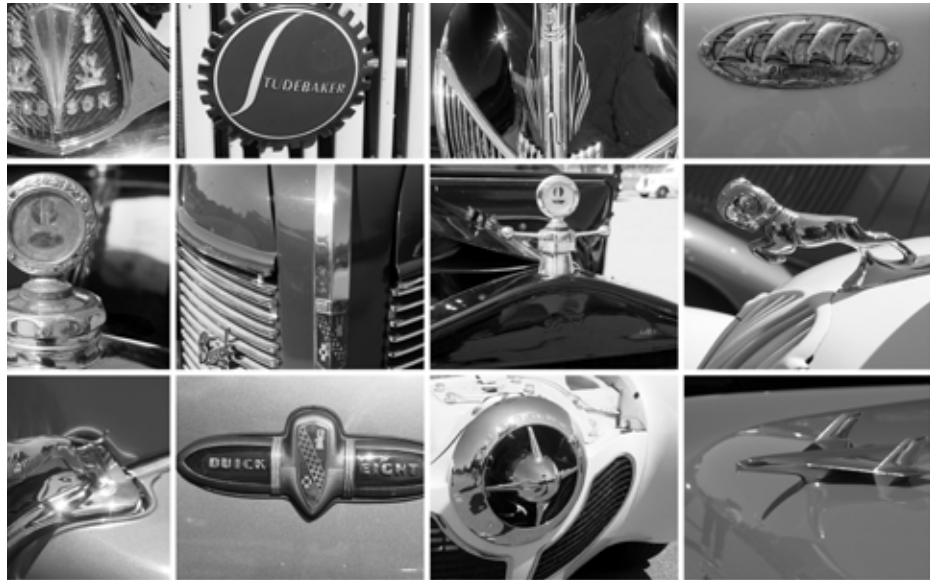


Photo Credit: Roger Marchand
The Gorham Lions Club held their annual classic car show on July 26th. Out of the hundreds of automobiles there, the older ones, with unique hood ornaments, stood out as well as how the names of cars are displayed has changed over time.

Restaurant Hours

Monday - Closed
Sun-Thurs:
11 am to 9 pm
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