

Gorham Times

1995-2025
30th Anniversary

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The Scariest Thing This Halloween Might Be In Your Garden

Leela Morris and Rataj Zamat, Gorham Middle School Students



Photo Credit: Leela Morris and Rataj Zamat

GMS students hunting for invaders to save the community gardens.

Have you heard about the invasive species taking over Maine's gardens? Invasive worms called jumping worms, are spreading fast across the state, ruining gardens and forests all across Maine. These worms might look like normal earthworms, but they act very differently, and not in a good way.

Jumping worms get their name because they move wildly, thrashing and jumping around when touched. But what really makes them bad is how they eat the top nutrients out of the soil and leave the dirt with a coffee ground type of texture.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Heather Perry Named Superintendent of the Year

Gorham Times Staff



Photo Credit: Courtesy of Heather Perry
Gorham Superintendent Heather Perry named Maine's 2026 Superintendent of the Year.

In recognition of her commitment to expand student aspirations and address Maine's education workforce challenges, Gorham Superintendent Heather Perry has been named Maine's 2026 Superintendent of the Year by the Maine School Superintendents Association (MSSA).

For the past 10 years, Perry has served as the superintendent of the

Gorham School District, where she has overseen transformational changes in boosting student success and post-secondary opportunities. Under her leadership, the district redesigned its alternative educational programming for high school students while boosting enrollment in student internships, mentorships, and career and technical education (CTE) programming.

Through its "AspireGorham" initiative, the district has collaborated with local businesses and community leaders to expose students to career exploration from kindergarten through 12th grade.

"Heather is committed to boosting opportunities for the students of Gorham, but her work doesn't end there," said MSSA Executive Director Eileen King. "She has dedicated herself to finding new solutions and advocating for state and national-level changes that will have real, positive impacts on our schools. Gorham -- and Maine -- are lucky to have her."

Perry has also played a pivotal role in helping address the workforce shortage affecting schools across the state. In 2022, Gorham piloted a groundbreaking educator apprenticeship program designed to recruit and retain school staff and help them advance in their careers through a combination of coursework and on-the-job training. The program has since expanded to dozens more districts across the state.

"Superintendent Perry's unwavering dedication, visionary leadership and tireless commitment to students, staff and the Gorham community exemplify the very best in educational excellence," said Gorham School Committee Chair Nicole Yeo-Fisher. "This well-deserved recognition celebrates her exceptional work and lasting impact on our schools."

"Heather has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership, vision, and a deep commitment to educational excellence and continuous improvement," said RSU 14 Superintendent Chris Howell, who also serves as the chair of the MSSA Action Committee.

Perry began her educational career as a teacher and principal in the Machias area before serving as superintendent in the Greenville School Department and RSU 3. In 2019, Perry received a Ph.D. in Public Policy from the University of Southern Maine. She currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Maine School Superintendents Association.

Perry was presented with the award at the MSSA Annual Meeting on Wednesday, October 22nd at the Augusta Civic Center.

"A Monster Calls," a Haunting Feast

Gorham Times Staff



Photo Credit: Kat Moraros Photography
L-R: Jesse Murphy as the Monster; Martina Smyth, Ellie Backman, Amara Beganny, Casen Ripple as the Monster Ensemble; Luca Enriquez Capalbo as Conor in center

The University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre will present the Maine premiere of "A Monster Calls" at Russell Hall on the USM Gorham campus, Oct. 24 - Nov. 2.

Director Rachel Price Cooper says the story, which centers around a 13-year-old boy losing his mother to cancer, is

deceptively simple. "Death is the great equalizer," she says. "We know that ultimately we're going to lose people we love and we just don't like to talk about it."

For Price Cooper, this project is a personal one. "A Monster Calls" began as an idea from her cousin, British writer Siobhan Dowd. When Dowd passed away, author Patrick Ness transformed her ideas into the book that later became the 2016 movie by the same name starring Liam Neeson. The Old Vic Theatre brought it to life on the stage in 2018. USM Theatre's production is the Maine premiere.

With expert lighting, projections, sound and costume design from USM faculty and students, Conor's reality is infiltrated by a magical world that ultimately enables him to face what's happening to his mother. Audiences will experience the Monster's 16-foot yew tree, constructed by Technical Director Andrew Johns and Jesse Murphy, who also plays the monster. Costume and set design from USM Theatre's Kevin Hutchins blend the real and magical worlds together in stunning detail.

Performances:

Friday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 26, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 29, 10 a.m.
Thursday, Oct. 30, 7 p.m. - Pay-What-You-Can Performance

Friday, Oct. 31, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 2, 2 p.m. - ASL Interpreted
Appropriate for grades 5 and up
Content advisory: Contains themes of terminal illness, the loss of a parent, and bullying.

Ticket Info

General Admission: \$18
Senior 65+: \$12
USM Faculty/Staff/Alumni: \$14
USM Students & Non-USM Students: \$8
Group rate: \$8/person - for schools and community groups

Tickets and info: <https://porttix.com/whats-on/a-monster-calls-usm/>, call (207) 842-0800, or in person at 400 Congress St., Suite A, Portland, ME. FMI: <https://usm.maine.edu/theatre>.

**GIVING TREES
PAGE 3**

inside the Times f i GOCAM YouTube

2 Augusta **4** Living **5** Municipal **7** School **9** Sports
13 Community **14** Calendar **15** Blotter

**VOTING INFORMATION
PAGE 12**

Understanding Cuts in "Big Beautiful Bill"

Rep. Ellie Sato

One of the most frequent questions I've been getting from constituents recently is how the budget passed by Republicans in Congress over the summer, also known as the "Big, Beautiful Bill," will impact us in Maine. The legislation includes the largest cut to Medicaid in American history, along with sweeping changes to health insurance marketplace programs and food assistance. Most disappointingly, it's paid for by tax cuts to millionaires and billionaires. Congress decided to delay much of the law's implementation until after the 2026 midterm elections, so the most significant impacts won't be felt immediately. But if its provisions go into effect unchanged, it will have real consequences on our state: many Maine families could lose their health insurance or see their costs skyrocket, rural hospitals could continue to curtail services or close, and families risk losing access to food and going hungry. The biggest cuts are to MaineCare, the state's Medicaid program. According to the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, changes included in the law are projected to cost an estimated \$5 billion over a 10-year period – a huge funding gap they know the Legislature cannot fill on its own. In addition to reduced federal funding, there are also new, burdensome bureaucratic barriers that will make it harder for 90,000 eligible Mainers to get the health

care they need by bogging down people in unnecessary red tape. This includes requiring enrollees to renew their eligibility every six months instead of annually. In year one, the state is expecting more than 31,000 disenrollments due to bureaucratic hurdles and other challenges, as well as tens of millions of dollars in increased costs for administration and verification systems. While these policy changes will hurt Maine families, the ramifications will ripple throughout our health care system. MaineCare is one of the biggest payers to health care providers, especially in rural areas, and our hospitals and nursing homes rely on the program to stay open. Kicking eligible Mainers off their health insurance will lead to a devastating loss of revenue for these providers, who could be forced to reduce services or close altogether, which we have already seen here in Maine. It will also lead to greater uncompensated care costs, which will make health care more expensive for all Mainers at a time when many are already struggling to afford it. Additionally, the law cuts food assistance programs like SNAP, which helps nearly 180,000 Mainers – including more than 46,000 children – afford groceries every month. Benefit reductions and eligibility changes, some of which are set to go into effect this year, will exacerbate food insecurity and result in more people going hungry.

Like the health care cuts, these changes will also reverberate through the economy: every dollar spent generates \$1.54 in local economic activity. This will put a significant strain on local food pantries, retailers, and nonprofits. There's no way around it: the "Big, Beautiful Bill" creates real challenges for Maine. It will make life more expensive for working families, and it will hurt our neighbors who need support the most. But despite these challenges, I am more committed than ever to building a state where every Mainer has an opportunity to thrive, and where affordable, comprehensive, high-quality health care is within reach of every family. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me with concerns about issues you care about, for help navigating a state agency, ideas on ways to better our community, or even just to introduce yourself. You can email me at ellie.sato@legislature.maine.gov, or call the House Majority 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.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be fewer than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, and hometown. The Gorham Times reserves the right not to publish letters that include personal attacks or inflammatory language. Letters are solely the opinion of the writer and not that of the Gorham Times. They are published at the discretion of the Gorham Times as space allows and are subject to editing. Anonymous letters are published at the sole discretion of the Editor.

To the Editor,

For the Nov. 4 election Question No.1 will ask Gorham voters if they want to change Maine's election law by placing restrictions on eligible voters. First, all voters, regardless of if you have been registered to vote in Gorham all your life, you would be required to now show a photo ID. Second, restrictions on absentee voting include: eliminating phone requests for ballots; eliminating current ongoing senior/disabled absentee ballots; eliminating pre-paid return-mail ballots. A Yes vote would put all these restrictions and several others into law; a No vote would keep current voting law as is and keep voting easily accessible to all eligible voters. This question was brought before voters, by a petition, alleging there is widespread voter fraud taking place and these restrictions will eliminate it. But there is no real evidence of widespread voter fraud, only 'conspiracy theories' and false information. Elections are secure. Cases of fraud in 2020 were not by voters but by 'fake presidential electors' who were discovered and indicted. So, is there a different reason to attempt to make it more difficult to vote? Yes. The political party now in control of the U.S. Congress, who could act as a check on the current President, would like to do whatever it can to make it difficult for voters who are not likely to vote for their candidates, to vote. If the Yes vote on Question 1 passes, it will not only place restrictions on your ability to make your voice heard about Gorham candidates and issues, but also who goes to Washington to determine what type of country we

live in: the democracy we've known, or something else. A No vote will preserve the access to making your vote heard.

Jeff Christiansen, Gorham

To the Editor,

My wife and I moved to Gorham just over a year ago. We were thrilled to find a home here because Gorham is truly special. While many towns in the greater Portland area have been reshaped by gentrification and unchecked development, Gorham has held on to the rural, small-town feel that makes Maine such a great place to live. But the same pressures that have reshaped nearby communities - housing developers, multinational corporations, rising property taxes, and general overdevelopment - are coming for Gorham. Fortunately, we still have a chance to protect the Gorham we know and love. Unfortunately, the current town council has largely rolled over for special interests, ignoring the voices of local families and small businesses. Gorham is a wonderful town - but if we want to keep it that way, we need leaders who will listen to the residents, not developers. We need council members who will fight to keep Gorham affordable, livable, and true to its small-town character. That's why I'm voting for Charlie Hamblen, Sam Purinton, and Seven Siegel in the Town Council election on November 4th. Charlie Hamblen is a lifelong Gorham resident and has led neighbors against a quarry expansion that threatened the health and quality of life of hundreds of people. Sam Purinton, newer to local politics, has clear plans to keep

property taxes low by supporting local businesses and directing new housing to existing infrastructure. Seven Siegel, currently on the council, has earned a reputation for listening and responding to residents' concerns. All three consistently put residents first, and I trust they will resist overdevelopment, keep property taxes low, and protect Gorham's small-town character. Gorham is a really nice town - voting for Charlie Hamblen, Sam Purinton, and Seven Siegel will help keep it that way.

Josh Trombley, Gorham

To the Editor,

Times change and with them, the needs and concerns of our town. The past emphasis on commercial and industrial development to limit tax increases for residential property is becoming secondary to preserving our rural way of life here in Gorham. We are beginning to see proposed and approved development projects of unprecedented size and impact including the proposed connector, an Amazon facility, and expansions of gravel pits requiring zoning changes. Residents of our still beautiful town must ask ourselves what we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

CORRECTION: In the October 9, 2025 issue of the Gorham Times, an extra education section was erroneously added to Charles Hamblen's candidates profile. That section is being removed from the electronic version of that issue. Hamblen is a 1977 graduate of GHS, and a 1983 graduate of SDSU (BS accountancy). We apologize for the error.

Gorham Times

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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Upcoming Advertising Deadlines
October 29
November 12
November 26
December 10
Winter Break

Spreading Goodwill In Gorham

Sally Fay, Staff Writer Since Oct. 2025



Photo Credit: Erick Green

Frederick Ndabaramiye has overcome many hardships since he was young in Rwanda, yet he remains positive and an inspiration to others, in the company of Goodwill's workforce programs.

Gorham residents searching for bargains or looking to clear their closets and cupboards of unused items are likely familiar with area Goodwill stores. In fact, the town boasts two locations: a store at the Village Mall on Main Street and a Buy the Pound outlet and donation center on Hutcherson Drive. Both are a component of Goodwill Northern New England (Goodwill NNE), an autonomous 501(c)(3) organization serving Maine, New Hampshire and nine northern counties in Vermont.

Headquartered in Gorham since 2014, Goodwill NNE has a multifaceted mission: promoting sustainability through the reuse of donated goods while striving to provide comprehensive support to individuals facing barriers to achieving their work and life goals. Revenue from stores helps fund the organization's many programs, which center around helping people find and keep good jobs.

In 2017 Goodwill NNE set a 10-year goal to help 10,000 individuals achieve personal stability by providing the tools necessary to overcome barriers and build sustainable futures. Programming efforts focused on a range of workforce development services, from job training and placement to career advancement support. In September the organization celebrated the attainment of its ambitious goal, two years ahead of schedule.

"When we set this big goal, we knew we had to transform our work," said Trendy Stanchfield, senior vice president of mission services at Goodwill NNE. "We're grateful for our partners who believed in our vision and helped bring it to life."

Though the celebration was well deserved, the Goodwill NNE staff know there's always more to be done to advance the organization's mission. Most recently Goodwill NNE joined with the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy in recognizing National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual campaign that takes place each October.

Goodwill NNE commemorated this year's theme, "Celebrating Value and Talent," by highlighting the contributions of several employees, helping raise awareness about disability employment and the importance of building an inclusive, accessible workplace where everyone can thrive and contribute.

"Goodwill NNE is proud to take part in this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month," said president & CEO Tripp Harrison. "We want to spread the important message that we value all perspectives, including those of individuals with disabilities."

To learn more about the good work of Goodwill NNE, visit <https://goodwillnne.org/>.

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Ham Operators Test Emergency Communications Readiness

Sally Fay, Staff Writer Since Oct. 2025

Members of the Wireless Society of Southern Maine (WSSM) Emergency Communications Team are gearing up to test their radio skills as part of a statewide emergency communications exercise on Saturday, Oct. 25.

Underscoring the vital role that amateur radio operators play in disaster preparedness and response, the drill, known as the Simulated Emergency Test (SET), is an annual event sponsored by the American Radio Relay League. The event aims to encourage amateur radio operators across the country to assess their emergency communications skills in response to a mock disaster scenario.

The WSSM Emergency Communications Team's upcoming exercise is part of a larger regional interoperability drill, focusing on testing communications between amateur radio and government-administered SHARES (shared resources) stations — a priority in building more robust emergency coordination between public and private response agencies.

"This year's SET presents a great opportunity to evaluate how amateur radio can integrate with other systems during a disaster scenario," says Tim Watson, founder and president of the

WSSM, which provides auxiliary communications support to the Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency (CCEMA) and the National Weather Service. During the test, amateur radio operators must quickly establish communications between emergency operations centers, shelters, and other key sites, and exchange messages that may include requests for supplies, medical status reports, or weather updates — the types of information critical to emergency response when conventional infrastructure fails.

The 2025 drill will mark the tenth consecutive year that WSSM's Emergency Communications Team has participated in the SET. Following the exercise, the group will conduct a formal assessment to identify successes and areas for improvement.

Notes Brad Brown, WSSM's secretary. "Amateur radio is a fun and rewarding hobby, but many of us also stay engaged in drills and support community events so we're ready when we're really needed. That's what it's all about — being prepared and being of service."

For more information about the Wireless Society of Southern Maine and its activities, please visit their website at: <http://www.mainehamradio.com>

Share the Joy of Giving with Older Adults this Holiday Season

Susan Sedenka, Home Instead Volunteer

While the trees outside are ablaze with colors, and pumpkins and mums are the decor du jour, it's a bit of a stretch for some to begin thinking about the holiday season, but the staff and volunteers at Home Instead in Gorham are doing just that.

As we approach the season of giving, Home Instead will once again be calling on the residents of Cumberland County to help brighten the holidays for older adults who may be feeling isolated or alone. Through the much-loved Be a Santa to a Senior program, local community members can help spread joy by giving a special holiday gift to older people who might otherwise go without. The Be a Santa to a Senior program has been successfully coordinated through the Gorham office of Home Instead for more than 15 years. It is truly a grassroots undertaking with support from local businesses, non-profit organizations, retailers, and volunteers.

Community members can participate by visiting one of the many Be a Santa

to a Senior trees located at cooperating locations around the area. Each tree will be decorated with ornaments crafted by local Girl Scout troops and tags bearing the name and gift wishes of an older adult.

Shoppers can choose a tag, purchase the desired gifts, and return them unwrapped in a gift bag with the tag attached. Gift givers are welcome to keep the hand-made ornament as a thank you. Volunteers will collect the gift bags and deliver them to Home Instead where other community volunteers will check the bags and wrap the gifts. Approximately 750 older adults will be on the receiving end of several thousand gifts, but more importantly, they will enjoy the warmth of knowing that they are not forgotten.

If you are interested in participating in Be a Santa to a Senior this year, keep an eye out for the festive trees. They will be up the first week of November and tags will be available until they run out. For more information, please contact Kathy Damon at Home Instead (839-0441).

2025 Public Tree Locations

- 390 Main Street Restaurant and Tavern – 390 Main St in Gorham
- Blue Seal Feeds – 43 Main St in Windham
- Bridgton Community Center – 15 Depot St in Bridgton
- Chute's Family Restaurant – 686 Roosevelt Trail in Windham
- Home Instead – 502 Main St in Gorham
- Sebago Brewery & Tasting Room – 616 Main St in Gorham
- Sebago BrewPub – 29 Elm St in Gorham
- The Black Horse Tavern – 26 Portland Road in Bridgton
- The Blue Pig Diner – 19 State St in Gorham

Doug Carter, Contributing Writer Since 1999

The seasons are changing; it won't be long before we're dealing with the ice and snow. Time to take a walk around your car and see if it is ready for winter. Look at your tires, set the pressure. Make sure your washer fluid tank is full. Check your emergency pack: jumper cables, small shovel, some cat litter to spread out for traction, gloves and a blanket.

The one thing I would not put in your car is food; not for emergencies or even leaving any behind from a snack you had while driving. Anything that attracts mice and other rodents into your car can have terrible consequences.

The amount of damage I have seen from rodent intrusion is extensive. Wiring harnesses seem to be the favorite thing for them to chew on. With miles of wire throughout the vehicle, they can chew through one wire and cause all sorts of things to go wrong. Trying to locate the damaged wire takes a lot of patience and understanding of complicated wire diagrams.

Examples of other damage I've seen include heater boxes with holes chewed through the side, and the cabin air filter with a nest on top of it made with materials ripped apart from the car's interior. If a rodent gets stuck and dies inside the car, the smell can be atrocious. Trying to locate the dead rodent can be an endless chase with so many crevices and areas for them to wander.

There are several rodent repellent products on the market. I wish I had one to

recommend, but they don't seem to work very well. I've seen nests made with the material from rodent repellent pouches.

I had one customer that had problems with rodents chewing on the wire harness causing severe damage. She used peppermint oil soaked in cotton balls to try and keep the rodents out of the car. The scent was so strong it would burn your eyes when you got into the car. Not only did I find chewed wires under the back seat but also found a family of mice with four newborn mice.

If you have a garage it helps, but don't leave bird seed or dog food in the garage with the car, unless it is kept in a metal or strong plastic container. I've found the air filter box filled with dog food while inspecting the vehicle.

Poison would work but you don't want the mouse to die in your car, and you have to be careful with your pets. Mouse traps are probably the best bet, just the hassle of setting, baiting and cleaning up the captures. Deploying your cats to patrol the yard is the best advice.



Doug Carter is the owner of Carter's Auto Service, Inc. He's been in the auto service business since graduating from Gorham High School in 1981.

Oven Roasted Chicken

Start with 2.5 lbs boneless chicken thighs. Trim off any excess fat as needed. Put chicken into a large bowl

Infuse the chicken with a ton of flavor - start by processing 1 medium yellow onion in a food processor. Add it to the chicken, along with

The juice of 1 lemon

2 heaping tbsp tomato paste

2 heaping tbsp Greek yogurt

Season with 3-4 pinches of salt, fresh cracked pepper, 1 tbsp thyme, 1 tbsp garlic powder, 1 tbsp Aleppo pepper (or Urfa pepper or any other chili for a little heat.)

Mix ingredients well, and ideally let this marinate for 2-6 hours, but even better overnight

Preheat oven to 425 F. Remove chicken from the fridge and let it come up to room temp (about 30 minutes). Pack the marinated chicken tightly into a bread loaf pan (about 8.5x4.5x2.5). Pop it into the oven for 50 minutes.

Remove the chicken from the oven, carefully tilt the pan onto a glass bowl or container to remove the excess juices. Pour the juices over the chicken, then tilt the pan again onto the glass bowl or container to remove the excess juices and set the juices aside.

Flip the chicken onto a cutting board and cut into thin slices or strips

Serve it up however way you want - as is, on top of a salad, on a power bowl, or whatever. This stays well in the fridge in an airtight lid for 4-5 days. Enjoy.

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

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Preventing Workers' Compensation Claims From Remote-Work Environments

Ethan Johnson, Contributing Writer Since 2016

The shift to remote-work during the COVID-19 pandemic led to changes in workplace dynamics, with many employees continuing to work from home either full time or in hybrid arrangements. This evolution has introduced new occupational safety challenges, particularly in monitoring ergonomics and safe work habits outside traditional office settings.

As a result, employers may face risks of employees suffering work-related injuries stemming from remote-work that can lead to complex workers' compensation claims. To protect employees and reduce liability exposures, it's important for organizations to recognize remote-work's safety implications and implement proactive measures to address them.

Remote-work can lead to increased workloads and irregular schedules, making employees more susceptible to eyestrain from increased screen time, stress, fatigue and burnout. Poor ergonomic setups—such as working from couches or unsupported chairs—can result in musculoskeletal issues, with many reporting new or worsened pain in their shoulders, back and wrists. Additionally, home cleanliness standards may differ from office standards, and cluttered home workspaces can create physical hazards like loose cables or rugs that can lead to slips, trips and falls.

To help keep their employees safe and reduce exposures to workers' compensation claims, employers should develop comprehensive remote-work policies that outline effective occupational safety measures. Strategies to consider include:

- 1) Requiring employees to follow traditional workschedules (e.g. 9 am – 5 pm) or establishing maximum daily working hours (e.g. up to 8 hours per day);
- 2) Regularly training staff on ergonomic best practices, such as maintaining proper posture, placing frequently used items nearby to avoid overreaching, alternating between sitting and standing throughout the day, rotating among different job tasks or assignments to avoid using the same muscle groups for prolonged periods, and taking scheduled breaks to stretch and move away from their screens;
- 3) Providing guidelines for appropriate workstations to improve ergonomics, including a supportive chair, a desk with sturdy legs and a flat surface, proper lighting, monitors placed at eye level, and a keyboard setup that permits relaxed shoulder and wrist positioning; and
- 4) Setting clear expectations for workstation tidiness and safety by enforcing routine cleaning schedules with trash removal; providing safe equipment storage practices that reduce slip, trip and fall risks; and maintaining sufficient document organization standards.

Remote-work can create certain occupational safety risks that can lead to injuries and associated workers' compensation claims. By understanding these remote-work hazards and taking steps to address them, employers can help foster a culture of safety and prevent injuries while lowering their exposure to potential liability. Contact your local independent agent today for more risk management guidance.



Ethan Johnson works at Chalmers Insurance and has over 20 years of experience in the industry. A USM graduate, he is passionate about helping people and giving back to his local community of Gorham, where he lives with his family.

CryptoVerse by A. Logophile

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BRAC-PFZFC CSPEAXHSP OSYO OJFO XP WJRGT,
EJSSPT XP FGROJSA NRRC BRAC NRA BAXOXGL.
EATWORDSAPS XP EFAH-NASS FGC SGZXLJOS-
GXGL.
CLUE: F = A

SOLUTION ON PAGE 15

October Town Council Meeting Report

Michael Lortie, School News Editor

The Gorham Town Council met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 7. All seven members were present and they began by approving the minutes of the Sept. 2 meeting.

Five members of the public spoke: two about health concerns regarding dust and noise from the quarry, one about the large number of homes being built in the town and two about the North Street bridge replacement timeline and concerns for traffic safety.

Each council member had the opportunity to speak about recent correspondence and concerns. Councilor Siegel wished everyone celebrating Rosh Hashanah a happy new year and mentioned the impact of the apparel bins that have been added around town. The purpose of these is to keep clothes out of landfills, not to donate usable clothes. Councilor Gagnon thanked Councilor Lavoie for his time on the town council and also encouraged e-bike users to follow the safety rules of the road.

Thomas Poirier, representing Town Manager Ephram Paraschak, encouraged the residents to check out the new data retrieval system for the town ordinances and highlighted the Fall Fest on Oct. 18 at the gazebo. He also recognized Recreation Director Cindy Hazelton, who recently received the David F. Drew Service Award, which is given yearly by USM to recognize athletic and recreation service.

School Committee Assistant Chair, Michelle Littlefield gave her monthly report to the council. She thanked the Gorham Police Department for their communication and actions during recent town occurrences that put three schools into "Secure Status" for the second time this school year. The school department is still looking for two maintenance employees and bus drivers and substitute drivers, as well as substitute teachers. She also gave preliminary attendance numbers for each of the schools and highlighted upcoming homecoming events.

The Council approved (7-0) the renewal applications for the five graveyard/junkyard permits for 2025-2026, as required yearly.

The Council approved (7-0) an amendment to the Town's General Assistance Ordinance by updating the maximum levels of assistance required by state.

The Council amended (7-0) the Land Use and Development Code for the South Gorham Commercial Corridor clarifying the minimum standards for the amount of non-residential use in a mixed-use development.

The Council voted (7-0) to amend the Land Use and Development Code to add indoor/outdoor recreation facilities and similar commercial and industrial uses. This added flexibility to the standards.

The Council approved (7-0) the awarding of eleven grant allocations to town businesses who had submitted applications to the Gorham Economic Development Corporation's review committee for a total of \$55,000 in grant funding.

The Council approved (7-0) the amendment of the Gorham Economic Development bylaws to allow one of the members of the nine-member board to be a non-resident who owns a Gorham business with a location in Gorham.

The Council accepted (7-0) the adoption of the Economic Development Strategic Plan as presented by Camoin Associates and North Star Planning for staff review and consideration.

The Council approved a non-profit childcare program grant of \$15,000 to Seedlings to Sunflowers, which operated two sites in town.

The Council voted (7-0) to forward to the Planning Board for review and recommendation, amendments to the zoning map for the Little Falls Village and changes in zones to coincide with the Little Falls- South Windham Master Plan.

The Council approved (7-0) a five percent increase in Fire Department billing rates. The five percent figure is the highest yearly amount allowed by state law and puts the town's rates closer to other area towns.

The Council set a workshop with the Gorham School Committee on Tuesday, Oct. 21, at 6 p.m. to review the findings of the Town's Fiscal Sustainability Committee. (7-0) They also approved (7-0) an organizational meeting for Nov. 10 at 6 p.m., followed by the special meeting to swear in new councilors at 6:30. Additionally, they moved the monthly meeting to Nov. 18 due to holiday conflicts.

The Council also approved (7-0) the forwarding of the Fire Suppression Systems Ordinance to the Ordinance Committee for review and recommendation, for possible changes.

Finally, the Council approved (7-0) the release of up to \$10,000 for public art in Robie Park. This art would include an entrance sign and bench area by Josh Landry's Custom Chainsaw Carving.

For a complete account of the meeting, a copy of the minutes and a recorded video of the meeting may be found on the Gorham Town Council website.

Arrests, Aug. 2025

Gorham Times Staff

Male, 25, of Gorham, one count of domestic violence assault.

Male, 25, of Gorham, one count each of violating condition of release, operating while license suspended or revoked, and attaching false plates.

Male, 30, of Gorham, one count of domestic violence assault.

Female, 42, of Gorham, one count of theft by unauthorized taking.

Male, 48, of Gorham, one count of violating condition of release.

Arrests, Sept. 2025

Gorham Times Staff

Female, 54, of Gorham, one count OUI (alcohol).

Male, 51, of Gorham, one count of criminal mischief.

Male, 41, of Gorham, one count each of criminal trespass, refusing to submit to arrest, disorderly conduct

offensive.

Grand Jury Indictments, Sept. 2025

Gorham Times Staff

Kevin P. Benasich, 41, of Gorham was indicted on one count of criminal OUI, and operating beyond license condition.

Owen Clough, 18, of Gorham was indicted for eluding an officer and failure to stop for an officer.

Eric Mains, 39, of Gorham was indicted for violation of sex offender registration.

Talyn R. Plummer, 23, of Gorham was indicted for reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon, driving to endanger, criminal speed, and violating condition of release.

Aria A. Pomerleau, 29, of Gorham was indicted on two counts of unlawful possession of scheduled drugs.

Real Estate Transfers, August

| ADDRESS | SELLER | BUYER | PRICE |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| CYR DRIVE | TOWN OF GORHAM | THESE PRETZELS ARE MAKING ME THIRSTY LLC | 1,110,000.00 |
| 38 DUNLAP ROAD | BLANCHARD, CHRISTOPHER J. | HALL, JONATHAN DAVID | 850,000.00 |
| 38 MIDDLE JAM ROAD | MIDDLE JAM ROAD, LLC | PAYNE, CAMILLE BARCZAK | 849,915.00 |
| 10 HERRICK ROAD | TINA P. RAMSAY | ANGELA A. PAGE | 820,000.00 |
| 4 FLAGGY MEADOW ROAD | LYNN MARIE MACDONALD | CHRISTINA KIBLER | 721,000.00 |
| 26 POMPEO DRIVE | BRIAN CANADAY | WANSHAN ZHONG | 717,000.00 |
| 68 MCLELLAN ROAD | LANGILLE, RUTH | MACDONNELL, EMILY | 714,000.00 |
| 267 NORTH GORHAM ROAD | THOMPSON, JR. JOHN E. | MAWIKI, DANIELLA | 700,000.00 |
| 171 FALCON CREST DRIVE UNIT 25 | COTTAGE ADVISORS ME, LLC | BARBARA O'BRIEN-GRAFF | 667,000.00 |
| 176 WEEKS ROAD | LANIGRA, THOMAS | CLOUGH, COLLIN | 650,000.00 |
| 173 FALCON CREST DRIVE UNIT 26 | COTTAGE ADVISORS ME, LLC | GARY BILODEAU | 593,400.00 |
| 173 FLAGGY MEADOW ROAD | MICHAEL G. BRIGGS | DAVID JACKSON HITCHCOCK | 592,500.00 |
| 28 KAYLA WAY | KRYSTAL M. TAYLOR | BW KAYLA LLC | 590,000.00 |
| 164 STATE STREET | JAMES GEDARO | SARAH R. TITUS | 560,000.00 |
| 22 LAUREL PINES DRIVE | LARSON, CAROL M. | DOTY, JAMES EDWARD | 555,000.00 |
| 10 WINTERGREEN DRIVE | ABIGAIL KING | MARGARET DORIS SHEETS | 515,000.00 |
| 40 SANBORN ST | PIAZZOLA, DOROTHY ANN | MORTON-JONES, LEAH | 504,000.00 |
| 7 KATHRYN STREET | BELLMARE, CHRISTOPHER A. | GIBSON, DARREL | 490,000.00 |
| 29 ACORN STREET | ANDREW BRADFORD SLOAT | LORI ANN BALL | 450,000.00 |
| 21 PINE STREET | STEVENSON, CYNTHIA M | GENTRY, CARSON | 450,000.00 |
| 93 DOW ROAD | RAYMOND, DYVAN | GOODWILL-BROWN, KATHARINE | 430,000.00 |
| 24 MAPLE RIDGE ROAD | HOLLY ROBERTS | MATTHEW DENTON BURNHAM | 420,000.00 |
| 64 OSSIPEE TRAIL EAST | EVAN PEREIRA | MATTHEW WILLIAM ORGAN | 405,000.00 |
| 25 CHURCH STREET | THE C. EDWARD KEISER MARITAL TRUST | CAROLINE O'BRIEN | 393,000.00 |
| 26 JOSPH DRIVE #26 | WENDY OHLSEN | CHERYL W. SHUTTLEWORTH | 385,000.00 |
| 252 MAIN STREET | ESTATE OF SHIRLEY ELIZABETH LETARTE | JASON DAVENPORT | 380,000.00 |
| 56 MALLARD DRIVE | JOANNE M HOWLAND | AIMEE L PHELPS | 365,000.00 |
| 22 JOSEPH DR UNIT 6 | ESTATE OF BEVERLY C. PERUNKO | MITCHELL BERUBE | 352,500.00 |
| OSSIPEE TRAIL | ALL PURPOSE STORAGE GORHAM LLC | MCG GORHAM, LLC | 335,000.00 |
| 60 NEW PORTLAND ROAD | LEAH M. MORTON-JONES | OLIVIA ANNE RASP | 317,000.00 |
| TOW PATH ROAD PARCELS | NOBLE, JOHN E | STJ INC | 275,000.00 |
| 560 MAIN STREET | JAMES FRANCOIS LLC | SOUTHERN MAINE HEAT PUMPS LLC | 145,000.00 |
| MERCIER WAY | SMITH & SMITH CONSTRUCTION, INC. | JAMES P. MACVANE | 1,500.00 |

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Knights of Columbus 5K Results

Lori Arsenault, Managing Editor



Photo Credit: Mike Doiron

Diana Sefranksy

The Gorham Knights of Columbus held their annual 5K Walk or Run on Saturday, Oct. 11 at Shaw Cherry Hill Farm in Gorham. They usually hold this 5K fundraiser at St. Anne’s Church and end there, but in the third year of this annual event, they wanted to make a bigger impact. So they held the race at Cherry Hill, and this year 100% of the proceeds goes to four local food pantries: Gorham Food Pantry, Buxton Food Cupboard, Standish Food Pantry, and Buxton Community Food Pantry.

Winning for the men was Brian Way, 28, from Scarborough with a finishing time of 17:48, and for the women, Diana Sefranksy, 23, also from Scarborough, with a finishing time of 26:17. 2025 being the best year yet, the race raised \$8,000 in total for our local food pantries with 68 runners/walkers cross-

ing the finish line, 21 men and 47 women.

Overall, the race drew 25 from Gorham, 7 from Standish, 5 from Porter, 4 from South Portland, 3 from Brunswick and Scarborough, 2 from Casco, Cumberland, Portland, and Windham, 1 from Alfred, Falmouth, New Gloucester, Saco, Springvale, and Yarmouth. The race also drew folks from out of state, 3 from Quincy, MA, 2 from Mendon, MA, 1 from Charleston, SC, and 1 from Fairpoint, NY. Ages of the participants ranged from 9 to 71.

Awards were given in nine different age groups. Winners of these awards were Owen Rosavic, 11, of Gorham; Izzy Waters, 15, of Porter; Adam Auricchio, 16 of Gorham; Emily Way, 28, of Scarborough;

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Scariest Thing in Your Garden CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This soil loses its nutrients, which makes it hard for plants and trees to grow.

Unlike normal earthworms, jumping worms have a thick band around their bodies that’s usually a light color like white or grey. Another difference is that jumping worms move like snakes and really fast while earthworms don’t.

The jumping worms first showed up in Maine a few years ago, most likely brought in through potted plants, mulch, or compost from other places. They reproduce very quickly, which means getting rid of them could be hard.

Because they spread so easily, people are being asked to help stop them. Gardeners should clean soil off their shoes and tools after working outside and check plants before bringing them home. People should also avoid moving dirt or mulch from one yard to another. If you think you’ve seen jumping worms, you can use three different methods to stop them from spreading and to kill them.

One method is to hand pick the jumping worms and kill them before disposing of them in a small bag that is sealed to prevent spread. Another method is called the mustard pour. The mustard pour is a mixture of water and spicy mustard powder. You need a bucket to mix the mixture with water. Once you make the mixture you need to pour it around in the invaded soil and wait for jumping worms to come to the top so you can hand pick and dispose of them.

At the Gorham Middle School garden the jumping worms have been taking over and the 7th and 8th graders in Mrs. Whitaker’s alternative education program have been testing methods on how to get rid of them. This garden supplies food to the food pantry and cafeteria at the middle and high school, so getting rid of these worms is very important to the community. So far students have done the mustard method and have also just been looking through the garden for worms.

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Letters to the Editor CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

want Gorham to look like in the future. To that end, I offer my support to the following candidates for Town Council.

From their governing decisions and campaign statements I believe Sam Purington, Charlie Hamblen and Seven Siegel offer the best hope for our Town Council to deemphasize development while promoting a slow, well reasoned zoning and development plan for Gorham. This may very well require a new comprehensive plan. All three oppose the connector, an Amazon facility in Gorham, and the apparent ability that sand and gravel entities have to get zoning changes to allow expansions.

As an example of development gone awry, in our town’s game sanctuary, there are now several proposed and approved developments, including some commercial uses that seemingly are allowing development with no or minimum consideration of how the preserve’s wild animals will be impacted. Is our town philosophy now “development is king” to the detriment of lifestyle concerns? I have lived in large cities, which is why I returned to Maine. We in Gorham still have a special place, but it is under threat.

It is time for all of us who care, and I believe there are many, to express our opinions to our Town Council as it is us they are incumbent to represent.

Mike D’Arcangelo, Gorham

To the Editor,

We are writing this letter of recommendation for our neighbor, Charlie Hamblen, who is running for a town council seat in the November election. Our experience with Charlie is that he is genuine, open-minded, fair, and direct. He welcomes conversation with others, even when viewpoints differ, to find common ground.

Charlie grew up in Gorham, which is a common denominator with many candidates running for town council this election. We believe what sets Charlie apart from other candidates is his vision for the future of Gorham and how passionate he is about making this a reality. He would make smart moves fiscally using his finance background, while simultaneously preserving what makes Gorham a special place

to live. He will take your perspective and concerns as seriously as his own. He will spend time doing research to make well-informed decisions about issues that are brought to his attention.

Charlie recognizes everyone finds Gorham special for different reasons, and priorities for the future may vary, but will be a voice for all if elected to town council. We urge you to get to know Charlie like we have, don’t just take our word for it regarding his honesty and passion to serve our community. We hope you will join us in casting a vote for Charlie Hamblen to be elected to the town council by Nov. 4.

Gorham Residents, Camille Seo and Brianna Meister

To the Editor,

As more than decade-long residents and new business owners in the town of Gorham, the future of our beautiful community is of utmost importance to us as a family. We believe that Gorham can grow and change while not compromising the small-town ideals that make living here so wonderful.

Three candidates for Town Council have solicited our feedback on what it’s like to open a new business here - we deeply appreciate these conversations with Sam Purinton, Charlie Hamblen, and Seven Siegel. They were open to hearing our frustrations, but more importantly they met us with ideas and a willingness to think outside the box. They demonstrated that they care immensely about this community and for small businesses like us at Third Space Market - not just the retail giants enticed by our expanded industrial park. This is why they have each individually earned our vote.

To grow smart, our elected officials must be willing to collaborate, communicate, and make data-informed decisions. Purinton, Hamblen, and Siegel are the three candidates we believe will bring new ideas, listen to their constituents, treat their cohorts with mutual respect, and make thoughtful decisions that will impact our daily lives.

We hope you will consider joining us in the vote for Sam Purinton, Charlie Hamblen, and Seven Siegel on Nov. 4.

Michelle and Tristan Littlefield, Gorham

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REALTOR KELLEY’S PUPS OF THE MONTH:

Stretch is an 11 year old neutered male who came to us alongside Deano. Stretch is a kind boy who enjoys being around his person. He enjoys being pet and given attention. Stretch does well with cats and some dogs (he’s a bit picky). He would also do well with older children. He is also deaf in both ears.

Deano is a 7 year old Shar Pei/Golden Lab mix. He is missing a lot of his fur due to an extreme reaction to fleas. He is a wonderful boy who loves affection! He is excited to see you every time he sees you. He loves to be cuddled. Deano does well with other dogs, cat, and kids.

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SCHOOL

Village School First Grade Family Breakfast

Alicia Sotir, Art Teacher, Village School



Photo Credit: Alicia Sotir

Thursday, Oct. 9, Village Elementary welcomed first-grade families for a special breakfast celebration. The event was filled with smiles, conversation, and a wonderful sense of community as families and staff came together to start the day together. Village Elementary is grateful to all who attended and helped make the morning such a success.



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SUPPORT LOCAL TOGETHER

Narragansett Students Present at the School Committee

Erin Eppler, Narragansett Principal

Photo Credit: Erin Eppler

Narragansett students Sofia, Anna, Curtis, and Noelle share news with the School Committee about the new Writing and Drawing Club sponsored by Librarian Lori Littlefield.



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High School Spirit Week

Jade Tibbetts, GHS Student Intern

Spirit week is a cherished tradition in the Gorham school community and this past week was no exception. Spirit week is a way to bring students and faculty together in a fun and creative way. These weeks included themed dress up days and a pep rally. This spirit week took place recently at GMS and GHS from Oct. 13 to Oct. 17. The spirit days included jersey day, camo-hunting day and USA day. In the past there have been days like iconic duos and twin days. On the Friday of the week students wore all black for a pep rally at the high school. Before the pep rally students were given glow sticks and glow in the dark glasses so when they turned the lights off everyone would be glowing. Students participated in trivia games, and hula hoop contests. Throughout the day students submit pho-

tos of their themed outfits for a chance to win prizes like gift cards to Aroma joes. Spirit week is a way for the schools to build community and school spirit for students and teachers. This helps create a strong connection between students and faculty. Spirit weeks typically take place the week before an event like a vacation or dance this past week was for the homecoming dance that took place on Oct. 18. Beyond the laughter and cheering for everyone's over the top costumes and the hope for prizes spirit week is a way to foster a sense of community and belonging. So whether it's showing off school colors or trying to hula hoop the longest spirit week is a great way to break the routine that school presents. Spirit week is not only about dressing up but about lifting the spirits of all within the schools.



School Committee Meeting Oct. 2025

Michael Lortie, School News Editor

The Gorham School Committee held their monthly meeting on October 8. Five members were present (Jaci Reynolds). They approved the minutes of the Sept. 10 meeting and the Sept. 24 workshop meeting. Four students from Narragansett School; Anna, Sophia, Curtis, and Noelle presented a special lunchtime and recess club that they participate in called The Writing and Drawing Club. Each week, 25 students meet with Lori Littlefield, the school librarian, to work on children's books, picture books, graphic novels, and other creative works. The students enthusiastically presented what they were working on and their appreciation to Mrs. Littlefield for hosting this club. Lola, the GHS representative on the board, presented a list of events occurring at the high school, including the upcoming homecoming activities, NWEA testing for freshmen and sophomores and the upcoming drama presentation of "Our Town" on Nov. 7 and 8. Dr. Heather Perry presented her monthly report, beginning with a review of one section of the State of Our Schools Report which is available on the school website. This month she talked about the continuing spike of students receiving special education, 504, Gifted and Talented and Multi-Lingual services. The only area that has not shown an increase is RTI (Response To Intervention) services. Reviewing this data documents that

although the number of students might remain constant, the level of need for services is increasing. She also reminded the public about the ballot referendum question which reallocates the already approved funding to other much-needed projects. Dr. Perry also highlighted the Education Pre-Apprentice Program with USM, which is allowing 10 students to receive three credits for an education requirement course at the college. From the podium, Chairperson, Nicole Yeo-Fisher recognized and thanked member Jennifer Whitehead for her two years working on the school committee, as this was her last meeting. Each school committee member reported out on their recent observations. Eric Thistle thanked the Recreation Department for their work and thanked Travis Grant for his five years working for the town, Mia DeSanctis recognized the Special Education Department for taking steps to involve students in the IEP (Individual Education Plan) process, and Nicole Yeo-Fisher mentioned the award ceremony in which the Gorham Schools were recognized as the seventeenth best "large company" place to work in the state of Maine. Each subcommittee reported out on their recent responsibilities and their next scheduled meetings.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

THE COTTAGES AT WINDING RIDGE OPEN HOUSE

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THE COTTAGES AT
PHEASANT KNOLL

Girls Soccer Team Brings Amazing Awareness to the Community

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Breast Cancer Awareness game: Haley Chandler in action

Photo Credit: Colleen Heal

October kicks off Breast Cancer Awareness month and the Girls Varsity soccer team raised \$1,856 during their annual Breast Cancer Awareness game on Oct. 4. They donated it all to the Dempsey Center, a wonderful local charity that offers free counseling, therapies, wellness, and so much more to those impacted by cancer. The team raffled off two VIP Celtics tickets during the Oct. 4 game that were generously donated by one of the senior player parents' employers, Nike, Inc., Boston. The company's contribution then matched the team's fundraising efforts. This collaboration brought Heather

Plati, senior director of development, to a recent soccer practice to meet the players and to thank them for their efforts. Plati began her conversation to the team by explaining in more detail the myriad programs offered, including Reiki healing, yoga classes, stress reduction workshops, family nights and group counseling, to name a few. Plati shared her gratitude, stating, "Every dollar you earn doing the sport you love is helping your community." The Dempsey challenge is also a popular and great way to get involved. A recent Dempsey challenge had participants from 33 states and 8 countries. The chal-

lenge is offered virtually and in person. According to the center's media page, the Dempsey Center was founded in 2008 by none other than actor and Maine native Patrick Dempsey with the mission to help make life better for people impacted by cancer. Patrick's mother Amanda was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 1997. After experiencing her journey, and inspired by Amanda's passion for helping others, Patrick created a space where those impacted by cancer could find relief, comfort, resources, and support—all at no cost.

Dempsey, born in Lewiston, Maine, is best known for his role as neurosurgeon Derek Shepherd ("McDreamy") in Grey's Anatomy. Although Dempsey himself did not attend this game, he will be super proud. The team's community effort brought amazing awareness to the community. In addition, several players have or plan to take part in future events for the center. In the words of one fan, "Way to go, girls, you crushed it. The positivity alone of this group captured it all."



Girls donate their check in person to Heather Plati of the Dempsey Center

Photo Credit: Katie Brown

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Diane Atwood's Art on Display

John Tiedje, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: John Tiedje
"Countryside Gate" by Diane Atwood

Oil painting has long been established as a good medium for color and expression. Fine examples of this can be found this month at the Sullivan House Bakery in Gorham. Artist Diane Atwood



Photo Credit: John Tiedje
"Red Poppies" by Diane Atwood

has mastered this medium quite well. She brings a spontaneous, impressionistic approach to her painting of still lifes and landscapes. Her technique of brushwork and the application of color allows her to construct and define the subject matter with a pleasing, painterly effect. A good example is the piece "Red Poppies." Green brush strokes blend and create an environment for the poppy flowers to flash off the surface in a bright red. Another effective piece is "Countryside Gate." Here her technique effectively suggests the light through the clouds around the foliage, rocks, and gate. Diane has an art degree from USM and works from her sunny studio at the Dana Warp Mill in Westbrook, overlooking the Presumpscot River. Stop by the Sullivan House Bakery and take in the beautiful color brushwork and images of Diane Atwood. Her show will be up through October.

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Handmade Quilts Can Be For Everyone

Lori Arsenault, Managing Editor

It's getting to be the time of year when we pull out the winter coats, blankets, and hopefully some beautiful handmade quilts. On Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., three Gorham residents will participate as members in the Cobblestone Quilter's Holiday Market at the Woodford Club, 179 Woodford Street in Portland. There they will display and sell quilts they have made throughout the year.

The marketplace event is the club's annual fundraiser, and includes quilted items, a quilt raffle, fabric sale, bake sale, and craft vendors. Whether you're a quilter, a prospective quilter, or just someone who enjoys the warmth of a beautiful handmade quilt, this marketplace would be a great place for you to visit.

Debbie Stirling of Gorham said, "The use of color, the precision piecing of fabric pieces, and having a finished product that could be used to enhance one's living space and/or keep warm are the aspects of quilting that appeal to me." She has been a member of the Cobblestone Quilt Chapter for six years, and before that, she attended the club's annual Quilter's Getaway as a guest every year beginning in 1990, but has been quilting since the '70s.

Stirling already knew how to sew when she discovered quilting. Equipped with a domestic sewing machine and 100% cotton quilting fabric, she gives her quilts away to friends, family, and charity, and sells them in her Etsy shop. And yes, some are also displayed and enjoyed at home.

Camille Rowe of Gorham has been a member of the Cobblestone Quilt

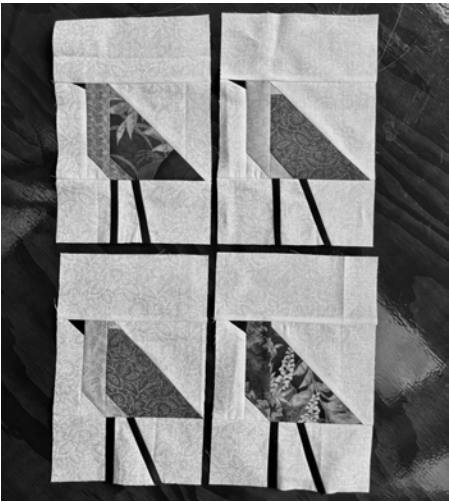


Photo Credit: Camille Rowe

Quilt blocks from a recent guild workshop.

Chapter for 2 years, but has been quilting off and on for over 40 years. She also sews clothes and other household items. She started quilting when her daughters were babies as a creative outlet. Though she did quilting over the years, she didn't get back into it regularly until she retired.

In addition to fabrics and batting, Rowe sometimes uses embellishments like buttons or embroidery. She has a couple of sewing machines and a serger. "I also quilt by hand using my grandmother's wooden quilt frame, or a smaller round frame to stretch the quilt and make it easier to sew."

Susan Kelley of Gorham has been a member of the chapter since 2021 after meeting a Cobblestone member at a quilt retreat in Bar Harbor but has been quilting for over 50 years. "My grand-

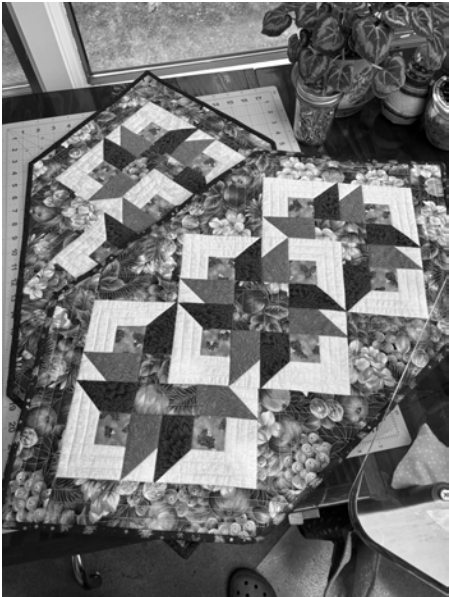


Photo Credit: Camille Rowe

Table runner that will be available for sale.

mother made quilts and the raggedy one I used as a child was well loved. My husband loved them too and saw an adult ed class on quilting and signed me up- also bought me a sewing machine that year for Christmas," said Kelley.

Kelley says those who visit the Marketplace "will become inspired by the quilted gifts, table runners, bags to create their own art as the concepts of creating a quilt can be used in fabric sculpture, landscape wall hangings and painting to express your unique outlook on life."

"And your purchases help us afford to make more quilts for all the charities (Quilts of Valor, Maine Needs and Opportunity



Photo Credit: Camille Rowe


The raffle quilt that will be given away at the Marketplace on Nov. 15.

Alliance, to name a few) in our communities that benefit from our work."


Then she added, "I would also be interested in designing a class for young boys and girls to help keep this historical art form alive. Kids just naturally love to create." Let's keep this conversation going.

After meeting these three women, one thing stands out that quilters seem to have in common: quilts should be given away to family, friends, and people in need. You don't have to be a quilter to share that value. You just have to check out their marketplace, on Nov. 15, enjoy their work, and do some shopping.


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GORHAM \$550,000
25 Elm Street offers over 4300SF located in Gorham's Urban Commercial Zone which allows for all uses. The current tenant has outgrown the space and is relocating. This building has formerly been a butcher shop, beverage sales/redemption, variety store, restaurant, office space and rental business with showroom. The building offers multiple rooms, offices, prep kitchen, storage rooms, overhead door access and two updated bathrooms. Many options with great visibility, good foot traffic and onsite parking.




GORHAM \$375,000
Enjoy the fenced in fire pit area in the front yard...or expand on the trellis area in the backyard. This offers an open kitchen & dining area with a beautiful fireplace. The living room & bedroom both open up to a 4 season enclosed porch for full morning sun. The basement offers two large rooms, 1 with a 2nd fireplace, a potential bedroom and recently renovated half bath. The 2-car garage with high ceilings completes this property, boasting a secluded spot only 10 minutes from downtown.




RAYMOND \$199,000
Gorgeous 2.58-acre lot located off the end of desirable Westview Drive. The rolling landscape, mature forest and babbling brook have the makings for a picturesque private setting. The survey, soils tests, wetland mapping, conceptual dwelling locations, underground utility conduits and gravel driveway is roughed in for you. The Village Residential Zone allows for multiple options, build your dream home with an accessory dwelling/guest unit or outbuilding, or ample density for a two-unit.




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 beverage bar area, dining room, secluded office area and first floor primary bedroom with double closets. A 1st-floor full bath. On the 2nd level there are 2 bedrooms. The walkout basement is partially finished with a bonus room and there are plumbing provisions for a future bathroom.




FRYEBURG \$350,000
Come check out this opportunity in historic Fryeburg, previously the Methodist Church & the Pagus Grange. This building offers 4160sf of space to rehab into unlimited possibilities in the Village/Commercial zone. The 2 finished floors offer many rooms, including kitchen, storage, a great room with stage, mudroom, bathroom & many more. It's a gateway to the White Mountains & North Conway, New Hampshire.



Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason

Community Thanksgiving Partnership Continues

Gorham Times Staff

A community partnership of businesses and volunteers are once again offering a Thanksgiving Dinner for people in our community spending Thanksgiving alone, or who are unable to fix a Thanksgiving Dinner. The free meal can be picked up, or if unable to travel, can be delivered on Thursday, Nov. 27. Delivered meals will arrive at different times throughout the afternoon. To make a reservation or request

delivery, call Roxanne Hanscom Moody at (207) 839-4516, or email trmoody75.rm@gmail.com. Include your name, phone number and address, and any diet restrictions such as diabetes. Roxanne will return your call to confirm. This is a free meal; if you choose to donate, proceeds will benefit the Gorham Ecumenical Food Pantry and the Backpack Program.

Nov. 4 Voting Information

Gorham Times Staff

Absentee voting will be available in the Council Chambers at the Gorham Municipal Center (75 South Street, Suite 1) during the business hours of 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. between Monday, Oct. 20 and Thursday, Oct. 23, as well as between Monday, Oct. 27 and Thursday, Oct. 30. The last day to obtain an absentee ballot will be Thursday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. To be counted, absentee ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office by 8 p.m. on Election Day - Nov. 4, 2025 by you or an immediate family member. Unenrolled voters can enroll in a party at any time, including Election Day, since the State of Maine offers Election Day voter registration. Polling places open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. For more general information, visit here. If you have further questions about absentee voting, please stop by the Town Clerk's Office, or call (207) 222-1670. FMI: <https://www.gorhammaine.gov/town-clerk/pages/absentee-voting>

TOWN OF GORHAM BALLOT
Town Council - 3-Year Term, vote for no more than THREE.
Dearborn, Kelly L.
Gagnon, Phillip T.
Hamblen, Charles A.
O'Leary, Timothy J., III
Purinton, Samuel R. (Sam)
Siegel, Seven R.
_____ Write-in.

School Committee - 3-Year Term, vote for no more than TWO.
Ballard, Jeffrey C.
Tompkins, Lowansa S.
_____ Write-in.

School Committee - 1-Year Term, vote for no more than ONE.
Tateishi, Paulette M.
_____ Write-in.

Question 1 - Shall the Town of Gorham authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and/or notes in the anticipation of

such bonds, which bonds and notes may be made callable, in a principal amount not to exceed \$2,395,000.00, and to appropriate the proceeds thereof, including any bond premium and investment earnings, for the purpose of financing costs of box culvert replacements at the following locations: Buck Street, Hurricane Road, Wilson Road and Wood Road?

The Town Council voted 7-0 and recommends a YES vote.
Question 2 - Shall the Town of Gorham appropriate proceeds of bonds approved by voters on November 5, 2024, in the principal amount of \$9,494,575.00 (High School Cafeteria; Modular Phase 1 additions; and Narragansett Elementary School HVAC) for the following additional projects, not to exceed the original approved bond amount?

GHS Track & Field Replacement - estimated at \$625,000.00.
Narragansett School, ADA bathroom upgrades/repairs & Sprinkler System Upgrades estimated at \$1,100,000.00.
Village Parking Overlay, and connector construction to White Birch Lane as well as Great Falls sidewalk & fire lane re-paving - estimated at \$800,000.00.
The Town Council voted 7-0 and recommends a Yes vote.

STATE BALLOT
Question 1: Citizen Initiative - Do you want to change Maine election laws to eliminate two days of absentee voting, prohibit requests for absentee ballots by phone or family members, end ongoing absentee voter status for seniors and people with disabilities, ban prepaid postage on absentee ballot return envelopes, limit the number of drop boxes, require voters to show certain photo ID before voting, and make other changes to our elections?

A "Yes" vote is to enact the initiated legislation.
A "No" vote opposes the initiated legislation.

Question 2: Citizen Initiative - Do you want to allow courts to temporarily prohibit a person from having dangerous weapons if law enforcement, family, or household members show that the person poses a significant danger of causing physical injury to themselves or others?

A "Yes" vote is to enact the initiated legislation.
A "No" vote opposes the initiated legislation.



Where Are They Now: Visiting an Exchange Student

Roger Marchand, Staff Photographer / Writer



Staff photographer Roger Marchand and his wife Peggy recently went to Nice, France in late September to visit their Foreign Exchange Student from 1992-93. Jerome Sivry spent that year at Gorham High School, which he credits for being a major positive factor in his later life and job opportunities. The Marchands have stayed in contact with the Sivry family over the past 32 years and have visited them on a regular basis. Pictured, from left to right are Jerome's wife, Karin, Roger Marchand, Peggy Marchand, Jerome Sivry, son Gaetan, daughter Ava, mother, Katie, and father, Michel.

Knights of Columbus 5K Race

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Andrew Thomas, 28, of Charleston, SC; Erin Westphal, 31, of South Portland; Russell Farchione, 33, of Gorham; Amy Anderson, 42, of Gorham; John Cuneo, 41, Fairpoint, NY; Dawn Mugford, 55, of Gorham; Jason Maribito, 52, of Gorham; Dara Wagner, 62, of Fairpoint, NY; Rolf Westphal, 61, of Cumberland; and Dale Rines, 73, of Gorham.
The Knights of Columbus is a global Catholic fraternal service order founded by Blessed Michael J. McGivney. Membership is limited to practicing Catholic men. It is led by Patrick E. Kelly, the order's 14th Supreme Knight.



Brian Way of Scarborough.



Owen Rosavic, 11, of Gorham



Diana Sefransky of Scarborough.

School Committee Meeting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

As part of their on-going review of the policies and procedures for the school system, the committee approved policy (JIH) Questioning and Searches of Students for a second reading. They also approved for a first reading, the policies: Student Social Events (JJB), Student Fundraising Activities (JJE) and Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion (JKAA). The committee then went into Executive Session to consider a request for sabbatical leave.

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COMMUNITY

OF INTEREST

Gorham Garden Club is meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 28, at 6:30 p.m. at First Parish Church, 1 Church Street in Gorham. Guest speaker will be Jean Cayer from Heron Garlic Farm.

Galilee Church is having a Trunk or Treat on Friday, Oct. 31 from 4:30 - 7 p.m. at 317 Main Street in Gorham. All are welcome.

Gorham Memorial VFW Post 10879 supports local veterans and their families through community service, patriotic programs, and veteran outreach. Regular Post 10879 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.

Gorham/Windham/Westbrook TRIAD meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at Gorham Police. The next meeting will be on Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. with guest speaker Kathy Damon from Home Instead. TRIAD's mission is to reduce the criminal victimization of older citizens, enhance the delivery of law enforcement services and improve the quality of life for seniors in the community.

Redeemer Lutheran Church is holding a Christmas Fair on Saturday, Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., 410 Main Street in Gorham. Shop the Homemade Crafts and Food Market featuring festive foods and food gifts. Get in the Christmas mood and join in the Christmas carol sing-along. FMI: <https://www.redeermemaine.org/home> or <https://facebook.com/RedeemerMaine>.

Gorham Schools is looking for old and unwanted GHS yearbooks that are out in the community. If you have one to donate, contact Sarah Dolley at sarah.dolley@gorhamschools.org.

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

SENIOR NEWS

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

PUBLIC SUPPERS

White Rock Community Clubhouse will hold a public bean supper on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 4 - 5:30 p.m. Eat in or take out, the meal includes baked kidney beans and pea beans, coleslaw, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, biscuits, hot dogs and dessert. \$12 adults, \$6 under 12. FMI: <https://facebook.com/whiterockcommunityclub>, 34 Wilson Road, Gorham.

LIBRARY NEWS

The North Gorham Public Library will hold its winter craft fair and book sale on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The 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. FMI: email libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us.

Baxter Memorial Library offers many reading events each week, some for children, some for adults. Check our calendar for what's coming up soon. 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.

GORHAM ARTS ALLIANCE

"Zombie Prom: Atomic Edition" opens at Gorham Arts Alliance at 34 School Street in Gorham on Friday, Oct. 24 and runs through Sunday, Nov. 2. Tickets range from \$10 - \$20. This girl-loves-ghoul rock 'n' roll off-Broadway musical is set in the atomic 1950s at Enrico Fermi High, where the law is laid down by a zany, tyrannical principal. FMI: (207) 222-0258, gorhamarts@gmail.com, or visit on the web at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/zombie-prom-atomic-edition>

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE NEWS

The USM Art Gallery's exhibit "20 Walks: Lin Lisberger" is open and running through Dec. 10. For more information, visit <https://usm.maine.edu/gallery/exhibitions/20-walks-lin-lisberger/>, or contact usmartgalleries@maine.edu, (207) 780-5409.

The USM Office of Admissions will hold one more open house for prospective students this fall. The next open house will be on Saturday, Nov. 8 on the Gorham Campus with Portland options. Each open house offers prospective students and their families an opportunity to explore the campuses, connect with faculty and staff, experience the USM community firsthand, and enjoy a catered lunch. FMI: admitusm@maine.edu, or (207) 780-5670.

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION'

The Coopertive Extension's online business-planning course focuses on marketing, finances and sustainability. Registration is open for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Business Planning for Producers course. This multisession, web-based course offers a comprehensive introduction to business planning and is designed for aspiring and beginning producers who have up to two years of business records. Participants will learn the skills needed to identify financially and personally sustainable land- and sea-based business opportunities.

A stable internet connection and registration is required. For exact course fees and schedule, and to register, visit <https://extension.umaine.edu/new-farmers/business-planning/>. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact (207) 933.2100 or extension.newfarmer@maine.edu.

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

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after hours: hello@thirdspacemarket.com

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Monday, Oct. 27 - Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 30 - Last day to obtain an absentee ballot.

Monday, Nov. 3
Planning Board Ordinance Committee Workshop, 6 p.m.
Planning Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 4 - Polls open 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

You can subscribe to Town notices and updates by email at:
<https://www.gorhammaine.gov/calendar-by-event-type/16>

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CALENDAR

Thursday, Oct. 23
Baxter Memorial Library, Toddler Storytime, 10 - 10:30 a.m.
Baxter Memorial Library, Book Group, "By the Fire We Carry," 10:15 a.m.

Friday, Oct 24
Baxter Memorial Library, Writing a "Legacy Letter" workshop. 1:30 - 3 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 25
Baxter Memorial Library, RPG Club, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 28
Gorham Garden Club meeting, First Parish Church, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 30
Town of Gorham: Last day to obtain an absentee ballot.
Baxter Memorial Library, Halloween Costume Parade, 10 - 11 a.m.
Baxter Memorial Library, Author Event with Sheri Aube, 6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 31
Galilee Church Trunk or Treat, 317 Main Street, 4:30 - 7 p.m.
Baxter Memorial Library Trunk or Treat, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 1
KLA Engraving Craft and Vendor Fair, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Shaw Gym, Gorham
Scarborough Free Baptist Craft Fair, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., 55 Mussey Road, Scarborough
Baxter Memorial Library Repair Fair, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
White Rock Community Clubhouse Public Bean Supper, 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 4
VOTE TODAY: Polling places open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.
Baxter Memorial Library, Dogs Dig Reading, 4 - 5 p.m.
Baxter Memorial Library, French Language Discussion Group, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 5
Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Storytime, 9:30 - 10 a.m.
Baxter Memorial Library, How Populism Works, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. virtual via Zoom.

CLASSIFIEDS

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Fall Painting Special - Get your home ready for Fall by using our "Fall Painting Special." We will paint any 3 rooms for you (up to 12'X15'), walls and ceilings included. Price includes minor prep work on walls prior to painting. Labor and Materials are included for only \$995.00. All you do is pick your colors. We have endless references and are a fully insured Family-Owned Business since 1970. Webber Painting, Standish (207) 671-3556.

HELP WANTED
Volunteer needed to distribute the Gorham Times to about two dozen local businesses, centered around our Main Street (Route 25) and South Street (Route 114) Village Center. FMI: gorhamtimes@gmail.com.

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the Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department blotter

A vehicle was off to the side of South Street and County Road because his tire had blown from hitting a curb. AAA responded and changed his tire. Officer remained behind him for safety. Nothing further.

Vehicle parked with its lights off in front of a locked gate to Shaw Brothers parking lot. Officer stopped to check on the operator, and found that he had just pulled over because his child needed a diaper change. Nothing suspicious to report.

A caller lost her debit card, and wanted to make us aware. We do not have anything in our system for a lost card with her name on it.

Caller got a postcard in the mail claiming to be from the census bureau requesting information. The postcard told them to call a phone number to provide info. Dispatch advised caller to err on the side of caution, do not contact the number, and throw away the postcard.

Caller claims to be out of state now, requesting info on how to take care of warrants. Advised to call the court, provided with the phone number.

Caller wanted to report a scam, no money was lost and she did not want a call back, just wanted to pass info along.


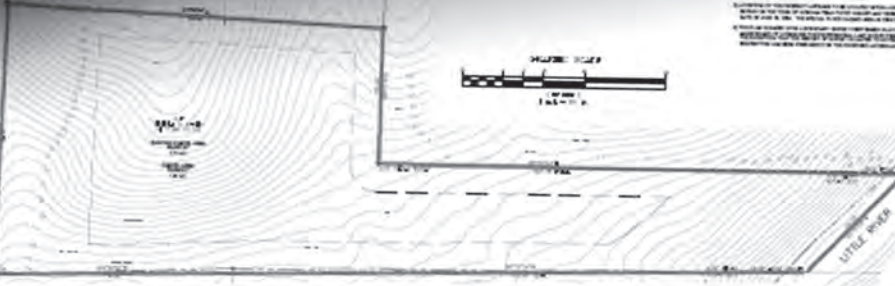
Officer made contact with a complainant and an operator in the parking lot. When officer arrived the operator of the suspect vehicle

was getting an ice cream at the counter, so officer spoke with the operator. The caller told officer that she observed the operator parked near the front entrance to the gas station, and that he appeared to be asleep or falling asleep. She then observed him pull out, stop and pull off near the intersection of Main St and Mosher Rd, then pull into the parking lot. Other than the driver being slow, there was no erratic operation. Officer spoke with the operator when he returned to his vehicle, and did not observe any signs of impairment and anything suspicious. Officer spoke with the complainant one last time to let her know everything was fine.


A Wintergreen Drive caller was advised to take a cat to the Animal Refuge League the next day, and that if there were any issues with the cat leading up to that, she could call and request to speak with the Animal Control Officer in the morning.

Vehicles were gone on arrival. It was clear that someone had been doing burnouts in the road recently, as the black marks looked fresh, and officer could still smell the burnt rubber. There were several vehicles parked at Finn Parker Rd during this time, none of which matched the description given. Officer remained in the area and did not observe any moving violations.

Dispatch received a report of loose chickens in a neighborhood on Mosher Road. Dispatch left a voicemail with the complainant and passed the information on to Code Enforcement.

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