

1995-2025
30th Anniversary

Gorham Times

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Shade Pavilion Breaks Ground

Roger Marchand, Staff Photographer/Writer



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

Pictured here left to right: Keith Nicely, Peter Mason, Suzie Phillips, Rob Lavoie, Bill Moreno, David Willis, Cindy Hazelton, Julie Chandler, Chelsey Torrey, Aaron Chadbourne, Carol Petersen, Trevor Ross, Michael Navarro, Melanie Crane, Marc Cardullo, Kerry Lee Hall, Jennifer Whitehead, and Lisa Andrade

Groundbreaking for the Shade Pavilion at Gorham's Weeks Road Bicycle Pump Track took place on Nov. 4. The Pump Track is located at 151 Weeks Road near the Gorham Middle School at the Lavoie Bike Park. The Pavilion is the result of a donation of \$16,500 from the Greater

Portland Board of REALTORS® and a \$7,500 Placemaking Grant from the National Association of REALTORS® to the Town of Gorham as well as the fundraising efforts of 11 local real estate companies. This led to the town adding funds to their bond package to help fund the project.

The shade structure will offer essential shelter for riders, families, and spectators in all weather conditions, encouraging greater outdoor recreation and community use. "The pump track has already been widely used, and we know this new structure will enable it to be a gathering place for birthday parties and picnics, and enhance its role in the community," said Cindy Hazelton, director of Town of Gorham's Parks & Recreation Department. "We are grateful to the local realtors for supporting our community in this important way." "Public spaces like the pump track strengthen community connections and allow residents and visitors to enjoy this great space. Gorham's trails are an incredible asset that people look for when choosing where to live," said Aaron Chadbourne, president of the Greater Portland Board of REALTORS®. "By offering private funding toward this project, we were grateful to get this project out of the starting blocks and we hope it encourages additional investment from community partners and helps demonstrate broad support for the Gorham community."

Gorham Seniors Co-op Center

John Tiedje, Staff Writer

On Saturday, Dec. 6, the Gorham Arts Alliance is having a Holiday Fair at 34 School Street, Gorham from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Fair will have arts and crafts, a silent auction, white elephant sale and bake sale. All the proceeds will benefit the newly formed Gorham Seniors Co-op, a group created by Lisa Becker, for senior citizens in Gorham and neighboring towns to feel supported, engaged and not alone. Its mission is to inspire, empower and educate seniors within a welcoming, creative and supportive community so they may overcome isolation and loneliness. Lisa Becker passed away on Aug. 19, 2025. A memorial fund was established in her name with proceeds supporting the efforts of the Gorham Seniors Co-op. To donate or learn more about us please visit: <https://gorhamarts.org/seniorcoop>.



USM Women's Soccer 4th Straight Trip to NCAA Tourney

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Photo Credit: James Liebowitz

Huskies players celebrate a goal during quarterfinals

The University of Southern Maine Huskies women's soccer program for the fourth consecutive year, and the fourth time in program history, has won the Little East Conference Women's Soccer Championship, granting them

an automatic bid for the NCAA Division III National Championship. Nov. 1 kicked off both the Men's and Women's playoffs this season, at Hannaford Field in Gorham; with the Men's team returning to playoff action, their first since 2009. The women's team took care of business during the quarterfinals, defeating UMass Boston 4-2. On the men's side, they hosted Rhode Island College, which took them into overtime and eventually lost in penalty kicks, ending their playoff hopes. USM's Huskies assistant coach Cody Elliott shared: "it was an exciting season for sure with many of our games ending in a draw or close wins by a goal, so we knew PK's could very well be in store for us that day, we just couldn't get them down and away." The Women's team, however, prevailed once again, bringing back the excitement to the Gorham campus. Following the quarterfinal match, the Huskies took on No. 2 Keene State in the semifinals with a thrilling OT win. USM got on the board early with a Riley Reitchel goal, but the Owls

equalized with a PK resulting from a Husky foul. Southern Maine came out strong in the second half of play but the Owls' goalkeeper made several tough saves. Lexi Morin finally broke through at the 70th minute but another Husky foul led to a direct kick for the

Owls, thus tying the game once again. In OT, USM controlled possession. A Morin header to Reitchel and a Reitchel cross to Magid was the game winner in OT. The Huskies (11-10-2, 4-2-2 Little East) claimed the LEC

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Photo Credit: Max McClure

The Huskies seniors celebrate their 2025 LEC championship

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From Food Waste to Food Security

Sen. Stacy Brenner

Over the past month, communities across Maine braced for the worst, as the federal government wielded the destabilization of critical support programs as a bargaining chip in its shutdown fight. Nearly 170,000 Mainers were left in limbo for weeks, wondering how they would keep food on the table in the face of threatened freezes, delays and reductions in SNAP benefit disbursements.

This politically manufactured food security crisis fell on top of a broader food security crisis that has been building in Maine ever since the pandemic. Today, one in eight Mainers live in food-insecure households. Among children, that ratio jumps to one in five — the highest rate of child food insecurity in New England.

While SNAP plays an instrumental role in filling the gaps, roughly half of these Mainers do not meet its income requirements and are subsequently left to make impossible choices between access to food and other basic necessities, like stable housing, heating and health care. The state's hunger relief network has felt the rising burden, with a 36% jump in the number of households served each month between 2022 and 2024.

This growing food security cri-

sis demands that we not only protect our existing safety nets, but also dig deeper to address the systemic issues with our food distribution system. While thousands of Mainers live at risk of hunger, more than 360,000 tons of food rot in our landfills each year, representing the single largest component of our waste stream.

We cannot afford to live with that paradox, so this year, I sponsored legislation to resolve it. LD 1065, "An Act Regarding the Reduction and Recycling of Food Waste," will require Maine's largest food waste generators to reduce waste at the point of production, donate edible surplus to food recovery organizations and divert food scrap waste to agricultural uses as animal feed or compost.

The benefits for food security are many. Most obviously, perfectly good food that has previously rotted in our space-constrained landfills, releasing harmful greenhouse gas emissions in the process, will instead be funneled to food banks, soup kitchens and shelters, increasing their capacity to feed hungry Mainers. By prioritizing composting, this law is also a long-term investment in the health of our agricultural soils, which is critical to sup-

porting food production in the face of the increasingly challenging growing conditions brought on by climate change. Further, LD 1065 will naturally catalyze growth and job creation in the state's recycling and composting sectors, generating new opportunities for economic security and, by extension, food security for hardworking Mainers.

This past year has offered no shortage of cruel reminders that the federal support upon which so many Mainers' wellbeing depends is fragile. As we fight to protect these life-saving support systems in the years ahead, this moment demands that we also attack the underlying issues at their root.



To share thoughts about how we can continue to build community resilience in the legislative session ahead,

contact me at Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov or (207) 287-1515.

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,

Recently GT posted Supt. Perry's plea to voters to allow the School Department to 're-allocate' money to unapproved priority projects.

This is like sending your kid to the market with a \$10 bill, and when he returns hearing: "Gee Mom, hamburger was on sale so I bought a candy bar with the extra change. It shouldn't come out of my allowance."

But the good news is the projects are coming in under budget at only \$7M, 3/4 of the original request. Could it be these three projects were OVERESTIMATED?

Then we were asked to approve reshuffling (my words) the \$2.5M savings for three more priority maintenance projects, and if we don't she will return in 2026 for a new bond.

'Going back to the well' (once too often?) is not a proper way to handle our school spending needs. Maintenance projects should be covered in the regular annual budget request, not squeezed in this way. (New Town Councilors and incumbents pay attention).

David R Alexander
Gorham

To the Editor,

On Wednesday, Oct. 29, a group of Gorham High students with the LYNX Program volunteered here at the Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals (MSSPA) in Windham. As luck would have it, we were also hosting our "Hay-Lo-Ween" event that evening, where we invited little trick-or-treaters along with their parent or guardian to come to the farm and stroll up and down the barn aisle to meet the horses and get a little candy along the way.

We armed the students with a huge box of colored chalk and asked them to decorate the aisle, and the drive outside of the barn in honor of the event. They did SUCH a terrific job! They were absolutely up for the task. You can see they put a tremendous amount of effort into the job! And I wanted to let the Gorham community know how grateful we all were for their help. I hope they

had fun along the way, and encourage any other community members or groups who would like to volunteer to reach out to us at MSSPA, we would love to host you.

Peg Keyser
MSSPA Advancement Director



Photo Credit: Molly McMahon
GHS students lend a hand and their artistic skills to MSSPA

BRINGING THE NEWS TO ALL OF GORHAM
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Student Art Show in Baxter Memorial Library

John Tiedje, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: John Tiedje

Right: Ceramic "Pizza-eating Pumpkin" by Scarlette Farinn. Left: Ceramic "Bathtub" by Evelyn Smith.

"It took me four years to paint like Raphael, but a lifetime to paint like a child" is a quote from Pablo Picasso. He saw mastering the techniques or skills of a Renaissance painter as achievable. The challenge is to have the lifelong, spontaneous, uninhibited freedom of a child.

Children are still exploring the 'what-is-possible,' free from self-examination that is learned as we grow into our culture.

Fortunately for us, this freedom of expression is on display this month at the Baxter Library.

On view are the ceramic pieces created in the 6th and 8th grade arts program at the Gorham Middle School. This program, run by Hannah West and Amy Cousin, is an art program that is attended every day for 9 weeks. Students are taught color theory, the steps in idea development with sketches, and process of construction.

The results are quite original and creative. They are made with great craftsmanship and vibrant colors. One example is the construction of a bathtub by Evelyn Smith, complete with the floating ducky and a spigot with running water and bubbles. Another is a pizza-eating pumpkin by Scarlette Farinn. Why not combine two things you like?

There are ice cream cones, fanciful creatures, and even a mini refrigerator. It's a very colorful and inventive ceramic exhibit.

Phinney Park Makeover

Gorham Times Staff



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

Volunteers Claire Miner, Peggy Marchand, Stacey Farrington, Mary Ferris, Pete Pappas and Wayne Farrington pause during spring clean-up at Phinney Park

Phinney Park has received a makeover. You may have noticed changes to the space at the corner of South and Green Streets, where the annual Memorial Day Parade stops, and where a wreath-laying event takes place at the two war memorials.

Over the past two years, volunteers revived the Food Forest installed in 2019 and did general spring and fall cleanups. They also tended to new perennials that were installed around the memorials this year. The design of the new gardens was created and donated by Gorham resident and garden designer Amanda Monaco Sturgis.

Phinney Park was also the site of a new Seed and Stroll event that coincided with the Taste Walk in June. At the Seed and Stroll event, people could pick up complimentary seed packets and learn more about the upgrades to the grounds of the park.

Next year, keep an eye out for over 150 daffodil bulbs that will bloom along the

shared park and cemetery wall to welcome spring. Also in 2026, picnic tables and benches will be added to the park, along with a trash receptacle, making the park an inviting place to stop, eat, and enjoy the Village.

Revitalizing Phinney Park is a joint effort of the Gorham Village Alliance, Town of Gorham, Gorham Parks and Recreation, and Gorham Public Works. The many volunteers who have helped to improve and maintain the park include: Fred Adams, Leah Duffy, Greg Farrington, Roberta Farrington, Wayne Farrington, Madysen Ferris, Mary Ferris, Kathy Garrard, Steve Garrard, Melissa Hynes, Andy Kosusko, Peggy Marchand, Claire Miner, Peter Pappas, Jen Rutherford, Stephanie Smith, Nina Yeliseyev, master gardener volunteers John Ersek, Stacey Farrington, Jess Hunnewell, Lindsay Miles, and Pamela Lanz, along with Roger Marchand, who has been photographing the park in progress.

CryptoVerse by A. Logophile

ZY Z BPQCDL YAKY AE Z FLYKZQFZEK LZKAEH,
KGLV YKZFL AEKP YCZBL OAKGPQK YCLZRAEH.
AK NFLZRY VPQF GLZFK KP WALO KGL SQALK
PI Z BPQCDL PE Z BPEWLFYZKAPE TALK.

CLUE: H = G

SOLUTION ON PAGE 11

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GORHAM \$679,900

Features a sunlit open concept floor plan with 9ft ceilings, crown molding, granite kitchen with center island, living room with gas fireplace & hardwood floors throughout the entire first and second levels. Upstairs offers a spacious primary suite with private bath & walk-in closet, two additional oversized bedrooms, dedicated second floor laundry room with utility sink and a full common bathroom. The family room is nice added space located in the daylight walkout basement. This lot abuts 29-acres of protected open space for added privacy.



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, 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. Newly updated electrical service.



SACO \$479,500

This charming ranch offering easy one-floor living with a garage and separate living space above. This sunlit floor plan features the kitchen open to the dining area and front living room with cathedral ceilings. The primary bedroom includes a walk-in closet, private bath with a soaking tub and a separate shower. A den/office, second bedroom, full common bathroom and first floor laundry complete the first floorplan. The heated garage and storage are accessed through a front to back breezeway.



SHAPLEIGH \$479,900

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 & plumbing provisions for a future bathroom.



STANDISH \$599,900

Listed below appraised value! Brand new colonial in popular Woodbrey Heights offering 3-bedrooms, 2.5 bath 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. On the second level you'll find the primary bedroom ensuite with a private bathroom and a walk-in closet. Two additional bedrooms, a full common bath & 2nd floor laundry.



Julie Chandler



Mike Griffin



Peter Mason

The Benefits of Practicing Gratitude

Linda Whitten, Contributing Writer Since 2025

With the Thanksgiving holiday upon us, we find ourselves reflecting upon what we are grateful for in our personal and professional lives. Gratitude has many benefits and can improve your overall health and well-being. Gratitude activates key brain changes with reward and regulates emotions, leading to long-term positive changes. The brain is the control center of your entire body and keeping your brain operating properly can help to reduce risk factors as we age. Practicing gratitude can significantly improve your brain chemistry because it releases neurotransmitters such as dopamine, serotonin and oxytocin.

Studies have shown that individuals who consistently express gratitude exhibit a more positive mindset. Stress and anxiety can be reduced by practicing gratitude because it activates the parasympathetic nervous system and reduces the "fight or flight" response managed by the sympathetic nervous system.

Gratitude research has demonstrated that individuals who have higher levels of gratitude have fewer common health complaints such as headaches, digestion problems, infections, dizziness, congestion, sore muscles and sleep problems. Receiving and displaying simple acts of kindness and expressing gratitude activate the hypothalamus, which regulates bodily mechanisms that control sleep. We know that inadequate sleep can cause problems with memory and thinking. Neuroscience confirms that gratitude can reshape the brain and change cognition.

The key is finding ways to practice appreciation and gain mental benefits from it.

Gratitude should start with yourself. Recognize the good things you appreciate about yourself, reflecting on past achievements, present efforts, your talents and virtues.

Writing a thank-you card to someone who has made a positive impact on your life can be beneficial for you and the receiver. Visiting someone at their home or in an assisted living facility can lift everyone's spirits, well-being and sense of purpose.

Volunteering for a cause that is important to you or becoming involved in your community are other examples of practicing gratitude.

Gratitude can be expressed in small gestures, as well. Making eye contact with someone and greeting them with a smile can make someone's day; random acts of kindness or simply pausing and saying thank you to someone can promote a healthier, more positive outlook on your life.

What are you grateful for this Thanksgiving holiday?



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.

Protect Your Plants This Winter

O'Donal's, Contributing Writers Since 2024

The cold weather has finally arrived, and it is time to protect your woody plants from sun scald, winter burn, and animal damage, the most common winter problems we experience in Maine. Plants that are water-stressed are more susceptible to the ravages of a Maine winter. Making sure your plants are getting enough water throughout the season helps with the prevention of these problems.

Sun scald causes damage to trees or shrubs and is caused by the rapid fluctuation of temperature. This can happen when the sun heats up exposed bark, resulting in the expansion of cells during the day and their contraction at night as the temperature drops.

The visible signs of sun scalding are fissures and splits occurring along the bark of the tree trunk. This can lead to infection and possibly kill the plant. To prevent sun scald, we recommend wrapping tree trunks with a light-colored trunk wrap. Susceptible trees are thin-barked trees such as cherry, crabapples, maples and birches, especially when they are newly planted or in an exposed area. Once a tree is established, we only recommend wrapping the trunk if the plant is in an exposed area or has a history of scald.

Winter burn is most often found on needled and broadleaf evergreens and some tender deciduous plants like Japanese maple or butterfly bush. Winter burn generally occurs on trees and shrubs planted in exposed and/or southwest-facing sites and can be identified by brown, dried-out needles or leaves. It is the result of excessive sun and/or wind exposure and is most common during the first year. We recommend wrapping trees and shrubs growing in risky sites with burlap or a similar light-colored, sturdy and breath-

able fabric. For smaller shrubs, you can also purchase individual shrub tents or covers. As an alternative to wrapping them you can spray the foliage with an anti-transpirant. This spray protects the leaves from desiccation.

Animals also cause winter damage, particularly when winters are long and food is scarce. During times like these mice and other rodents may feed on the low bark and branches of your trees and shrubs. A little nibble won't do much harm, but when they chew away a circle of bark around the trunk (which is called girdling), the plant will become unable to draw water up through its trunk and it will die.

Applying tree wrap to the trunk or installing hardware cloth in a cylinder around the base of the trunk (18-24 inches high and buried at least 2 inches below ground) can help prevent rodents from tunneling under the snow to feed on the nourishing bark.

Many Maine gardeners experience severe damage caused by browsing deer. When hungry enough, deer will eat anything, even plants considered deer-resistant. The only sure-fire way to keep deer out of your yard is to install a fence, and a tall one (deer can jump about 8 ft). An alternative to fencing is to use deer repellents (specialized sprays including garlic sprays) and scented soap. These are easy to apply but are not effective over a long period of time because most deer get used to any smell or taste. To increase the effectiveness of repellents we suggest frequently changing out the products you are using. We also recommend wrapping your most vulnerable plants with burlap to create a physical barrier and hope the deer won't be too hungry.



Food for Thought

Bruce Webb, Contributing Writer Since 1999

I was shocked to learn recently that some Gorham students were experiencing food insecurity. Living in a relatively affluent community we assume that hunger is not an issue in our town. These assumptions are bolstered by the presence of multiple restaurants, farmers' markets, grocery stores, an epidemic of obesity, and constant food ads featuring happy well fed people.

Most of us have experienced hunger at some point in our lives and understand how the lack of food tends to focus the mind. Any parent can attest to the challenges of a hungry infant raging to be fed at 2 AM. Similar behaviors are experienced by adults who get "hangry" when a meal is missed or food is unavailable. Access to food becomes an overriding focus and it's difficult to think of anything else. When adults get "hangry" tempers flare, we get snippy with those around us, patience erodes, and social graces take a back seat as food claims our attention.

With children, the impact of food insecurity has serious consequences for the long term physical, cognitive, and emotional development. Eighty percent of a child's brain is developed by age 10 and reaches 90 percent during adolescence. During these formative years, it is critical for children to get enough of the right sustenance to thrive. Food insecurity tends to heighten anxiety among children at a time when societal anxiety - driven by mass shootings, active threat drills in schools, social media and rapid change, predominate.

In 2019, a casual conversation between Heather Whitaker, a middle school teacher, and Jennifer Baker, a social work colleague, centered on how hungry children underperformed and seemed fatigued during class. They enlisted other staff who noticed similar behaviors and decided to take action. These initial efforts evolved into the Gorham Backpack Program which engages each school in the district.

Six years later the backpack program serves about 100 students, costs about \$25,000 a year, and provides a vital service that enhances the quality of education in our community. Funds come largely from citizen and business cash donations, as well as in-kind donations from businesses and non profit organizations. The program collaborates with various food banks and social service agencies to share resources. This is largely a volunteer effort as none of the staff get paid extra for their work and community volunteers perform the bulk of the labor.

This seems like a bargain for our community and offers a good opportunity to help out with a vital need. Community members, organizations, businesses and groups are encouraged to make cash or in-kind donations to keep the program supplied with food. Community volunteers help to unpack donations, fill the backpacks, and distribute the food to schools.

In a recent interview Whitaker noted that the backpacks go home with students on weekends so that they can supplement their meals at home. A big gap occurs during holidays, vacations and in the summer when school is not in session.

Please consider helping out with this worthwhile program to support our kids Contact Heather Whitaker at (Heatherwhitaker@gohamschools.org) for more information. Interested in volunteering? Contact volunteer coordinator Kelly Reed - (Kelly.Reed@gohamschools.org).



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



Photo Credit: O'Donals Nursery

To prevent sun scald, we recommend wrapping tree trunks with a light-colored trunk wrap.

Mrs. Maddrell's Pecan Pumpkin Pies
The Best of Both Worlds

You may want to make both versions. The pies will go quick.

Pumpkin Pie #1

Mix together :
 3 T softened margarine
 1/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
 1/3 cup chopped pecans packed brown sugar

Spread on bottom of unbacked pie shell. Bake at 450 ° for 10 minutes, then let it cool. Make pumpkin filling as usual, pour on, and back as usual. Put foil around the crust to protect from over browning.

Pumpkin Pie #2

Bake pumpkin pie as usual and let cool.
 Mix 1/2 cup coarsely chopped pecans
 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
 2 T softened margarine

Spread mixture over cooled pie. Before serving desert, put the crust on top pie under broiler, 5 inches from heat for 3 minutes or until mixture begins to bubble. I like the crunchy nut mixture on top version, but you have to watch it like a hawk. Also recommend putting foil covering the crust rim so it doesn't burn. Serve with whipped cream.

Mrs. Maddrell was from Sandusky, Ohio. My husband and I went to college with her son Paul in Indiana. When we moved to Maine after college, Paul moved to here too and married a girl from Gorham, named Carla Brown, and that's how I came by this great recipe.

Questions, email ckck5@icloud.com.

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2025
Holiday Events



Gift & Garden Holiday Preview

*Fri. Nov. 21 5:00-7:00

View our Holliday Collection while enjoying Live Music, Snacks, Refreshments, Gifts, plus!
 15% off your purchases with a donation of toiletries to Maine Needs.

Kissing Ball Workshop - Eco Friendly

*Sat. Nov. 29 1:00-2:30 \$45 pre-registration required

Learn a new twist on a holiday favorite. Instead of using poly-foam as the base, you will be using a potato!

Eighty 8 Donuts *Sun. Nov. 30 10:00-1:00

Gorham Light Parade *Sun. Nov. 30

Wreath Workshops - pre-registration required

*Sat. Nov. 29 10:00-11:30 \$45

*Sat. Dec. 6 1:00-2:30 \$45

All proceeds from the Dec. 6 wreath workshop will be donated to the Dream Factory.

The Christmas Gnome visits

*Sat. Nov. 29 10:00-1:00

stay tuned on our instagram and web for more Gnome dates

Vagabond Coffee *Sat. Dec. 6 10:00-1:00

Scandinavian Straw Ornaments

*Sat. Dec. 6 10:00-11:00 \$25 pre-registration required

Learn the art of authentic Scandinavian straw ornament design. This is a hands-on workshop and you will take home your creation.



O'Donal's

6 County Road, Gorham, ME 207.839.4262

Gorham Town Council Special Meeting on Nov. 10

Michael Lortie, Staff Writer

On Monday, Nov. 10, the Gorham Town Council held an organizational meeting and swore in the three newly elected council members. As explained by Ephrem Paraschak, town manager, the town charter requires that new council members be sworn in within seven days of the election. This meeting was scheduled for Monday because the usual meeting day, Tuesday, was Veteran's Day.

The council began their meeting by thanking outgoing members Rob Lavoie and Phil Gagnon. Several members thanked them for their service to the town and their insight and contribu-

tions to the council. Laurie Nordfors, town clerk, then swore in the three newly elected town councilors, Seven Siegel to his second three-year term and Kelly Dearborn and Charlie Hamblen to their first.

The Council voted 7-0 to elect Suzanne Phillips as chair of the Town Council and Seven Siegel as vice chair. They also voted unanimously to organize all council subcommittees and to select representatives to regional boards.

Although the live feed of this meeting was interrupted by power surges during the meeting, the complete notes and video may be found on the town website.

Grand Jury Indictments, Oct. and Nov. 2025

Gorham Times Staff

October Indictments:

Male 33, of Gorham, 1 count each of DV aggravated assault, domestic violence assault, and domestic violence criminal threatening with prior conviction.

Female 44, of Gorham, 1 count each of unlawful possession of scheduled drugs, operating after suspension, and violating condition of release.

November Indictments:

Jessica J. Connolly, 41, of Gorham, 3 counts

of unlawful possession of scheduled drugs.

Male 60, of Gorham, 1 count each of reckless conduct with a dangerous weapon, driving to endanger, and refusing to submit to arrest.

Male 31, of Gorham, 2 counts each of unlawful possession of scheduled drugs.

Male 48, of Gorham, unlawful possession of scheduled drugs, criminal OUI, violation of bail.

Arrests, July to October 2025

Gorham Times Staff

Arrests, July 2025

Male, 21, of Gorham for one count of OUI (Alcohol)

Female, 23, of Gorham, one count each of Violating Condition of Release, Driving to Endanger, and Criminal Speeding 30+

Male, 34 of Gorham, one count each of Violation of Protective Order and Violating Condition of Release

Male, 25 of Gorham, one count each of Operating While License Suspended or Revoked, Violating Condition of Release, and Attaching False Plates.

Male, 35 of Gorham, one count of Violation of Protective Order.

Male, 25 of Gorham, one count of Domestic Violence Assault

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

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.

October 2025 Arrests

Male, 33, Gorham, 1 count of Domestic Violence Stalking

Male, 46, Gorham, 1 count of Violating Condition of Release

Male, 33, Gorham, 1 count of Violating Condition of Release

Arrests, Aug., 2025

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,

Notes from Public Works

Kelly Meslin, Public Works Department

The Public Works office and garage will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 and 28 in observance of Thanksgiving. Trash collection scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 27 will be on Friday, Nov. 28.

With the winter weather coming soon, here are a few friendly reminders from the Public Works Department:

Leaves are accepted at the Public Works Department, 80 Huston Road, any time throughout the fall and into the winter season in the designated area on the left-hand side of Public Works Drive. Please do not leave your bags behind.

There is no parking on any public road or public easement roadway

from Nov. 1 to May 1, midnight to 6 a.m. or during any parking ban declared by the Public Works Department.

Winter sand is available to residents at the Public Works Department, 80 Huston Road. There is a resident sand shed on the left-hand side of Public Works Drive. You will need to bring your own buckets/shovel and we ask that you only take two (2) 5-gallon buckets per storm.

Public Works will be transitioning to winter hours as of Monday, Dec. 1. The office and garage will be open Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you need to contact Public Works, please call the office at (207) 222-4950 or email dpw@gorham.me.us.

Planning Board Results, Nov. 3

Sally Fay, Staff Writer

The Planning Board held its monthly meeting on Nov. 3 at the Gorham Municipal Center, with six board members in attendance (Chair James Hager, Vice Chair William Benson, Stephen Crisafulli, Rob Delaney, Russell Frank, David Walsh) and one absent (Barbara Nichols).

The Board took action on the following proposals, the first three after public hearings: (Item 1) Site Plan Review, Glidden Excavating & Paving Inc., Material Lay-Down and Storage Area: A proposal to construct a material storage and lay-down yard with associated infrastructure on a 3.76-acre parcel on Bartlett Road was approved with conditions (6 ayes, 1 absent).

(Item 2) Site Plan Review, Shamos Paving & Sealcoating, Commercial Development: A plan for a commercial building, outdoor storage area, and associated infrastructure on an approximately 9.5-acre parcel adjacent to the recently developed retail location on Ossipee Trail was approved with conditions (6 ayes, 1 absent).

(Item 3) Site and Subdivision Review, Troiano Properties LLC, Gorham

Fairways South: Preliminary approval was granted for a plan for phases 1-5 of a mixed-use development on 170+/- acres of the former Gorham Country Club on McLellan Road (6 ayes, 1 absent).

(Item 4) Subdivision Amendment, Ali Omur and Carmen Schneider: - The Board discussed an amendment to an existing subdivision to create two additional lots on 79 Day Road; the amendment was approved with conditions (6 ayes, 1 absent).

(Item 5) Zoning Map Amendment: The Board discussed a request to amend the zoning map and create new zoning districts for the Little Falls Village area to coincide with the Little Falls - South Windham Master Plan. The matter was sent to a full Board workshop for review (6 ayes, 1 absent).

Subsequent to their monthly meeting, the Planning Board scheduled a site walk pertaining to Item 3 on Tuesday, Nov. 18 at 7:30 a.m. (rain date: Nov. 19).

Details on the latest Planning Board agendas and meeting results can be found at <https://www.gorhammaine.gov/planning-board>.

Repair Fair at Baxter a Success

Roger Marchand, Staff Photographer/Writer



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

Participants at the Repair Fair at Baxter Memorial Library on Nov. 1 fixed many things together.

On Nov. 1 the Baxter Memorial Library held a Repair Fair. Volunteers were at the library to fix broken or damaged items such as lamps, clothing & jackets, wood furniture, jewelry, small appliances, and bicycles.

A large number of individuals brought items to be repaired as well as to socialize with their neighbors and acquaintances.

The Fair was so well received that the library is looking into the possibility of having other Repair Fairs in the future.

Upcoming Meetings



11/20 Board of Appeals Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

11/25 Cemetery Advisory Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m.

12/1 Planning Board Ordinance Committee Workshop, 6 p.m.

12/1 Planning Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

12/2 Regular Town Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Thanksgiving is an opportunity to slow down and reflect on our blessings. Take a breathe and share our gratitude with others. This year, let these quotes serve as gentle reminders of the beauty in simplicity, the warmth of togetherness, and the joy found in giving. May your Thanksgiving be filled with love, laughter, and an abundance of gratitude.

"We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives." —John F. Kennedy

Give thanks for a little, and you will find a lot." —Hausa Proverb

"The thankful heart opens our eyes to a multitude of blessings that continually surround us" —James E. Faust

"Thanksgiving is not just a day. It's a way we can live our lives every day." —Katrina Mayer



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Gorham Public Pre-K

GORHAM PUBLIC PRE-K PARTNER FAIR

Join us for an informative event to learn about the variety of Public Pre-K options available to Gorham families.

All of the GPPK Partners will be sharing information about their programming.

Come ask questions and learn more about Gorham Public Pre-K!

DECEMBER 4TH
5:30 – 6:30 PM

NARRAGANSETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 284 MainStreet, Gorham, ME

Enrollment for Gorham Public Pre-K begins on January 7, 2026. In order to be eligible for Gorham Public Pre-K, a child must be a Gorham resident AND four years old on or before October 15.

For More Information
<https://sites.google.com/gorhamschools.org/gorham-public-prek/home>

Narragansett Kindergarten Letter Hunt at the Gorham Hannaford

Erin Eppler, Principal, Narragansett School



Photo Credit: Erin Eppler

Narragansett School Kindergarten teacher Christine Karcanes partnered with Hannaford store manager Zachary Glanville to kick off a "letter hunt" project for her students. Students check in at the dietician's station to pick up a letter hunt form, then turn it in to the customer service area to earn a sticker. Mrs. Karcanes loves to make real-world connections for her students.

Three GHS Band Students Chosen for All State Jazz Festival

Isaac Hawkins, GHS Music and Band Teacher



Photo Credit: Isaac Hawkins

Some great news for band students at GHS. Dash Coolong (Drumset), Gavin Monkiewicz (Lead Trumpet) and Nicolas Andrade (Guitar) were accepted into the Maine Music Educators Association Jazz All State Festival. For context on how distinguished an honor this is, only five guitar, five drumset and eleven trumpet players are accepted into the festival from all of Maine. We have some of the best jazz musicians in the state right here in Gorham and it is a testament to their hard work and dedication!

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Nov. School Committee Meeting

Michael Lortie, School News Editor

On Tuesday, Nov. 11, the Gorham School Committee held their monthly meeting. This was the first meeting for the three newly elected members, Jeffery Ballard, Paulette Tateishi and Lowansa Tompkins. Prior to this, the committee had reorganized their subcommittee assignments and determined subcommittee chairs.

The committee selected Nicole Yeo-Fisher to continue as chair and Michelle Littlefield to continue as vice chair for the next year. They also approved the minutes of the regular meeting of Oct. 8 and the workshop meeting of Oct. 22 by 4-0 (abstentions Ballard, Tateishi, and Tompkins)

A group of six fifth graders presented the "B.A.R.R. U-Times" (Building Assets and Reducing Risks) Program that they have participated in. They read a book by Dr. Temple Grandin and have been inspired to tell how they would change the world for the better. Their video is available to watch on the school department website.

Next, the GHS volleyball team was recognized for winning their third consecutive state championship. Athletic director Tim Spear introduced Coach Emma Tirrell and two of her captains, who thanked the public for their support and encouragement.

Transportation director Mitzi Smith presented the new software program that is being used on all buses this year. The system, Bus Right, enables GPS tracking of all buses and the ability to refine schedules and improve timing and safety. A new parent app will be available soon.

RainaLee Cooper presented an overview of the nutrition program. Currently, reimbursable meals are provided at no cost to students. She detailed the last few years in the program and explained the requirements for grade levels and the federal and state funding sources.

Superintendent Heather Perry gave her monthly report by highlighting the State of the Schools report, particularly the section on NWEA testing. The scores showed improvement this past

year and the averages for most grades are at expected levels or just slightly below in both reading and math.

All committee members spoke about recent events, including Mia DeSanctis, who recognized Bus Safety Week by thanking the bus drivers for doing an amazing job; Michelle Littlefield, who thanked the veterans for their service and mentioned that twenty-one new substitute teachers had been trained; and Jefferey Ballard, who promoted Lung Cancer Awareness Month. Chair Nicole Yeo-Fisher recognized Dr. Perry for her honor of being chosen Superintendent of the Year by the Maine School Superintendents Association.

The committee welcomed a new student representative, Daniah Al Asadi. She and Lola Vance reported on all of the events going on at the high school.

Each subcommittee reported on the most recent meeting and the work committee members are involved with.

The committee approved the creation of the Transitions Program Pilot at Village School (7-0) and approved the hiring of a one-year Transitions Teacher for the program (7-0). The need for this program had been highlighted by the elementary principals at the October workshop meeting. Dr. Perry has identified sourcing within the current approved budget and will begin advertising to fill this teaching position.

As part of their on-going review of the policies and procedures for the school system, the committee approved for a second reading the following policies: Student Social Events (JJB), Student Fundraising Activities (JJE) and Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion (JKAA) 5-0 (abstentions Ballard and Tompkins). They also conducted a first reading of the following policies: Corporal Punishment (JKA), Student Activities Funds Management (JJF), Removal of Students with Disabilities (JKF), Reintegration of Students From Juvenile Correctional Facilities (JLDBG) and Public Participation at School Committee Meetings (BEDH).

Gorham Parks & Recreation
75 South Street, Gorham, Maine 04038
Office Hours: M-F 8:30am - 4:00pm

Operation Holiday Spirit
Adopt-A-Family

The Town of Gorham offers assistance to families in need during the Holiday Season.

We'll match your family with a business or individual who will "adopt" your family and provide gifts and winter essentials.

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Together, we can make the holidays brighter for every family in Gorham.

Christmas Fair
Saturday, Dec. 6
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
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firstparishgorham.org
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SPORTS

USM Womens Soccer CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

championship with a 3-0 shutout win over Western Connecticut State.

Head coach Martyn Keen relayed after the championship game, "Many of the players responsible for the first three championships have graduated, and the transition from 2024 to 2025 saw a turnover of no fewer than 14 key players, including two veteran goalkeepers, one an All-American. Without a doubt, this win has been the most rewarding."

According to a recent USM press release, USM played a challenging schedule that included five nationally-ranked programs and numerous regionally-ranked teams outside of conference action. Southern Maine was the third-seed in the tournament. The Women's team will face nationally-ranked No. 4 Messiah University (19-2, 7-0 MAC Commonwealth) in the first round on Saturday, Nov.

15 at Messiah's Shoemaker Field in Grantham, Pennsylvania, a host field site. Joining the four-team pod with the Huskies and Messiah are Amherst College and SUNY-Cortland.

Sixty-four teams will vie for the 2025 NCAA Division III National Championship title. Defensively, the Huskies are led by senior backs, including Devan Sherry (Gorham, Maine/ Waynflete), and midfielder and team co-captain Cierra Hill (Pembroke, New Hampshire) and sophomore standouts Makyla Magid (Golden, Colorado) and Meghan Przybilla (St. Anthony, Minnesota). Both Magid and Przybilla earned all-conference honors as freshmen.

Offensively the Huskies are led by Riley Reitchel (Erskine Academy/ Palermo, Maine) and Freshman Lexi Morin (Brunswick, Maine).



Senior Rachel Reitchel in action for the Huskies

Photo Credit: James Liebowitz

Where Are They Now? Nick Phinney '23 at Wheaton College

Gorham Times Staff



Photo Credit: Courtesy of Wheaton College

Nick Phinney, soccer at Wheaton College

Public Affairs at Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts sent us some news this week about GHS grad Nick Phinney of Gorham.

Three different players scored for the No. 8 Wheaton College (Mass.) men's soccer team in a 3-0 victory over visiting Neumann University on Saturday, Nov. 15 in the opening round of the NCAA Championship Tournament at Keefe Field on the Wheaton campus in Norton, Mass. The win was the first in the NCAA Tournament for Wheaton since a 5-0 triumph over Daniel Webster College – exactly 11 years ago – on November 15, 2014.

According to the press release, "The teams were level with 11 shots apiece with Wheaton owning an 8-6 margin in shots on frame. The Lyons held a 6-5 edge in corner kicks."

"Wheaton got on the board in just the 12th minute after senior midfielder Joey Everett (Danbury, Conn.) was taken down in the box. Senior midfielder Aidan Doyle (Kingston, Mass.) fired a shot into the upper right corner on the penalty kick for his team-leading 10th marker of the season to give the Lyons all they would need for the victory."

"Senior starting keeper Michael O'Gara (Ardmore, Pa.) registered six saves in the first 73:32 of action, before yielding to junior Nick Phinney (Gorham, Maine), who was untested in the final 16:28 of play to combine on Wheaton's 11th shutout of the season."

Nick Phinney graduated from Gorham High School in 2023. He is majoring in computer science at Wheaton, and plans to pursue a career in the field of computer science. He is the son of Mike and Kim Phinney and Dan Rosario, and has one sibling, Matthew.

According to Wheaton's profile of Phinney, "he chose to play soccer for Wheaton because the program's history and quality speaks for itself in addition to the amazing community and staff."

Phinney made his collegiate debut in the 2023 season, vs Springfield in the NEWMAC Quarterfinal.

In 2024, he appeared in three matches in net, making one start. He played 169 minutes and 27 seconds in goal, posting an 0-1-1 record. In that same season, he recorded nine saves, posted a 1.59 goals against the average, registered a .750 save percentage, stopped a career-high five shots against the University of Massachusetts Boston on September 8, and made his first collegiate start and played a career-most 90 minutes against Roger Williams University on Sept. 14.


Friends, family, and sports fans can follow Nick Phinney's Wheaton career at <https://wheatoncollegelyons.com/sports/mens-soccer/roster/nick-phinney/7051>.


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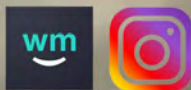
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Students Learn the Meaning of Giving Back With Service Treks

Kelli Deveaux, Staff Writer

In advance of Veterans Day and the Thanksgiving holiday, 2 academic teams at Gorham High School spent school time engaged in acts of community service to benefit Gorham and its residents, and to learn the value of giving back to our neighbors, veterans, and those in need.

With the support of Aspire Gorham, a K-12 school initiative committed to career exposure, exploration and experiences for all students, one of the three freshmen "academies" or teams of approximately 85 students, organized a daylong event to learn the importance of community service.

The students first were treated to a panel of experts on community service, including Ann Tucker from Greater Portland Health, Cam Peden from United Way of Southern Maine, Dillan Hesseltine with Summit Church, and Bear Shea with the Maine Department of Education. Students asked questions and the panel shared why community service is important to their organizations, their own values, and what the mental, physical and societal benefits are for those who engage in philanthropy. Students then headed out on one of 5 service treks offered for the day.

GHS teachers Ms. Paul, Ms. Cushing, Ms. Alden-Paredes, Mr. T. King and Mr. Farrington chaperoned service treks to volunteer at Maine Needs, do fall cleanup for Gorham residents who needed assistance, fill meal bags for 200+ Gorham students who access the Backpack Program, assist with Gorham Trails cleanup, and clean up the Village area planters, Phinney Park, and the cemetery on the corner of Green

and South Streets, respectively. Gorham's Deputy Fire Chief Phil McCallum helped identify neighbors who were willing to let students clear their yards, Gorham Trails volunteers Bill Moreno and Rob Lavoie took time off to help, and staff with Gorham Public Works assisted the students with supplies and pick up. The Westbrook-Gorham Rotary donated pallets of food that the volunteers helped to distribute with the backpack program.

All students were then treated to lunch, hosted by the staff of Gorham Parks and Recreation at Shaw Gym and provided by Gorham House of Pizza, before returning to school to learn how to write thank you notes and debrief what they learned during the day.

Meanwhile, nine students with GHS's alternative education LYNX program worked with Commander Chad Butts of the Gorham VFW to clean the gravesites of veterans buried in Eastern Cemetery, clearing overgrowth and replacing graveside flags as needed. Lead teacher Eric Klein noted that it was a great learning opportunity for students, as they were able to learn more about the history of some of Gorham's oldest veterans, some dating back to the 1800's. Students learned about the numerical significance of Veterans Day, and that many of the Gorham veterans returned and continued their public service by serving as volunteer firefighters for the town. For one student, this community service effort became personal. "I learned that many veterans became firefighters after their wartime



Photo Credit: Roger Klein

Students from GHS LYNX Program clear and care for gravesites of veterans in Gorham's Eastern Cemetery. Pictured (back to front) Eligh Head, grade 10; Conor Keniston, grade 10; Kayden Edwards, grade 9.

service, and when I was at his gravesite, since my house was destroyed by fire," said Magnus Brown, a grade nine student with the LYNX program.

gravesite, since my house was destroyed by fire," said Magnus Brown, a grade nine student with the LYNX program.

ARTS

Two Upcoming Concerts at MPAC

Lori Arsenault, Managing Editor

Two popular concerts are coming to McCormack Performing Arts Center (GPAC) at Gorham High School. Don't miss a beat; it's time to reserve your tickets.

On Wednesday, Dec. 3, the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Robert Lehmann, will present their fall concert at 7 p.m. at GPAC. This will be an evening of sweeping soundscapes.

Anchoring the program is Antonín Dvořák's "Symphony No. 8," a radiant and joyful work inspired by the natural beauty of the Bohemian countryside. Brimming with folk rhythms, lyrical themes, and orchestral color, this beloved symphony celebrates Dvořák's gift for melody and storytelling through music. Additional works will round out the program.

Tickets are available through PortTIX, the official box office for the Osher School of

Music. For tickets and information, call (207) 842-0800, <http://www.porttix.com>, or in person at 400 Congress Street, Suite A, in Portland.

Then on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 7 - 9 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 7 from 2 - 4 p.m., the Casco Bay Wind Symphony will present their annual concert, "Sounds of the Season" A Musical Holiday Celebration.

This concert, under the direction of Dr. William Kinne, includes traditional holiday favorites, movie soundtrack highlights, a carol sing-along, and much more.

Matt LeBerge will appear on stage again to perform "The Night Before Christmas" and "The Grinch Redux."

Tickets for this family-friendly holiday tradition at \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Seniors (65+), pay what you can, free admission for students/kids. <https://cascobaywindsymphony.org>

Lavoie Bike Park

Lori Arsenault, Managing Editor



Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

Riders enjoy a ride along the hilly trails of the Lavoie Bike Park

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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- And above all, featuring the many good deeds in our town.

Every other week, the *Gorham Times* is produced by dedicated volunteers who contribute articles and photos, design ads and format the paper, distribute the paper throughout town, mail subscriptions, serve on the board, and so much more.

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COMMUNITY

OF INTEREST

The Gorham Police Department has many bicycles needing to be returned to their owners. If you own a bicycle you suspect as being stolen or even just misplaced, please make contact to discuss identification of your items. Per State law, the Gorham Police Department holds recovered property at the police department for a period of time and then properly disposes of it. There are bikes made by: Trek, Schwinn, Mongoose, Next, Huffy, Roadmaster, even E-Bikes. Many other personal property items are waiting for their owner as well. A few notable items are two gas generators, a snowblower, a set of downhill skis with boots, chainsaws, iPhones, Apple watches, and many sets of keys with remotes. Contact Detective Jason Wagner at the Gorham Police Department, jwagner@gorham.me.us or (207) 222-1698. If you can identify an item as belonging to you, you can be reunited with your property.

Operation Holiday Spirit: The Town of Gorham offers assistance to families in need during the holiday season, matching a family with a business or individual who will "adopt" a family and provide gifts and winter essentials. Families can apply by visiting the Town Clerk's office or call (207) 222-1670 to fill out an application.

A community partnership of businesses and volunteers is 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 recipients are 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 include 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.

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 Carol Robinson at (207) 400-7171.

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.

HOLIDAY AND CRAFT FAIRS

West Gorham Union Church will have a Christmas Fair on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with craft tables, baked goods, slightly used knitted items, and quilted items, as well as swags for your front door. RADA knives for sale, a raffle for a queen-sized quilt or a \$150 gift card from Pitstop Fuels, or a Christmas basket loaded with items. Have lunch or a snack including fish chowder, sandwiches, sweets and drinks. Located on Route 25, 3 miles west of Gorham.

White Rock Community Clubhouse will host a Christmas Craft Fair as a college scholarship fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 34 Wilson Road. Find many handmade crafts, a bake sale, white elephant table, and raffles. Lunch will be served: homemade corn chowder and steamed hot dogs. FMI: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1CawfhFT6C/>

The White Rock Friendship Club is hosting the 41st Annual Tree Lighting at the White Rock Community Clubhouse on Sunday, Nov. 30 at 4:30 p.m. Listen to the reading of the Christmas story. Sing Christmas carols while sipping hot cocoa around the Christmas tree. We hear Santa will be there again this year! 34 Wilson Road. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1316655429781649>

Gorham Arts Alliance is having a Holiday Fair at 34 School Street in Gorham from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6. The Fair will have arts and crafts, a silent auction, white elephant sale and bake sale. All the proceeds will benefit the newly formed Gorham Seniors Co-op. To donate or learn more about us please visit: gorhamarts.org/seniorcoop.

Living Waters Parent Teachers Organization is holding a craft fair on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 197 Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Handmade local crafts, wreaths, gifts, books, ornaments, children's crafts and cookie decorating and more. FMI: Danica Reed, (207) 939-5088.

LIBRARY NEWS

The North Gorham Public Library Monday morning book club is reading "Time of the Child" by Niall Williams. There are copies at the library that may be borrowed. The winter craft fair and book sale is 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. to 1 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 – 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday closed, Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday closed. FMI: email libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us.

Baxter Memorial Library offers many reading events each week. Check our calendar for what's coming up soon. Library hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, and closed on Sundays. FMI: (207) 222-1190.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE NEWS

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.

Find more events at the University of Southern Maine at <https://usm.maine.edu/events>.

CLOSE TO HOME

Westbrook City Band is presenting a free Christmas Concert on Sunday, Nov. 23 at 2 p.m. at North Congregational Church, 22 Church Hill Road in Buxton. This will be a family-friendly event featuring seasonal favorites and a sing-along. FMI: Patsy Leavitt, patsyleavitt55@gmail.com.

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CALENDAR

Thursday, Nov. 20

Baxter Memorial Library, Toddler Storytime, 10 - 10:30 a.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, Book Club: The Bandit Queens, 10:15 a.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, Sewing Class Intermediate, 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 22

West Gorham Union Church Christmas Fair 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 White Rock Community Clubhouse, Christmas Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, RPG Club, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 USM Athletics, Women's Ice Hockey vs. Plymouth State University at 4 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 23

Westbrook City Band Christmas Concer, North Congregational Church, 22 Church Hill Road, Buxton, 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 25

Baxter Memorial Library, Preschool and Kindergarten Readiness Storytime, 10 - 11 a.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, Dungeons and Dragons, 4 - 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 26

Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Storytime, 9:30 - 10 a.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, Morning Crafts at Baxter, 10 a.m. - noon

Thursday, Nov. 27

Happy Thanksgiving

Saturday, Nov. 29

USM Athletics, Men's Ice Hockey vs. Wentworth Institute of Technology at 4 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 30

USM Athletics, Women's Basketball vs. Saint Joseph's College of Maine at 4 p.m.
 White Rock Friendship Club's 41st Annual Tree Lighting at the Clubhouse, 4:30 p.m.
 USM Athletics, Men's Basketball vs. Saint Joseph's College of Maine at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 2

Baxter Memorial Library, Preschool and Kindergarten Readiness Storytime, 10 - 11 a.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, Dogs Dig Reading, 4 - 5 p.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library Author Event: Julia Spencer-Fleming, 6 p.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, French Language Discussion Group, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 3

Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Storytime, 9:30 - 10 a.m.
 Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra, McCormack Performing Arts Center at GHS, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 4

Baxter Memorial Library, Book Group: "The Stationary Shop", 10:15 a.m.
 Baxter Memorial Library, Trustees Meeting, 6 p.m.

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

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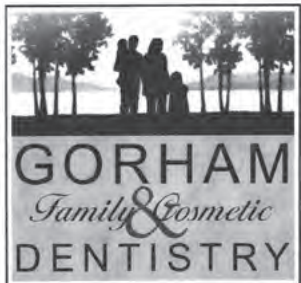


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the blotter

Caller reported a maroon Chevrolet driving aggressively up and down the road. Officer checked the area but was unable to find the vehicle.

Portland Police Department contacted Gorham Police Department to see if a vehicle bearing a particular State of Maine Registration was at the listed address. Officer drove by and confirmed the vehicle was there with that plate attached. Officer then had dispatch advise Portland of the findings. They requested an officer speak to the owner of the vehicle in Gorham to see if his plate was possibly stolen. Officer went to the address to speak with them and they advised they did not know it was missing and would call Portland to report it stolen. This ends officer's involvement in this case.

Caller wanted to complain about a male subject in the woods carrying a shotgun unsafely. Officer personally had driven past multiple times and did not see any issues with the way he was carrying the gun. Nothing further.

Caller stated she heard shots over an hour ago and wanted to call police to make them aware. She was advised that if something happened that was of concern, officers would need to know about it right there and then. She stated she understood. Nothing further.

Caller was concerned about someone that he let borrow one of his old trucks and

now was not hearing back from him. Officer had asked where the person resided and he stated in Portland. Officer advised him he could call Portland Police Department to check the person's well-being. He stated he would do that.

Officer dispatched in an attempt to locate a vehicle that was passing vehicles in a double yellow in a 30 mph zone. Officer drove by the residence where the car was registered to and saw it parked in the driveway, then cleared from the call.

Dispatch received a report of a vehicle that had been parked in the middle of the road, and then moved to a town house parking spot. The caller noted the operator was lying down once they got in the parking spot. Officer arrived on scene and found the vehicle bearing State of Maine registration. Officer spoke to the operator, identified by her State of Maine Drivers License. She said she was waiting to meet with someone and was about to leave right before the officer pulled in. Officer cleared the scene and the operator left. This ends the officer's involvement in this case.

Services rendered to pick up glasses at the request of the school for a student.

Officer observed a citizen dispute as an entirely civil situation and attempted to speak with all involved. Officer left the scene hopeful they could work it out.

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