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A Free, Not-for-Profit Newspaper Serving Gorham Since 1995 - Celebrating 30 Years

Town Begins Process for Amazon Land Sale

Kathy Corbett, *Staff Writer*



Photo Credit: Gorham Community Access Television

Town Council votes to give the town manager authority to sell land to Amazon.

Although rumors had been circulating in the community, Gorham residents were caught by surprise on Monday, Aug. 18, when they heard the Gorham Town Council would be voting to sell land in the Industrial Park to Amazon at a special meeting the following day.

On Aug. 19, the Town Council voted (5-2, Simms, Siegel) to enter into a sales contract with Amazon for 94 acres on Main Street for \$4 million. The land, east of Shamrock Drive, is part of 141 acres Gorham voters had authorized

the town to buy for industrial development in 2019. That authorization gave the town manager authority to sell parcels in the former cow pasture with the approval of the Town Council.

Despite the late announcement, the Council was not required to give advance notice of the sale or hold a public hearing before voting to approve the contract. According to David Willis, a counselor who is also a local realtor, the conversations about the sale had been held in executive session "not to exclude the pub-

lic, but to protect the Town's bargaining position throughout the process. This approach is standard practice," he said, "whenever the Town considers the sale of property, regardless of the size or value."

According to Tom Poirier, director of community development, having a contract does not mean that Amazon is definitely going to buy the land. Either party can back out of the sale. There will be numerous opportunities for public input because the Planning Board will have to hold many hearings before approving site plans. Land use issues will need to be resolved and there are real traffic concerns. The permitting process would include receiving approvals from the Department of Environmental Protection and probably the Maine Department of Transportation. Residents will have an opportunity to express their opinions throughout the process which could take several years.

Although Amazon has not indicated what type of facility they are proposing, the contract states that they "contemplated use as a warehouse and delivery facility."

Before the vote, counselors gave their reasons for supporting or opposing the contract. Chair Suzanne Phillips, the only member who was on the council in 2019, voted to approve, saying the town "had been trying to sell the property for years, but that other potential buyers had

dropped out. If the requirements are too strict for Amazon, they could drop out too."

Lou Simms opposed the contract because he believes that attracting small businesses is better for Gorham. He felt that the public needed to have more input, and he wanted to wait for a cost/benefit analysis before agreeing to this sale.

Robert Lavoie emphasized that the industrial park was created to increase tax revenue. It is estimated that Amazon would pay around \$250,000 in yearly taxes, equal to that of 42 single-family homes with an annual tax rate of \$6,000.

Seven Siegel, who voted no, said this was the hardest decision he has ever made, but he was glad the contract does not include tax breaks for Amazon. However, he said, "This is what an industrial park is for. This is not the end of the conversation, just the start of the discussion."

This is an issue that will continue to generate complex, conflicted responses from Gorham residents. The immediate response of one woman who lives near the site was to question the sale, but then she realized she had placed two orders with Amazon that very day.

Counselor Willis told the Gorham Times, "every voice in our community matters and deserves to be heard." The signing of this agreement "marks the beginning of a due diligence process during which public input will play a vital role."

Newly Reconstructed Courts at GHS Host Tennis Camp

Kelli Deveaux, *Staff Writer*

Gorham youth wasted no time in putting the revitalized tennis courts at Gorham High School to good use. Through Gorham Parks and Recreation, and in collaboration with the Gorham High School tennis program, 31 Gorham elementary-aged youth enjoyed a week-long tennis camp on the new courts at GHS.

The students spent each morning during the week of Aug. 11 learning and improving the fundamental tennis skills of serving, scoring, stance and strokes. But, says Coach Steve Chabot, what they really got was an opportunity to interact with eight outstanding high school students/tennis players who all volunteered their time.

"My favorite thing about Gorham is how all the programs do such a great job connecting elementary kids with the high schoolers," said Chabot, also a Gorham resident. "This approach embodies the adage, 'You have to

see it, to be it,' and it clearly benefits both the 'littles' and the 'bigs'."

As for the facilities where the camp was held, "The improvements to the courts have sparked a resurgence in tennis interest for all ages in Gorham," says Cindy Hazelton, director of Gorham Parks and Recreation Department. "As the sole 'tennis only' court in Gorham, the teams of GMS, GHS, and USM, along with a whole host of tennis enthusiasts in our community now have a fantastic dedicated space to enjoy."

The old courts had outlived their safe use, however a bond request to move and replace the courts was rejected by Gorham voters last November. Recognizing the popularity of the sport for residents of all ages, staff from the school department, local companies and multiple town departments worked together to rehabilitate the previous site of the tennis courts on the Gorham High School campus.



Photo credit: Adam Parvanta

Young Gorham Tennis Camp participants work with GHS athletes to master their serve.

SCHOOL IS OPEN
WATCH FOR KIDS - WATCH FOR BUSES

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
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WELCOME NEW
TEACHERS PAGE 8

Opening Schools Letter from Gorham Superintendent Heather Perry

Heather Perry, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parent/Guardians,
We are thrilled to welcome you and your children back for the 2025-2026 school year in Gorham! Our buildings have been busy with summer preparations—cleaning, repairing, and refreshing our spaces to ensure we're ready for a great start later this month. We are so excited to start another strong school year in the Gorham Schools!

Key Dates To Be Aware Of:

August 27:
First day for grades PreK, 6, and 9
August 28:
First day for grades 1-5, 7-8, and 10-12
September 1: No school (Labor Day)
September 3: First day for

Kindergarten

(after screenings and placements)
If you haven't received your child's Kindergarten screening time, please contact your school office (Please leave a message if we don't pick right up):

Great Falls: (207) 222-1050
Narragansett: (207) 222-1295
Village: (207) 222-1300

Quick Transportation Updates:

Times may vary slightly from what was published in the Gorham Times because we have had additional families communicate with us about their transportation needs. Please check this information out and reach out to your school's office with any questions you may have. Remember, as we get the school year up and running, and because we are using a new routing software for the first time this year, we anticipate that there could be some significant fluctuations in times for bus pick-up and drop-off. Please allow for 30 minutes +/- on the times listed for the first few weeks of school as we work out those kinks! Once the kinks are worked out, we will plan on releasing a new parent App later this fall that will allow parents to track their child(s) bus for

much more accurate information on pick up and drop off times! Remember, don't panic. Your children are safe with us!

School Start/End Times:

Great Falls, Narragansett, Village:
8:50 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.
Gorham Middle School:
8:00 a.m. - 2:20 p.m.
Gorham High School:
7:50 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.

Importance of ALL FAMILIES Completing Free/Reduced Lunch Forms!

When we open up the school year, there will be the annual "paperwork blizzard" that comes home with students for families to complete. These are essential forms for sure, but none are more critical than the Free/Reduced lunch forms. Two years ago, our district dropped to just 5% F/R lunch rates based on the completion of these forms, which cost us almost \$700,000.00 in lost state subsidy. Last year, through an effort across all schools to encourage families to complete these critical forms, we increased our participation rate to 23% and gained over \$750,000.00 in state subsidies as a result. These forms matter!

We realize that many families do not qualify for free/reduced lunch. Still, by asking all families to complete the form, we ensure that all eligible families receive the benefits they are entitled to while limiting the "stigma" that many families may feel when completing these forms. If everyone does it, everyone just does it, and as you can see from the paragraph above, it matters that we do!

So when these forms come home, please take the time to complete them and get them back to the school. Only ONE person in the district processes these forms, so know that your data is safe and will not be shared! Any questions, please ask!

Get Involved!

There are two great ways to connect with our schools: Join your school's

Partners in Education (PIE) group—contact your school office to learn more.

Volunteer!—visit www.gorham-schools.org, click on "Human Resources," then "Volunteer Program" to register. Registration is required for 1-time volunteering, short-term, or long-term volunteering. Registration is quick and EASY, so don't let that stop you! We would LOVE to have you in our schools!

Reminder - The Importance of School Attendance at ANY AGE!

Regular attendance is one of the most powerful ways to support your child's success in school. Missing just two days a month—regardless of the reason—can negatively impact academic progress for your child. Attendance affects everything from early reading skills to high school graduation. When we start a new school year, we start new habits and we build new routines. Now is the time to ensure that we send a clear message to children that school matters. Attendance matters. Thank you!

Families should anticipate additional communications from your child's school and/or teachers over the next few weeks in preparation for opening days. If you haven't heard anything by Aug. 18, please reach out to the elementary school numbers listed above or to GMS at (207) 222-1220 or to GHS at (207) 222-1100.

Our dedicated staff is eager to partner with you to prepare and inspire every student for their future success! We're proud of the strong school-community connection that makes Gorham special—and we can't wait to begin another incredible year together. Please reach out to me any time at heather.perry@gorhamschools.org or (207) 222-1012 with questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued partnership. GO RAMS!

Sincerely,
Heather J. Perry, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools



Find up-to-date bus schedules at:
<https://www.gorhamschools.org/page/transportation>

Gorham Times

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PO Box 401
Gorham, Maine 04038
Phone and Fax: (207) 839-8390
gorhamtimes@gmail.com
www.gorhamtimes.com

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Editor: editor@gorhamtimes.com

Features: ckck5@icloud.com

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or (207) 839-8390

School: schoolnews.gorhamtimes@gmail.com

Sports: sports@gorhamtimes.com

Of Interest/Calendar: loriaam@gmail.com

Other: gorhamtimes@gmail.com

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Managing Editor: Lori Arsenault

Advertising Coordinator: Editorial Staff

Design/Production: Megan Levesque,
Molly Lortie

Staff Writers: Donna Aikins, Kerry Constantino,
Kathy Corbett, Kelli Deveaux, John Ersek, JoAnn
Leib, Krista Nadeau, Patrick and Cindy O'Shea,
Helen Stanbro, John Tiedje

GHS Student Interns:

USM Student Intern:

Features: Chris Crawford

Photographer: Roger Marchand

Of Interest/Calendar: Lori Arsenault

Sports: Katie Brown

School News: Michael Lortie

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Upcoming Advertising

Deadlines

September 3

September 17

October 1

October 14

Summer Concert Series Concludes for the Season

Gorham Times Staff



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

The Gorham Recreation Department sponsored the summer Gazebo Concerts again this summer. They delighted the many concertgoers who attended these Tuesday evening events. Among the bands that performed this summer were top from left to right JC and the Aces, Andie Fawcett, and Jay Brackett band. Middle row The Tangles, The Don Campbell Band, and Jay Brackett. The third row includes the fiddle player from the Jay Brackett band, Don Campbell, and JC.

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Three New Locations for the Gorham Times

Lori Arsenault, *Managing Editor*

Gorham residents who live close to Standish and Windham can now find the Gorham Times where they shop. Three new locations have been added to the biweekly delivery schedule, Hannaford in Standish, and both Shaw's and Hannaford in Windham.

After a few weeks of serving these

new locations, reports are that they fly off the racks in these locations. If you don't get your copy before they are gone, you can still find them around Gorham, or online at <https://gorhamtimes.com>.

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Aging and the Importance of Brain Health

Linda Whitten, Contributing Writer

Do you think Alzheimer's is a normal part of the aging process? It is not. Alzheimer's is a progressive and fatal brain disease. Symptoms usually develop slowly and get worse over time.

While the greatest known risk factor for Alzheimer's is increasing age, the disease is not a normal part of aging. Most individuals with the disease are 65 and older. After age 65, the risk of developing Alzheimer's doubles every five years. After age 85, the risk is about one in three.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia. Worldwide, an estimated 55 million people are living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. While there are currently no proven methods to prevent cognitive decline or dementia, research has shown that we can take action to reduce our risk of developing it and help maintain or potentially improve overall health.

Growing research suggests that many factors that increase the risk of heart disease and stroke may also increase the risk of cognitive decline and dementia. There is strong evidence of a connection between mid-life high blood pressure, or hypertension, and later-life dementia. This evidence also shows that controlling blood pressure can have a significant effect on your risk for cognitive decline and possibly dementia.

Keeping diabetes controlled is important. Studies have shown an increase in the risk of cognitive decline and possibly dementia among individuals with diabetes, although diabetes has not, to this point, been proven to cause Alzheimer's disease. Maintaining a healthy weight is important, too. Researchers have found that midlife obesity may be associated with an increased risk of dementia. We know that a good cholesterol level is good for the heart – and what's good for the heart is good for the brain.

The best way to combat these health concerns is to know your numbers

and keep an eye on them, especially if they change. Talk with your doctor or health care professional to understand what your numbers should be and what they mean for your overall health.

Do you think challenging your brain may help lower your risk of cognitive decline? The answer is yes. Anything that uses your brain in a challenging way is a cognitive activity and can possibly have benefits for your brain. This can be learning new skills, working on a challenging task or engaging in ongoing learning. What new hobbies or skills would you want to learn? What topics would you like to learn about? One of the best ways to stay challenged and keep your brain as resilient as possible is to engage in activities that require learning new things or solving problems.

It's never too early or too late to incorporate health habits into your lifestyle. People of all ages can benefit from adding in more healthy behaviors.

For more information about Alzheimer's disease and all other dementias, contact the Alzheimer's Association. A free 24/7 helpline is available, providing access to many resources. Call 800-272-3900 or visit ALS.org to explore educational programs.



Linda Whitten, a long time resident of Gorham, recently retired from a career in Human Resources. She volunteers as a Program Community Educator for the Alzheimer's Association, is a member of the Rehabilitation and Survivorship Task force for the Maine Cancer Foundation and serves on the Board of Trustees for Greater Portland Landmarks.

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Rebalancing Your Portfolio Matters And How To Do It

Pete Watt, Contributing Writer

In life, balance is everything — whether it's finding time between work and family or maintaining a healthy diet. The same goes for your investments. Keeping your financial portfolio balanced is a smart way to stay on track toward your long-term goals, even as the markets shift. That's where portfolio rebalancing comes in.

Rebalancing is the process of adjusting your investments — like stocks, bonds and cash — so they stay in the right mix for your needs. This mix, known as your asset allocation, is designed to reflect your comfort with risk, your investment goals and how long you have until you'll need to use the money for a major life event like retirement or the purchase of a new home.

Let's say your target portfolio is made up of 60% stocks, 30% bonds and 10% cash. Over time, as the value of each investment changes, your portfolio may become unbalanced. If stocks have a great year and rise in value, they could end up making up 70% of your portfolio. That means you're taking on more risk than you originally intended.

To get back to your 60/30/10 target, you would sell some stocks and possibly buy more bonds or cash investments which would bring your portfolio back in line with your goals.

Markets go up and down. That's normal — but it also means your portfolio can shift without you even touching it. If you don't rebalance regularly, you might be taking on too much (or too little) risk.

Rebalancing offers several benefits. It helps keep your investment plan on track and manages your exposure to risk. It also encourages disciplined decision-making, rather than chasing trends.

It might feel strange to sell investments that have been doing well and buy ones that haven't. But this strategy can help you "buy low and sell high," which is one of the key ideas behind successful investing.

How often should you rebalance your portfolio? There really is no one-size-fits-all answer. Some people rebalance once a year. Others do it more frequently based on how far their investments

drift from their target percentages.

What's important is that you check your portfolio regularly — at least annually — and make adjustments when needed. After big market movements, whether up or down, it's a good idea to take a closer look.

Keep in mind that if you rebalance by selling investments in a taxable account, you might owe capital gains taxes. Also, some brokers charge fees for trades. But if you own similar investments in a retirement account like an IRA or 401(k), you can often rebalance without triggering taxes. A financial advisor can help you choose the best approach — and may even be able to help you avoid or reduce costs.

Your ideal investment mix will probably change as your life changes. Younger investors might favor stocks for growth. As you near retirement, you may want to focus more on income and stability. Rebalancing helps you adjust as your goals evolve.

Think of your portfolio like a car on a road trip — regular check-ins and small course corrections help you stay on the right path. A financial advisor can help you design a strategy that keeps your investments aligned with your goals every step of the way.

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Pete Watt has been with Edward Jones since 2015. He loves working closely with clients to help them develop successful and personalized strategies to achieve their financial goals. Article by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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SOLUTION ON PAGE 11

Community Action Grant Improves Lighting

Roger Marchand, Staff Photographer/Writer



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

A ribbon-cutting to celebrate the completion of the lighting project was held on August 13th. Left to right in the photo are Laura O'Loughlin, Office Manager; Facilities Coordinator Kevin Wood; Tom Poirier, Director of Community Development; Assistant Town Planner Damon Yakovleff; Rep. Parnell Terry, Gorham; Ashley Krulik, State of Maine Community Resilience Partnership Program Manager, and Gretchen Anderson, Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG) Sustainability Coordinator.

As part of the Town's commitment to help address climate change and reduce its carbon footprint, the Town of Gorham applied for and was selected as a recipient of a Community Action Grant award from the Community Resilience Partnership.

Gorham received an award of \$56,077 to retrofit municipal buildings with LED lighting, which will improve energy efficiency and save local taxpayers money by lowering long-term costs. Gorham Facilities Coordinator Kevin Wood stated that Gorham will also receive \$11,103 in funding from Efficiency Maine for this project.

As part of this project, 488 fluorescent lights were replaced with energy-saving LED fixtures, helping to reduce the Town's carbon footprint and lower energy costs.

As of May 28, most light fixtures on the first floor of the Gorham Municipal Center were replaced and as of June

10, the lighting retrofit project was completed at the Gorham Municipal Center. The Gorham Recreation Department had previously installed LED lights in the Shaw Gym and the Council Chambers were also recently converted to LED fixtures making the whole Municipal Center updated.

Rep. Parnell Terry, D-Gorham, released the following statement in support of the funding: "I applaud our municipal staff, in particular Assistant Town Planner Damon Yakovleff, Facilities Coordinator Kevin Wood and Town Engineer Chuck Norton, for their work to seek out this grant funding and spearhead this effort. This lighting project will help to reduce Gorham's operational costs that are borne by our taxpayers, by creating more reliable, resilient and efficient facilities that will also contribute to our sustainability goals."

Portland Water District News

Lori Arsenault, Editor

The Portland Water District (PWD) is embarking on a major infrastructure upgrade: replacing nearly all 55,000 water meters across the system with the latest technology in Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). This \$30 million

investment will roll out over the next three years, beginning in October, and marks a significant step in enhancing customer service, improving efficiencies, and strengthening leak detection and emergency response capabilities.

Gorham Times

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Clerk's Corner 8-28-25

Laurie Nordfors, Town Clerk

I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful summer. Fall is around the corner, and the days are growing shorter. With fall comes cool nights and busy days here at the town clerk's office. Kids will be back at school in a few days, and with that I ask that you slow down on the roads and stop when you see flashing lights on school buses and at crosswalks. Let's keep our kids safe!

We are looking for a new recipient of the Boston Post Cane. Persons wishing to nominate themselves or someone else as the oldest resident of Gorham may contact Town Clerk Laurie Nordfors at 207-222-1670 or fill out the nomination form available on the town's website www.gorham-me.org. Additional supporting documentation may be requested. Requirements can be found on our website. Nomination papers will be available until Sept. 30, 2025

Nomination papers are now available for the municipal election, which will be held Nov. 4, 2025, to elect three (3) persons to the town council and two (2) persons to the school board, (3-year term), and one (1) person to the school board (1-year term). Nomination papers are available in

the town clerk's office. Completed nomination papers must be submitted to the town clerk's office no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025.

Absentee ballot requests are now available for the November election. You may request an absentee ballot by calling the town clerk's office or visiting the state election website at <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/voter-info/absent.html>.

Once the ballots are received in early October, they will be mailed to you. You can return the ballots by mail or drop them off in the ballot drop box at the municipal center.

Voter registration is conducted at the town clerk's office during regular business hours, Monday–Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please be sure to have photo identification and proof of your residence address when registering to vote. You can register to vote up to and including election day in person. If you register by mail, your voter registration card must be received in the town clerk's office by end of day Oct. 15, 2025, to be eligible to vote in the November election.

Please do not hesitate to call the town clerk's Office at (207) 222-1670 with any questions.

Gorham Fire Department Incident Responses, July 2025

Gorham Times Staff

In the month of July, the Gorham Fire Department responded to 322 calls for service. That's an average of 10.3 calls each day. 58.88% of the calls for service were for medical emergencies ranging from lifting assistance to cardiac arrests.

The remainder of the incidents that the Gorham Fire Department responded to were 3 reported building fires, 12 motor vehicle accidents with 5 requiring the occu-

pant being extricated with the Jaws of Life, 30 mutual aid requests from neighboring communities such as Westbrook, Standish and Windham, and 15 requests for mutual aid communities to respond to Gorham.

With the increased call volume and staffing challenges, the Gorham Fire Department still strives to provide the best possible service to members of the community.



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GORHAM REAL ESTATE EXPERT

A Partnership With USM Makes Field Days Successful

Michael Lortie, School News Editor

An amazing partnership between Great Falls, Narragansett and Village Elementary Schools and the University of Southern Maine, has provided an opportunity for the schools to successfully provide an uninterrupted schedule for their end-of-the-year field days. These events are often the highlight of the K-5 students' school year experience in the Gorham schools.

For years, the field days were held outside and were weather-dependent, either interrupted by Maine spring rains or by unsafe, intense heatwaves. This always provided for the threat of postponements, cancellations or the threat of heatstroke. Being able to use the large and comfortable Costello Sports Complex has been greatly appreciated by the students and staff of the three elementary schools.

According to Frank DeFrancesco, recently retired physical education teacher at Great Falls School, "It is incredibly generous of the university to provide this facility free of charge. To put it in perspective, the field house rents for \$250 an hour and we use the facility for 6 plus hours each day for all six days. We have been using the facility all but a

couple of the Covid years ever since we began the k-5 schools 14 years ago. We are extremely grateful to the University of Southern Maine for this partnership."

Kim Turner, the Associate Director of Athletics at USM, said, "As a former physical education teacher in the Gorham School System, I am proud to be involved with Gorham Field Days through my affiliation with University of Southern Maine Athletics. For five days at the start of the summer, the elementary students that participate in Gorham Field Days bring joy to all who work in the Costello Sports Complex. Hearing the students hoot, holler, laugh, cheer and giggle brightens our days! Speaking on behalf of USM Athletics, I am proud to stand alongside the many teachers, community members and parents who visit Costello during Gorham Field Days to cheer these children on. If as a department, we can have a small part in helping these students find joy in the many benefits associated with physical fitness and wellness, then we are all in! I am hopeful that USM and the Costello Sports Complex will host Gorham Field Days for many years to come!"

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SPORTS

2025 Annual GHS Alumni Field Hockey Game

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Reece Leclerc (senior) and alum Hannah Prince battle for possession

Photo Credit: Jim Dillon

Once the calendar turns to the month of August, time flies. Student-athletes trade in their beach days for training and work-outs to gear up for the fall sports season, including playing in alumni games, twice a week summer games and captain's practices.

Current and former field hockey players got together on Aug. 1 for a fun alumni game on turf field. Coach Becky Manson started this tradition when she took over the program many years ago at Gorham High School. Coach Manson added, "The first alumni game I organized only a few former athletes showed up. But this most

recent game was held at the University of Southern Maine where we had 19 returning alumni come out to play. I had a wide range of past players show up including Faith Dillon, Danielle Moody, Dee Emery, Kayleigh Ballentine and Hannah Prince."

All were fantastic field hockey players who went on to play, and for some, Division I. This platform allows former players to reconnect with their teammates and their community, often bringing up fond memories. It also draws inspiration for current players from alumni who have gone on to achieve success,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Gorham MAINE

Wednesday, August 27: First day for grades PreK, 6, and 9
Thursday, August 28: First day for grades 1–5, 7–8, and 10–12
Monday, September 1: No school (Labor Day)
Wednesday, September 3: First day for Kindergarten

School is Open - Watch for Kids - Watch for Buses

Tuesday, September 2, Regular Town Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Monday, September 8, Planning Board Meeting, 7 p.m.



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Welcome to the Gorham Schools

Gorham Times Staff

District Wide:

Bruce Crepeau, Bus Driver
Ashland Hanson, Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) K-5
Nicole Hudson, Social Worker, Village/Gorham High School (transfer)
Lee Jones, Bus Driver
Eric Karwowski, Bus Driver
Michael Leary, Bus Driver
Jessica McLellan, Cafeteria Assistant, District Wide
Shannon O'Brien, Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), GMS, GHS
Shelley Roberts, Speech Pathologist, District Wide
April Roland, Executive to Superintendent, Central Office
Mitzii Smith, Transportation Director
Sara Wing, Cafeteria Assistant (transfer)

Great Falls School:

Kaiulani Anderson-Andrei, Educational Technician
David Ciampa, Resource Room Teacher (transfer)
Michelle Dipietrantonio, Apprentice Educator
Sara Meehl, Teacher, Grade 5
Melissa Mullin, Teacher, Math Lab (transfer)
Samantha Person, Teacher, Physical Education
Shelley Roberts, Speech Pathologist
Christine Zidle, Educational Technician

Narragansett School:

Mildred Axelsen, Teacher, Long Term Sub.
Sydney Berube, Educational Technician
Sara Boynton, Teacher, Special Education
Amanda Cole, Educational Technician
Noreen Corcoran, Teacher, Grade 1
Virginia Drew, Educational Technician
Kaylee Gonville, Apprentice Educator
Christine Karcane, Teacher, Kindergarten (transfer)
Tracy King, Educational Technician
Paige Marshall, Teacher, Resource Room
Julia Smith, Teacher, Long Term Sub
Bridget Tharp, Occupational Therapist

Heidi Topchik, School Counselor
Melissa Willey, Educational Technician

Village School:

Jen Baker, Assistant Principal (transfer)
Jennifer Curtis, Educational Technician
Jasmin Eddy, Teacher, Music
Shari Edgecomb, Teacher, Grade 1 (transfer)
Rachel Epling, Social Worker
Cheryl Fotter, Principal (transfer)
Nicole LaFlamme, Teacher, Grade 3
Deb Leone, School Counselor (transfer)
Kimberly Mosca, Teacher, Special Education
Nichole Mucci, Teacher, Literacy and Math Lab (transfer)
Katelyn Parisi, Teacher, Special Education
Enrico Perruzzi, Educational Technician
Madeleine Scholz-Lague, Educational Technician

Gorham Middle School:

Marc Boissonnault, Teacher Resource Room
Emily LaFleur, GT Educational Technician
Casey Maddock, Teacher, Eighth Grade Math/Science
Jaclyn Mullen, Instructional Strategist
Brittany Taylor, Teacher, Math Lab (transfer)

Gorham High School :

Dan Abeln, Resource Room Educational Technician
Taryn Armstrong, Long Term Substitute Teacher
Jonathan Bastian, Kitchen Manager (transfer)
Ryan Chicoine, Alternative Education (transfer)
Pal Covie, Guidance Counselor
Kelli Deveaux, Aspire Coordinator
Faith Dillon, Science Teacher
Megan Donovan, Teacher, World Languages
Katrijn Greco, Teacher, Math
Nicholas Hilton, Teacher, Resource Room
Lucy Knowlton, Varsity Cross Country Coach
Keith Leonetti, Teacher, Math (transfer)
Allyson O'Brien, Teacher, Health
Courtney Rent, Apprentice Educator, Resource Room

Field Hockey Alumni Game CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7



Photo Credit: Jim Dillon

Team Pep talk at Hannaford Field USM.

learning from their experiences and seeing potential paths for their own future.

It really is a full-circle moment. Ultimately, it is a fun way to get together and start the new year off with a boost. Coach Manson shared, "What I love a lot, too, about the alumni game, is that the alumni's parents come out to watch as well. It's a special time and wonderful to catch up with everyone."



Photo Credit: Jim Dillon

Faith Dillon out in front for the alumni team.

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COMMUNITY

OF INTEREST

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, vfw-post10879@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 at 616 Main Street every Wednesday from 2 - 6 p.m.

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

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will kick off its Fall Gardening Webinar Series with "Growing Great Garlic" from 6 - 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 16. Led by Peyton Ginakes, vegetable production research associate, the webinar will explore everything home gardeners need to know to grow garlic successfully, from planting and seasonal care to harvesting and long-term storage. The session will also address common garlic-growing challenges and how to manage them. Whether you're new to gardening or a seasoned grower, this webinar offers practical tips for all experience levels. This session is the first of four in UMaine Extension's Fall Gardening Webinar Series. Registration is required; sliding scale fee options are available. Register on the event webpage to attend live or receive the recording link (<https://tinyurl.com/2sa63zpb>). For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Rebecca Gray at 207.356.1348 or extension.gardening@maine.edu.

The Gorham Municipal Center, Administrative Offices, Recreation Office and Baxter Memorial Library will be closed on Monday, September 1st in observance of Labor Day. There will be no changes to trash collection for the week of September 1st. As a reminder, if your collection day falls on one of the four holidays below, your trash will be picked up the next day: New Years Day, January 1st, Independence Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, last Thursday in November, Christmas, December 25th

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 fall 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.

Living Waters Church on Parker Farm Road will have a Haddock Supper Buffet on Saturday, Aug. 30 at 5 p.m. Suggested donation is \$10 adults, \$5 child, or \$20 for a family. Takeout containers are available for those who do not want to be seated inside.

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.

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.

Baxter Memorial Library hours are 9 a.m. - 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.

CLOSE TO HOME

Standish Parks and Recreation Center presents "Sound Bath Crystal and Tibetan Bowls" with Marci Starr, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 29, in the Sebago Lake Room at 175 Northeast Road, Standish. Bring your own mat or lawn chair for comfort, \$25 at the door. Questions, text (207) 331-3730

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE NEWS

The Osher School of Music has moved to the new Crewe Center for the Arts at 111 Bedford Street in Portland. The Crew Center is a state-of-the-art learning and performing center, located in the cultural heart of Maine, just steps away from a rich music scene.

Find out about USM public events at: <https://usm.main.edu/events>

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

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GORHAM \$225,000

A new installation in Patio Park... this 2026 Champion mobile home with 980sf of living space, applianced kitchen, pantry, dining area, spacious living room & master bedroom with full master bath. Also includes a 2nd bedroom & 2nd full bath, laundry area and new 10x12 storage shed. An energy efficient home on public water/sewer. Park rent is \$620 & taxes are to be determined.

GORHAM \$649,500

You'll love this private setting perched back from the road and abutting protected open space along the rear boundary. The kitchen is open to both the dining area and front living room with gas fireplace. There is a den/office and powder room with washer and dryer. Hardwood floors flow throughout the first floorplan. On the second level is the primary bedroom with its own bathroom and walk-in closet & the fenced backyard is a nice added bonus.

STANDISH \$649,900

Just completed! Brand new colonial in popular Woodbrey Heights offering 3-bedrooms, 2.5-bathroom and a 2-car garage. You'll love this sunlit open floor plan. The kitchen with a pantry and island is open to the dining room and front living room. Front entry with hall closet and a half-bathroom completes the first floor. The unfinished bonus room over the garage is ready for you to finish offering an additional 400+ square feet of future living space.

SHAPLEIGH \$489,900

This contemporary style home is privately perched on this 2.43-acre parcel made up of 2 separate lots. This unique design offers an inviting floor plan. It features a spacious living room, updated kitchen with butcher block counter tops, a separate bar area, a dining room, secluded office area & first floor primary bedroom with double closets. The grounds have much to offer including gorgeous flower gardens, 2 sheds plus an 8x10 greenhouse with fenced raised beds.

GORHAM \$164,900

This well kept 2000 doublewide is ready for the next owner. The master suite is in the back with double closets, jetted tub, separate shower & skylight. Propane runs the fireplace in the living room & gas range in the kitchen. The spacious kitchen has plenty of cabinets & glass door built-ins. You'll find this home at the back of the park on a dead end street. The yard has been taken care of lovingly and offers a large shed with electricity.



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Mike Griffin



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CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 27

First Day of 6th Grade

Baxter Memorial Library Author Event: Nick Fuller Googins, 6 p.m.

Thursday, August 28

First Day of 7th and 8th Grade

Summer Thursday Food Truck Festival final week, Little Falls Recreation Area, 4 - 8 p.m.

Friday, August 29

Regular School Day

Saturday, August 30

50th Reunion of the Gorham High School Class of 1975, 4 - 9 p.m., Red City Ale House
Living Waters Church Haddock Supper Buffet, 5 p.m.

Monday, September 1

No School - Labor Day

Baxter Memorial Library closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 2

Baxter Memorial Library French Language Discussion Group, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 3

First day for Kindergarten (after screenings and placements)

Thursday, September 4

North Gorham Public Library, Free Painting Class for Kids, 10 a.m. - noon.
Baxter Memorial Library Trustees Meeting, open to the public, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, September 10

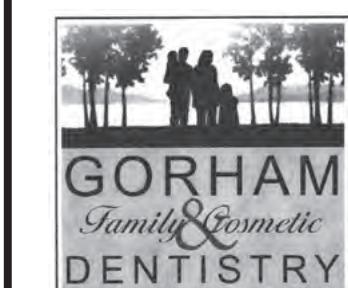
Baxter Memorial Library Author Event: Amie Lynne Martin, 6 p.m.



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GORHAM'S COMMUNITY

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the blotter

GPD received a report of a dumpster blocking a fire hydrant in the construction site of Falcon Crest Drive. Officer located the dumpster, confirming that it was blocking a hydrant. Whether the hydrant itself was actually finished and operational yet was unknown, but it nevertheless could not be accessed by the fire department if needed. The dumpster owner was not in turn answering the provided phone number. Only one construction worker was present as it was the weekend, and they advised that they could get it moved Monday. Officer informed the fire department, making them aware.

While patrolling, Officer found a truck parked off the side of Gray Rd. and on the sidewalk. It was clearly there to attend an event but was in a terrible spot. Officer found the registered owner's phone number in house, and they soon came over to move the vehicle to a safer location. No parking ticket issued.

By the time Officer was able to call on a citizen assist, caller had figured out the answer on his own and was all set.

Erratic operation. Located the vehicle at BK. Door Dash driver, no impairment.

Caller stated that caller was worried about another individual driving to his house. Nothing else happened. Officer advised if the individual comes around again and makes contact, to not engage and call GPD if they are so worried. Caller agreed to do so.

Officer was patrolling northbound on South Street in his cruiser and observed a man walking on the sidewalk with a Twisted Tea in his hand. Officer stopped his cruiser and asked if the can was open. The man told the officer "yes" and showed the open can. Officer told the man that it is a crime to drink in public and asked him to dump it out. He complied without issue and carried on walking down the street.

Officer checked on a young-looking person on Gray Road. The person was an adult and just walking. Officer cleared.

Dispatch received a call regarding vehicles turning left onto Narragansett from State Street into the oncoming lane. Caller said that vehicles are racing to get ahead of each other as well. Officer staged in the area and monitored traffic for approximately 45 minutes. Officer did not observe any violation.

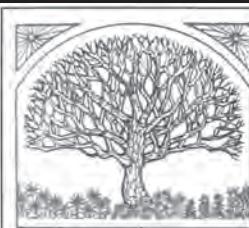
Two parties were arguing outside of a vehicle and walking back and forth from Hannaford parking lot to the Aroma Joe's parking lot. Officers spoke with both individuals. One individual stated that there was an upset about arguing with another male and wanting to fight him. He was told he should not and just to get over it. The individual did not like that answer. Both were warned for disorderly conduct.

Officer was dispatched to a call for intoxication. An individual who appeared to be intoxicated was screaming at teenagers. There was no physical altercation according to Dispatch, so the officer responded normally. Both parties were given a verbal disorderly conduct warning and officers cleared from the scene.

Animal problem. After locating the cat at the neighbors and speaking with the USPS driver, officers determined the cat lived at White Birch Lane. No trap was set, and the complainant will speak with the cat owners to confirm she is theirs. Nothing further at this time.

Individual stated that a male subject wearing a gray-and-white hat, sunglasses, Carhartt sweatshirt, and tan workpants was on his property. Officer arrived and was able to walk the property line without making contact with that male. Officer advised the individual to call back if the male comes back.

GPD received a call for an animal problem. There was reportedly a turkey off the side of the road. Officers checked the area. Officers found a turkey crossing the road. Turkey seemed to have recovered. Officers checked the area further and cleared the call.



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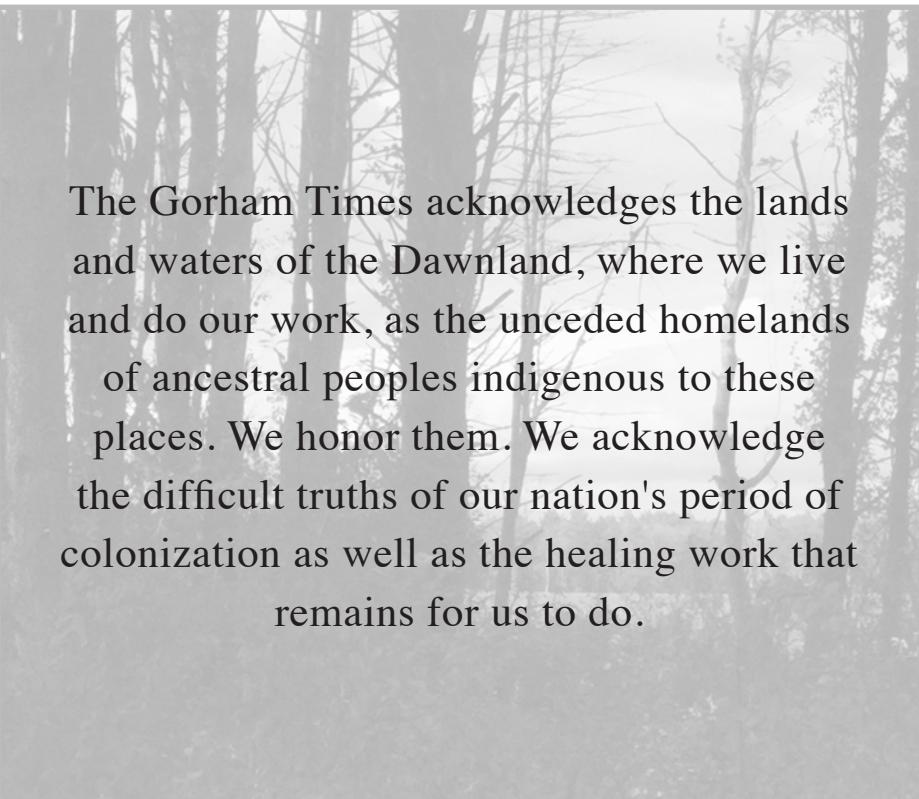
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EVERYTHING'S GOING MY WAY.

I'VE GOT A WONDERFUL FEELING,

OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY.

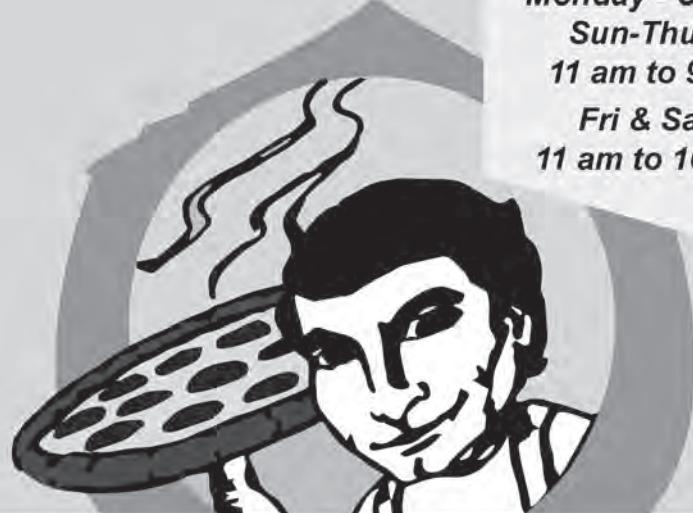
OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MORNING,



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 our nation's period of colonization as well as the healing work that remains for us to do.

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