Gorham Times

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Bringing an Old Schoolhouse Back to Life

Contributed by The HOPP Hope Fund

Photo Credit: Gorham History Society

Ossipee Trail schoolhouse, a rural district schoolhouse, approximaely 120 years old, built in the early 1900s.

For years, the old schoolhouse in West Gorham has sat empty. This summer, a team of workers has been working to bring it back to life and to return it to its original purpose: a place for children to learn.

The journey has been difficult. What was considered a renovation quickly became a much larger restoration after opening walls and discovering extensive rot, water damage, and years of hidden problems. There have been plenty of moments when this project felt bigger than the team, but somehow this community has continued to show up. Families have volunteered their time, people have stepped in wherever they could, and they have played a huge part in getting this close to completion.

In September, this old schoolhouse will once again open its doors to children. House of Parker Preschool will operate from the property, including a partnership with the Gorham School District to offer public pre-K. But the vision for this property reaches beyond the school day. House of Parker is creating a community space for after-school makers and creators of all ages, vacation and summer programming, and the work of The HOPP Hope Fund, a new 501(c)(3) created to help make these opportunities accessible to children regardless of a family's financial circumstances.

Continued on Page 6

Gorham Educators Hop Aboard a Business Bus Tour

Kelli Deveaux, *Staff Writer, GHS Aspire Director*

On the morning of Aug. 17, 44 Gorham educators boarded a bus for an exciting new adventure. It wasn't the first day of a new school year; it was an opportunity for educators to meet with and tour businesses in Gorham, making connections between the skills and knowledge used in various industries and their own classrooms and students.

Created as a collaborative partnership with Aspire Gorham, Maine County and State Teachers of the Year Association (MCSTOYA), and the Town of Gorham's Office of Economic Development, the event, billed as the First Annual Greater Gorham Business Bus Tour, was offered as an opportunity for all Gorham educators. Educators from every grade level and from all five of the Gorham schools were along for the journey.

MCSTOYA seeks opportunities to provide professionally enriching experiences for educators, by educators. Aspire Gorham is a districtwide Pre-K through grade 12 initiative focused on bringing the classrooms into the community and the community into the classrooms, all with the goal of ensuring that every student, in every grade and classroom, has the opportunity to be exposed to, to explore, or to experience myriad career opportunities.

Christine Fox, HR director of Nappi Distributors, and her team helped kick off the adventure, providing both breakfast treats and a spacious meeting room at their Main Street headquarters. There, Kevin Jensen, the Town of Gorham's economic devel-

Continued on Page 7

Photo Credit: Christine Fox

At Nappi Distributors, Gorham Educators prepare to embark on a day of learning aboard a Custom Coach bus.

Gorham Baseball 2026 Championship Run and Summer Success

Katie Brown, *Sports Editor*

Photo Credit: Colleen Heal

Rams first-ever Class A state championship team celebrates

The Gorham Rams baseball team carried their historic momentum straight into the summer months following a dramatic, 11-inning victory over Bangor on June 20, 2026, to capture the program's first-ever Class A state championship. Once again, they dominated the summer wood bat league. Gorham has won three out of the last four Edge Academy Summer League Wood Bat championships.

This year the final game was rained out and would unfortunately not be rescheduled due to prior commitments playing out of town; therefore, Gorham and Falmouth were named co-champions. Gorham ended the summer season with a 14-0 record while Falmouth was 13-2.

Key players from the Gorham championship teams include Hunter Finck, Preston Brown and Cooper Whitehead, who will all be returning to the Rams squad. Brown is a key cornerstone infielder and clutch hitter. Whitehead (the Rams catcher, moving seamlessly from outfield) is the team's notorious sparkplug that helped propel the Rams all season long.

Photo Credit: Ali Pennell

Hunter Finck at the plate - summer league playoff

Continued on Page 7

ROBIE PARK RIBBON CUTTING PAGE 3

inside *the* Times GoCam YouTube

2 Augusta **4** Living **5** Municipal **6** School **7** Sports
9 Community **10** Calendar **11** Blotter

SUPERINTENDENT LETTER PAGE 6

NEWS FROM AUGUSTA

Reflecting on My Legislative Service

Sen. Stacy Brenner

On my first day in the State House, the building's architecture had its intended effect. After two years of Zoom meetings, I was struck by the majesty of the place – the sense of importance, history and work that matters. I was awed by the busyness, the urgency and even the chaos.

These are my last months serving as State Senator for District 30, my home. I leave having grown tremendously, with a few reflections I want to share.

If the Senate Chamber was built to inspire grandeur, it still does. But it does not match the beauty of the woods behind my home. Some of my best thinking and work were born from walks along humble brooks and red maple stands with colleagues, neighbors and my dog.

Architecture often reinforces power. High ceilings and raised benches make us feel small and the institution feel eternal. But the deepest kind of wisdom I know doesn't live in hierarchy. It lives in something more horizontal. More ecological.

I often find myself trying to reconcile the grandeur of the State House with the quieter, older wisdom of the natural world. There was a time when those two things weren't so far apart – when democracy happened outside, in fields and on hillsides and along the edges of forests. People gathered close to the systems that sustained them and made decisions with that reality in full view.

Serving on the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, where we debate blasting the earth, damming rivers and polluting soil, I've often wished that nature had a seat at the table. If we did this work outside, nature wouldn't just have a seat. It would be the table. And I wonder, would we make the same decisions if we felt the wind on our faces, if we sat beneath a wide oak, if we could hear the water moving beside us?

The closer we are to our communities and to the natural world we depend on, the more grounded and conscientious our decisions become. As a midwife, I learned to follow a process I could not control and to hold deep respect for life unfolding. As a farmer, I learned to work with the seasons and to collaborate with forces bigger than myself. Both of those stories have shaped the leader I've tried to be in the Legislature.

I'll soon step away from the State House with immense pride in the work my colleagues and I have accomplished in its chambers. Each day brought fraught debate and thoughtful conversation. Disappointments and victories, small and large, and stubbornly nonlinear. I leave with confidence that, over my six years of service, the sum of all these moments was real progress for Maine – for its people, its nature, its values and the resilient web that connects them all through times as challenging as these.

It goes without saying that there is no shortage of work left to do. I step away from the Legislature not to stop the work, but to change the setting. Nature will be my table, where neighbors come together to build something much larger than any one of us alone. I hope you'll join me there.

Through the fall, you can connect with me at Stacy.Brenner@legislature.maine.gov or (207) 287-1515. And thereafter, I hope to see you in the woods at Broadturn Farm. I am always here to help, as your senator for now and your neighbor for good.

Sen. Brenner is serving her last term in the state legislature and has represented the towns of Gorham and Scarborough.

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,

Gorham's waterfront is no longer hidden! Unlike neighboring Scarborough, Standish and Windham, with sandy but crowded beaches, we have a GEM at our Shaw Park. No traffic, fees to pay or hordes of people munching on fries. In my memory early public access to this wooded area on the Presumpscot River was Gambo Road off Route 237. In 2006 Shaw Brothers donated and built an all-new recreation park open to all.

A recent wheeled ride over a paved path reminded me how well this popular park is now used. In addition to walkers there were bicycles, pedaled and electric assisted, ponytailed mommies running after three-wheeled strollers, tiny pink bikes with training wheels and short-leashed dogs. At the Gambo beach an owner was giving his scared pup a hands-on swim lesson.

Brave jumpers, including two gray-haired guys, were steeling themselves for the high dive off the railroad bridge. The river view took in colorful watercraft: canoes, kayaks, stand-up boards but no inner tubes. Apparently they don't make them today. Gorham Recreation had bussed in shrieking daycare kids who took over the beach picnic site.

My own "hike" (OK, grandson did the pushing) led through heavily wooded tunnel-like paths adjacent to the overgrown but still-in-place rails. The adjacent quarry was concealed by thick pine growth that had been purposely left and I appreciated that. There was no noise; the only hint of an industrial operation was a high sand-dune not unlike one in a Colorado park.

Many thanks to Presumpscot Regional Land Trust and Shaw Brothers for ensuring this beautiful spot is there for all to recreate in.

David Alexander, Gorham

To the Editor,

It is important to address the misinformed comments being directed relative to our opposition to the proposed Amazon project. The residents are absolutely not anti-Economic Development and this is not "NIMBYism." Hearing "You should have known better and got what you deserved buying next to an industrial park" from those, including some town officials and employees, that haven't taken the time to understand the history or the process is disturbing.

Properties were purchased more than 20 years ago, when the adjacent land was owned by the Rines family and Portland Water District. We were assured by builders who had discussions with the Rines family, and both realtors, we need not be concerned.

Fast forward 12 years to 2019 when the town hastily put together a referendum question to buy 141 acres, with little notice to the community, and subsequently passed with low voter turnout. Because we were angry, we asked to meet with the Town Manager. We were told our concerns were taken seriously, and we would be kept apprised of any major property developments. Our reassurance: "Isn't it better that the town owns the property than someone else?"

Now after 6 years, an NDA and Purchase and Sale agreement later, it is unveiled that one of the largest corporations in the world may build a substantial 24/7/365 complex directly abutting residential neighborhoods, with NO PUBLIC COMMENT allowed before a vote was taken. Councilors were given 2 hours with the P&S before voting.

We have every right to feel outraged and betrayed! The Town's goals, references to transparency and maintaining our village look and feel, give us reason to take offense to the comments. Call us NIMBYs if it makes you feel better, but please understand the history and the actions/inactions taken that brought us to this point.

Dana Burleigh, Gorham

To the Editor,

A small, but very vocal group in opposition to the Amazon Project in Gorham has been getting a great deal of press coverage in recent weeks. I support the project, and believe I am part of a silent majority who welcome Amazon to Gorham.

In the next five years, over 1,000 housing units will be built in our town. What impact will these homes have on our schools, municipal services, property taxes?

Here Comes Amazon. They will pay the town $4 million for the property. Then, on an ongoing basis, they will be paying property taxes, business property taxes, excise taxes, etc. I don't know how much that will be, but I would guess it would exceed the property taxes paid by hundreds of homes.

Unlike hundreds of housing units, Amazon will have no impact on our schools. They will have minimal, if any, impact on municipal services. If we say no to Amazon, what message will this send to other businesses who might consider locating in Gorham? It's time for our town to be business friendly and approve Amazon joining our town.

Lee Cyr, Gorham

Continued on Page 3

Gorham Times

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Upcoming Advertising Deadlines
September 2
September 16
September 30

Robie Park Ribbon Cutting

Gorham Times Staff

Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

CAPTION: On Aug. 11 Suzanne Phillips cut the opening day ribbon for the new phase one of the new and improved Robie Park. Fellow Town Councilors and members of the Robie Park Planning Committee joined her as children frolicked on the new playground equipment, not paying any attention to the activities but more concerned with all the fun activities.

How Well Do You Know Roundabouts?

Trevor Basner, *Staff Writer*

Here's a fact many drivers don't know: studies comparing intersections and roundabouts have found that roundabouts reduce fatal crashes by as much as 90%. This is because roundabouts force slower speeds and prevent dangerous "T-bone" collisions. Although they may seem slower, roundabouts often move traffic more effectively, and with more fuel efficiency, than standard intersections. Roundabouts are common around Gorham, yet many drivers have unanswered questions on how to navigate through the circle. Luckily, the Maine rules on roundabouts are straightforward.

A driver about to enter a roundabout must yield to a vehicle already within the circle. Many drivers nowadays seem to think "yield" means "speed up." All drivers should know "yield" means to grant another vehicle the right of way. Drivers should slow down as they approach the circle, but need not come to a complete stop if the way is completely clear.

Once inside the circle, drive only to the right of the center island. Do not drive over the center island. Trailers and semi-trailers have an exemption and may travel over the center island, so long as the towing vehicle itself does not travel over the center island.

How far can you travel in the outside lane of the roundabout? Passing one exit is allowed, passing two exits is forbidden. But don't change lanes just to catch your exit point. Once you enter the traffic circle, stay in your lane. Signs will indicate which lane leads to which exit, so be sure to get in the proper lane when you enter the circle.

Don't forget: when exiting the roundabout, be sure to use your blinker; this helps waiting drivers enter the circle safely and prevents unnecessary delays.

Follow these steps to keep all drivers moving safely and efficiently around Gorham.

Letters Continued from Page 2

To The Editor:

I've been thinking about the impact of the proposed Amazon Distribution Center coming to Gorham. I was reflecting on the back-up safety beepers that all trucks have now, and what it would be like to be neighboring the vicinity of Amazon, hearing those sounds going off all hours of the day and night as trucks and big semis back up and move around the parking areas. I also wonder about the nighttime operating and security lighting at the facility, and the impact of non-stop glowing on the area's ecosystem and neighborhoods. I certainly know the smell and noise of idling vehicles that are stopped in the already backed up traffic that hits Gorham center and beyond each weekday. It happens at least twice a day, morning and mid-to-late afternoon, as drivers are either trying to get to work or to get back home again. Already it doesn't matter which approach you are taking to get through the village, as it impacts nearby secondary roads as well as Routes 202, 25 and 114. Amazon trucks likely won't want to sit in stopped traffic either, or hit all the signal lights en route if they are coming from Westbrook or the highway. I suspect they will eventually opt to find alternative back roads and shortcuts that will end up being more expedient for them and more problematic for residents.

Now that there's no spur to get to and from the highway, Amazon's presence might cause Gorham council members to open that issue back up for debate. I hope not. The traffic surge could likely warrant it, and Amazon and the town might already have that in the back of their minds if Amazon gets approved, grows, and expands into the future.

I don't want to be driven out of my home. Amazon will completely change the culture and direction of this town, turning it into an industrial hub. Is that Gorham's long-range plan? And I've never seen my taxes go down as a result of big business or industry coming to town. Have you?

Donna Waterman, Gorham

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First Steps After a Commercial Property Loss

Ethan Johnson, *Contributing Writer*

The first 24 hours after a fire, severe storm, burst pipe or other property loss are crucial and can disrupt business operations in an instant. While the damage itself may be unavoidable, the actions taken immediately after can significantly influence the claims process and the speed of recovery. By responding promptly and documenting the situation carefully, businesses can help protect both their property and their insurance claim. Here are a few helpful tips when it comes to managing a commercial property loss.

Prioritize safety. Before entering a damaged building, ensure that it is safe. Structural damage, gas leaks, electrical hazards or other dangerous conditions should be evaluated by emergency responders or utility providers before anyone enters the property. If the loss involves theft or vandalism, contact law enforcement immediately. A police report is often required when filing an insurance claim for these types of losses.

Notify your insurance company. Commercial property policies generally require losses to be reported as soon as possible. Prompt notification allows the insurer to begin investigating the claim and assigning an adjuster. When reporting the loss, be prepared with the following: your policy number, the date and time of the loss, and a brief description of what happened. Avoid estimating repair costs or speculating about the cause until professionals have completed their assessments.

Document the damage. Before cleaning up or making repairs, thoroughly document the damage. Take photographs and videos of affected areas, equipment, inventory and structural damage. Time-stamped images provide valuable evidence during the claims process. It is also important to do the following: 1) preserve damaged property whenever possible until the adjuster has inspected it; 2) keep a written log of damage, conversations and actions taken; 3) gather preloss photos, inspection records and maintenance documentation; and 4) save receipts for emergency repairs and mitigation expenses. Good documentation often helps prevent disputes and supports a faster settlement.

Prevent additional damage. Insurance policies typically require policyholders to take reasonable steps to prevent further loss. Temporary measures may include boarding broken windows, tarping damaged roofs, shutting off utilities or removing standing water. These actions help reduce additional damage while preserving the property for inspection. Keep receipts for any emergency expenses, as these costs may be reimbursable under your policy.

Track business interruptions. If operations are interrupted, begin documenting the financial impact immediately. Record canceled orders, lost sales, extra operating expenses and payroll impacts. Maintaining accurate financial records will help support any business income claim covered under your policy.

Recovering from a commercial property loss begins long before disaster strikes. Working with knowledgeable insurance professionals can help your business understand its property coverage, strengthen loss control efforts and prepare for future incidents. Contact your local independent agent today to learn more about protecting your business and ensuring you have coverage that meets your organization's unique needs.

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.

Tomato or Tomahto

Bruce Webb, *Contributing Writer*

This phrase from a Gershwin tune distills the challenges we face in today's highly partisan world that governs our shared social, political and cultural experiences. A central cause of our division is that each of us is a unique individual with a different world view. We see things through our own personal lens. While we may share and overlap with others, each of us is unique in how we combine these perspectives. Contributing to these differing outlooks is the fact that we interpret the world in infinitely complex patterns, influenced by a multitude of varying factors of importance to each of us as individuals:

Genetics - Our genetic building blocks form our brain structure, hormones, neurons and functions that help determine our perspectives.

Family - Family dynamics powerfully mold our world view at a very young age.

Culture - The cultural milieu that envelops us impacts our cognitive functions and perception.

Political affiliation - We are often guided by the beliefs and values of a political party.

Faith tradition - Faith affiliations contribute to our moral foundation and guide our perceptions of reality.

Economic level - Everyone's economic profile is different and is a powerful determinant to shaping one's outlook.

Education - Educational experience is a strong contributor to our values.

Media access - At a time when we can select a media source that reinforces our individual values and beliefs, it is easy to ignore different viewpoints.

Recent academic polls reveal that Americans are becoming more polarized than at any time in our history and far more divided than other wealthy countries. The anger, division, chaos and exhaustion characterizing our current experience cannot continue if we are to live in a modern, well-functioning country. The question is, can we listen to the better angels of our nature and create a landscape that centers on finding common ground? This challenge seems daunting but should be tempered by the realization that most of us want the same things in life and share mostly common goals.

Some suggestions for addressing the extreme partisanship and divisions might include:

Take a risk - Initiate an encounter with someone who has a different view from your own. You might find that you have more in common than anticipated.

Talk less and listen more. It's hard to understand another person's perspective when you are busy formulating your rebuttal. Active listening is a difficult and exhausting exercise but might enhance your understanding of an alternate viewpoint.

Avoid persuasion - Others are just as convinced of their beliefs as you are and persuasion is seldom successful in altering behavior.

Be kind - Make an effort to practice kindness in your everyday life and be mindful of the old adage "what goes around comes around."

Practice respect - Recognize the humanity of a person who disagrees with you.

Good ideas - Be mindful that no one has a monopoly on the good ideas.

Focus on facts - Try to dig deep for the truth supported by evidence, facts and data.

Expand news sources - Consult a variety of news sources to understand views that differ from your own.

The extreme partisanship that we all experience is not good for us and is contrary to what most of us want or support. Rather than entrench into our own narrow worlds, we need to seek interactions with those who may hold different beliefs and try to understand a different world view. Be an advocate for reducing the divisions we now experience and hopefully, we can evolve to a less dysfunctional world that aligns more closely with our collective values.

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

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Solution On Page 11

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Ordinance Committee Meeting

Sally Fay, *Staff Writer*

The Town's Ordinance Committee met on Monday, Aug. 10, at the Gorham Municipal Center, with all three members present.

The committee continued to discuss a proposed ordinance to implement rent stabilization of mobile home parks of 100-plus units. The issue was opened for public comment at the meeting and two members of the public offered observations about the proposed ordinance. After additional discussion, the committee agreed to bring the proposed ordinance to the full Town Council for further discussion and possible amendments.

The committee also reviewed an amendment to Gorham's Land Use and Development Code to restrict large-scale data centers. The proposed amendment would add a formal definition of "data center" to the Land Use Code but would not list it as a permitted use in any zoning district, effectively prohibiting large data centers town-wide. The committee passed a motion to send the proposed data center prohibition ordinance to the Town Council for review (3 Ayes).

The committee also addressed the issue of updating standards for sidewalks, and agreed to proceed with a review of the current standards and consider potential amendments to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Full Ordinance Committee meeting agendas and minutes can be found at https://www.gorham-maine.gov/ordinance-committee.

LETTUCE BE HEALTHY

Blistered-Tomato Pasta Salad With Basil

Barbara Schneider, *Contributing Writer*

- 1 lb dried pasta, such as fusilli bucatini or regular fusilli
- 6 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided, plus more for drizzling
- 8 medium cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 2 pints mixed cherry and/or grape tomatoes
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 15-20 basil leaves, torn
- 3/4 pound fresh mozzarella, cut into 1/2-inch cubes (optional)

In a pot of salted boiling water, cook pasta until very tender throughout, 2 to 3 minutes longer than al dente stage according to package. Drain in a colander, then chill under cold running water. Let drain well, then drizzle lightly with olive oil and toss to coat. Set aside.

Meanwhile, in a medium skillet, heat 3 tablespoons olive oil with garlic over medium heat until garlic begins to sizzle lightly. Increase heat to high and add tomatoes. Cook, tossing frequently, until tomato skins split, burst, and release some juices, about 5 minutes; you can gently press on some of the tomatoes with a wooden spoon to help them along, but avoid mashing them. Season with salt and pepper.

In a large bowl, toss pasta with tomatoes, garlic, and their sauce, along with the remaining 3 tablespoons olive oil and basil. Season with salt and pepper. Once cooled, add mozzarella, if using, and toss to combine. Serve at room temperature, adding additional olive oil as necessary to refresh noodles. Pasta salad can be made up to one day in advance without basil and kept refrigerated; return to room temperature, toss in basil, and refresh with more olive oil before serving.

Serves 6 to 8

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

August Trash Collection Transition Updates

Kelly Meslin, *Gorham Public Works*

Road evaluations are under way. Once they are complete, there will be communication from Town staff and/or Casella regarding placement of cans on private roads, roads with parking and any other extenuating circumstances.

Tags are required to be used until the transition with mechanical collection begins. Bags without tags will not be collected.

We will begin to deplete vendors of their trash tag supplies. Trash tags will be available at all municipal buildings (Town Hall, Public Works, Baxter Library) once vendors are out. Area Hannafords, Plummers Ace, North Windham Shaws, and Market Basket all currently have tag inventory.

There will be no way to reimburse/refund unused tags. Residents should purchase tags on an as-needed basis.

Roll-off containers will be available for a short window during cart delivery for disposal of Gorham residents' old trash cans and recycle bins. The containers will be located at Gorham Public Works, 80 Huston Road, during our business hours Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. This will be approximately 2 weeks. After this period, residents can dispose of their old containers at Riverside Recycling or Casella Transfer Station for a fee.

Please stay tuned for an informational mailer that will go out to residents in the coming week regarding the switch to mechanical arm and changes to come with the new collection style. Residents whose trash day is changing will receive this communication first.

Carts are scheduled to arrive the week of Aug. 17 and the team will begin delivering on Aug. 24. They will be assembled and delivered (typically based on route number) by Rehrig and a team from Public Works. Residents whose trash day is changing will receive their carts first.

Collection will begin on Monday, Sept. 14 (Friday, Sept. 11 for the residents with a collection day change) barring any unforeseen circumstances.

Every eligible residence will receive 65-gallon carts. They measure 26 x 27.8 x 41.2 inches. Residents will receive two carts, one for trash and one for recycling. All trash must be in the carts. Trash left outside the carts will not be collected.

A brochure and welcome letter will be attached to the carts for delivery. It will include app information, holiday schedule, recycling information, a placement guide and an FAQ section.

An updated route list and map (to include any changes) will be added to the Town webpage in the coming days.

During the initial implementation, there will not be an option for different size carts or additional carts. Every eligible household will receive two 65-gallon carts to start.

If you have questions about the transition, please call the Public Works office at (207) 222-4950 or email us at dpw@gorham.me.us

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57 GREAT FALLS ROAD	MCDONNELL BROTHERS CUSTOM BUILDERS, LL	KRISTOFER DERIK DEHAAN	1,230,726.00
91 SOUTH STREET	KATHY L. POWELL	91 SOUTH STREET, LLC	1,200,000.00
49 HARTS WAY	ROBIN L CONROE	MOLLY CUTRIGHT	1,080,000.00
168 HARDING BRIDGE ROAD	KATIE M. SHAUGHNESSY	MICHELLE L. COTE-BRZOZA	975,000.00
32 SPILLER ROAD	HEATHER GAUDREAU	ANNETTE M. CIVIELLO	974,000.00
296 MAIN STREET	ESTATE OF DORALYN R. ROBERTS	PATRICK EDWARD LYNN	795,000.00
27 TOWN COMMON	BAY FAMILY TRUST	JOSEPH A. ALIZIO	780,000.00
35 BARSTOW ROAD	SCOTT D. CHASSE	GARRETT FILLEBROWN	755,000.00
176 WEEKS ROAD	NIKOLE C. CLOUGH	HEATHER E. SIMMONDS	750,000.00
11 CARNATION DRIVE	KATHRYN NORTON	RAYMOND W. SCHUTTE	730,000.00
17 SHIERS MEADOW DRIVE	MEGHAN DUQUETTE	DEREKA COYNE	730,000.00
139 HARDING BRIDGE ROAD	SHELLY E. STEWART	NANCY K. ACHORN	710,000.00
81 QUEEN STREET	MICHELLE MARIE CHAISSON	ALIM QAJALLIU	705,000.00
282 SOUTH STREET	CHRISTOPHER S. WAGNER	KEVIN FRANCIOSE	700,000.00
36 VILLAGE WOODS CIRCLE	BRIAN P. RANCOURT	JUSTIN RALPH ORTELL	675,000.00
6 SAMUELS WAY	DENNIS CROWE	BRIAN SING	670,000.00
708 FORT HILL ROAD	KRISTOFER DERIK DEHAAN	DIANA DIXON	665,000.00
146 FALCON CREST DRIVE, UNI	BARRY A. COLLINS	ANNE V. CAMPBELL	665,000.00
37 WEEKS ROAD	DAVID S. KUCZEWSKI	SARAH F. SMALL	660,000.00
21 FAIRWAY COMMON DRIVE	FAIRWAY COMMONS LLC	BRITTANY O'HORA	655,000.00
252 OSSIPEE TRAIL	BROOKE A. BILLING	DOG HOUSE ENTERPRISES LLC	655,000.00
22 WOODS EDGE DRIVE	PAMELA F. WARK	THE LEO JOHN KELLER II AND DEBC	645,000.00
195 FALCON CREST DRIVE #34	COTTAGE ADVISORS ME, LLC	ROGER SLAYTON	631,900.00
14 HILLVIEW ROAD	KATHERINE HILL RENGA	BRIAN E. CRONIN	627,000.00
193 FALCON CREST DRIVE	COTTAGE ADVISORS ME, LLC	ROBERT DANA	626,900.00
8 ELLIOTT ROAD	KELI-RAE L. O'KEEFE	ALEXIS BARLOW	620,000.00
15 DOGWOOD LANE	WHITNEY L. GLENCROSS	KATHARINE R. DUCHETTE	599,000.00
166 FALCON CREST DRIVE	PHILIP R. AFTHIM	PAMELA A. MERCIER	593,000.00
16 RICHARD ROAD	ANN M. SMITH	ATHENA PERRY	590,000.00
29 BAXTER LANE	J. BROWN INVESTMENTS, LLC	ROEBUCK HOLDINGS, LLC	575,000.00
77 WOOD ROAD	BARBARA A. MARTIN	ALBERT J. BRACUTI JR. LIVING TRU	568,000.00
12 NATALEE DRIVE	DANIEL THEBERGE	DIANE L. BROWN	556,000.00
24 SHYANNE'S WAY	CYNTHIA M. CAMPBELL	JENNIFER DENNISE SANCHEZ	555,000.00
32 WAGNER FARM ROAD	SHEYLA KROLIKOWSKI	MICHELLE ROBERTS	550,000.00
370 MAIN STREET	DEANNA KIZER	ALEXANDRA M. SCOTT	510,000.00
10 STANDISH NECK ROAD	CHELSEA E. DIAMOND	KIRSTEN L. DESILETS	510,000.00
32 LAWN AVENUE	BARBARA J. YANKOWSKY	VICKIE MARIE THIELE	476,000.00
20 WILLOWDALE DRIVE	NANCY D. FRIE	PETER Q. NGUYEN	475,000.00
17 CHRISTOPHER ROAD	RHIANON ELERI SWAN	ROBERT GREELEY	466,000.00
42 NARRAGANSETT STREET	MARIA C. MCINNIS	KENNETH COLES	460,000.00
50 CANAL STREET	RONALD HENRI ST. JOHN	JUAN MOLINA	437,000.00
37 GREAT FALLS ROAD	ALICIA H. STONE	ALICIA H. STONE	432,800.00
36 MEADOWBROOK DRIVE	MAUREEN MCMANUS	THE REBECCA FOREMAN JANJIC TR	400,000.00
151 MAIN STREET	ESTATE OF CHRISTINE F. SAWYER	PONET MEAS	360,000.00
9B BURNHAM ROAD	FIVE STAR HOLDINGS, LLC	LOGIE BEAR HOLDING LLC	214,000.00
37 GREAT FALLS ROAD	ALICIA H. STONE	ALICIA H. STONE	49,500.00

SCHOOL

Bell to Bell Program in the Gorham Schools

Gorham Times Staff

Beginning this school year, the Gorham Schools will implement a new Cell Phone and Other Personal Electronic Devices policy, as required of all school districts, by Maine state law.

The complete policy is available on the district website and will be clearly outlined in each school's Student/Family Handbook. The basic expectation is that student cell phones should not be visible or used from the opening bell to the closing bell.

In the elementary schools, students are encouraged to leave cell phones at home, as in past years. At GMS and GHS, students may bring phones to school and use them on the bus, before the opening bell, and after the closing bell. During the school day, however, phones must remain off and away, not visible, and not distracting to the learning environment.

GMS and GHS administration will provide students and families with specific procedures for implementing and enforcing these expectations as the school year begins.

Families are encouraged to talk with their children, especially middle and high school students, about this new expectation regarding cell phones and personal electronic devices. It is important to help them understand the "why" behind the policy. The schools want students focused on learning, engaged with their teachers, and building face-to-face relationships with peers that are such an important part of the school experience and future success.

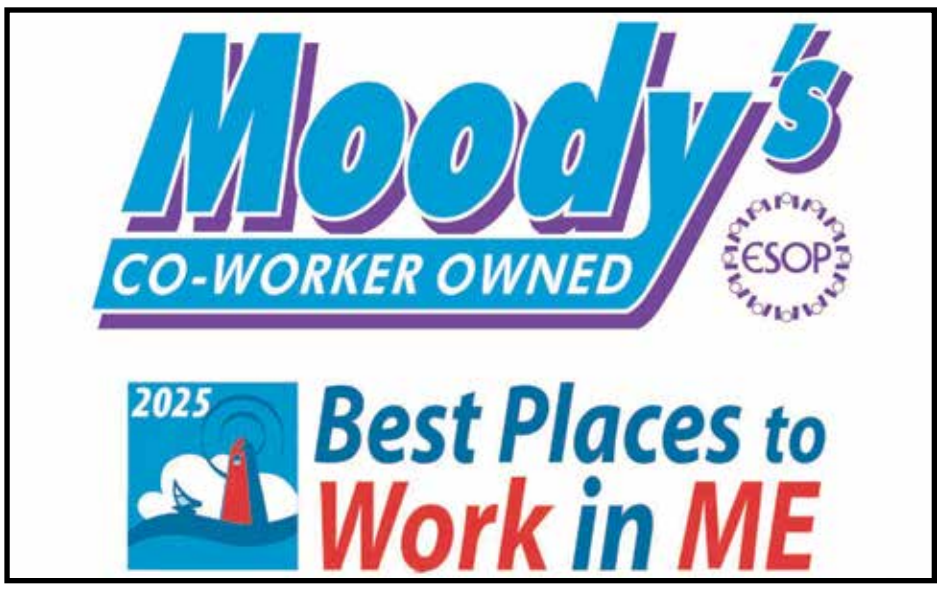
Schoolhouse Continued from Page 1

Mary Hanscome, owner of Parker Preschool and founder of the HOPP Hope Fund, had this to say about the project: "There is something incredibly special about watching an old schoolhouse become a school again more than a century after it was built. For me, there's also a very personal connection to this building. My grandfather attended school here sometime in the 1950s. My mother remembers attending Halloween parties here that were sponsored by USM. And I attended preschool here myself in the early 1980s. To now be the person bringing children back through these doors feels like one of those rare full-circle moments in life."

An Open House is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 30, and the team is working hard to reach that goal.

There is a very tight deadline, and after everything discovered during construction, the project is significantly over the original budget. Over the next couple of weeks, they are asking anyone who believes in what they're creating to help however they can, whether that's volunteering a few hours, sharing the schoolhouse's story, or donating to The HOPP Hope Fund to help get the project across the finish line. "Some of the children who attended HOPP at our former Huston Road location are even planning lemonade stands, with the proceeds going to The HOPP Hope Fund. This is a wonderful example of what this project has become: children helping build something for the children who will come after them," says Hanscome.

"This little schoolhouse has already lived a lot of life and impacted many children and their families, and we're working incredibly hard to make sure its next chapter continues that legacy."



Superintendent Perry Provides Opening-of-Schools Information

Michael Lortie, *School News Editor*

Recently Heather Perry, Gorham Schools superintendent, shared a welcome back letter to parents and family members about the upcoming school year. She included numerous topics of interest, including the following:

IMPORTANT OPENING DATES

August 26: First day for grades Pre-K, 6, and 9

August 27: First day for grades 1–5, 7–8, and 10–12

September 1: First day for Kindergarten (following screenings and placements)

September 7: No School — Labor Day

Kindergarten families should contact their child's school for a Kindergarten screening time if not yet confirmed:

Great Falls: 222-1050

Narragansett: 222-1295

Village: 222-1300

TRANSPORTATION: BUS ROUTES ARE MOVING TO BUSRIGHT

Bus routes will not be published in the Gorham Times as they have been in years past. All route information will instead be available through the BusRight app. If you have not yet received an invitation to download the BusRight app, please contact the Transportation Office at 222-4925 or email transportation director Mitzii Smith at mitzii.smith@gorhamschools.org As with every new school year, bus routes may take a little time to settle into their regular schedules. During the first week or two of school, please:

Have students at their bus stop at least 15 minutes early in the morning.

Anticipate that afternoon drop-offs may occasionally run 20–30 minutes later than expected.

Please be patient as our drivers and transportation staff work to establish consistent routines.

Route times should be relatively consistent after the first three weeks of school. For transportation questions, contact the Transportation Office.

SCHOOL START AND END TIMES

Great Falls, Narragansett, and Village: 8:50 a.m., 3:10 p.m.

Gorham Middle School: 8:00 a.m., 2:20 p.m.

Gorham High School: 7:50 a.m., 2:10 p.m.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FREE/REDUCED MEAL FORM, EVERY FAMILY, EVERY YEAR!

As the school year begins, families will receive a variety of important forms to complete. One of the most important is the Free/Reduced Meal Application, and we strongly encourage EVERY Gorham family to complete it even if you feel that your family does not qualify. This is very important because our Free and Reduced eligibility rate is tied to state subsidies. Completing these forms matters, not just for individual families, but for our entire school community. When every family completes the form, we help ensure that eligible families receive the benefits available to them, reduce the stigma sometimes associated with applying, and provide the district with more accurate information that can directly impact school funding.

Applications are processed confidentially by one designated district employee, and individual family information is protected.

NEW STUDENT/FAMILY AI HANDBOOK

There is a new Student/Family AI Handbook that was rolled out to families at the end of our last school year, explaining how AI will be used in our schools. There is much information in the handbook that is available on the school website.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

If you ever have questions, please encourage your child to talk directly to their teachers or reach out to teachers directly yourself. We are always happy to assist.

Our strong connection with families and community members is one of the things that makes Gorham special. Every year we have over 1,000 people volunteer across our schools in various ways. There are many ways to get involved, including:

1) Join your school's Partners in Education (PIE) group. Contact your school office to learn more about getting involved.

2) Volunteer in our schools. Visit the Gorham Schools website, select "Human Resources" and then "VolunteerProgram" to register.

Registration is required whether you plan to volunteer once, occasionally, or throughout the year, and the process is quick and easy.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT EVERY AGE!

Regular attendance is one of the most powerful ways families can support student success.

Missing just two days of school each month, regardless of the reason, can add up quickly and negatively impact academic progress. Strong attendance matters from the development of early literacy skills all the way through high school graduation. A new school year provides an opportunity to establish strong habits and routines from the very beginning. School matters. Being present matters. Every day matters.

Thank you for helping us reinforce that important message with your children!

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION FROM YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

Families should expect additional communications from your child's school and/or teachers over the next few weeks with more specific information about opening days, schedules, classroom assignments, handbooks, and other important details.

If you have not received additional school-specific communication by August 19, please contact your child's school:

Great Falls: 222-1050

Narragansett: 222-1295

Village: 222-1300

Gorham Middle School: 222-1220

Gorham High School: 222-1100

Summer Baseball Continued from Page 1

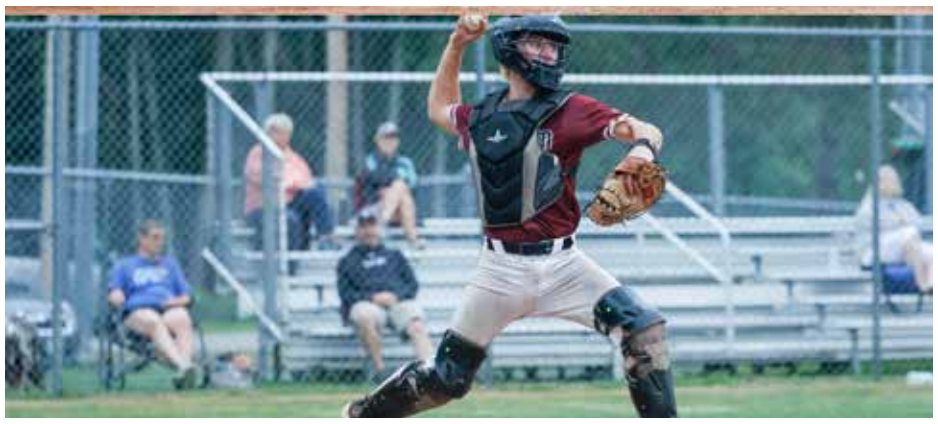


Photo Credit: Ali Pennell

Cooper Whitehead with a throw down to second this summer

Other key players returning are Sawyer Smith (clutch outfielder) and Bennett Deveaux (utility infielder and pitcher). Miles Brenner and Wyatt Washburn graduated this past June and will be moving on but were key players in the past championship runs. Both Brenner and Washburn will be taking their talent to the next level: Brenner is a Wheaton College commit and Washburn is a Colby College recruit. Hunter Finck (Jr) was named Varsity Maine Player of the Year and Miles Brenner (Sr) and Finck were both named to the All-State team.

According to Maine Lightning's Instagram page, Finck won the 2026 Gatorade Maine Baseball Player of the Year and the Alabama commit is widely regarded as one of the most dominant hitters in the state. His power routinely translates seamlessly from aluminum to the wooden bats of the summer circuit.

Congratulations to all of the Rams players who were a part of the championship teams.

Gorham Educators Business Tour Continued from Page 1

Photo Credit: Jonathan Wilcox

Ed Montalvo, President of Montalvo Corporation, explains to Gorham School Department teachers the manufacturing processes that his company uses to create safety and tensioning parts.

opment director, welcomed participants and gave them an overview of the business landscape in Gorham and Southern Maine.

As they boarded the bus provided by Custom Coach of New England, educators completed a survey and provided baseline data on their beliefs and understanding of the connections between their classrooms and businesses. They traveled in comfort to the Route 202 rotary and Harvey Performance, where they were met by general manager Adam Martin and his team. There they learned about the growing international business that is Harvey Performance; the various jobs, skills, training opportunities and processes that go into their precision tools; and what really exists inside the massive structure most had seen, but none had entered.

Back onto the buses, the group traveled back to the Gorham Industrial Park to tour businesses in the creative economy space. Half were dropped off at Flowfold, while the second group visited Transformit.

Transformit owner Cindy Thompson and her staff shared the art and science of the fabric installations created and shipped around the globe as art or display pieces in businesses and public spaces, while Flowfold's production manager Jonathan Eller and founder Charlie Friedman showed off their shop, which designs, sews and ships high-quality wallets, bags, dog leashes and collars, all made out of repurposed materials and a fabric that is created from recycled plastic bottles.

The groups next visited two more technical manufacturing businesses in the Gorham Industrial Park: ODAT by Howell Labs, and Montalvo Corporation.

Ed Montalvo, president of Montalvo Corporation, an 80-year-old family business that makes tensioning systems and components used by industries that require rolling and unrolling of materials, asked his team to talk about the academic and interpersonal skills they seek in employees. At ODAT, their team introduced educators to the concept of "employee owned businesses", and how advanced manufacturing, including precision CNC machining, injection molding and engineering come together to create products for industries including aerospace, defense, optics, and semiconductors.

The group returned to a lunch-and-learn presentation at Nappi Distributors, where general manager Sean Connell discussed the logistics, skills and training opportunities within his organization before they toured the massive facility.

To end the whirlwind day, Sebago Brewing Company hosted an optional stop for all participants, where they were prepared to talk about the many roles within the service industry and the opportunities and skills they provide.

Upon reflection, many of the educators left excited and inspired by the connections they saw to their content, classroom and students. Whether it was the much-sought-after interpersonal skills; communication, math, science and technology connections; or the creative applications for artistic expression, all participants walked away with new learning and ideas, ready to inspire their students.

Gorham Welcomes New Teachers

Gorham Times Staff

SYSTEM WIDE:
Rosemarie Dyer — Assistant Director of Special Services
Erin Molloy — School Psychologist

GREAT FALLS SCHOOL:
Sarah Chant — Grade 1 Teacher
Sean Fitzsimons — SPED Elementary Teacher
Sandra Muehle — Elementary Alternative Programming Teacher
Mattie Roy — Grade 1 Teacher

GORHAM HIGH SCHOOL:
Ted Becker — Science Teacher
Jill Hyland — Multilingual Teacher
Paul Lamson-LaPlume — Math Teacher
Samuel Lenson — Physical Education Teacher

GORHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL:
Halle Chase — ELA/Social Studies Grade 8 Teacher
Pal Covie — School Counselor
Gabrielle Culotta — Social Studies - Grade 7 Teacher
Kyle Hanson — SPED Behavior Teacher
Emily Labbe — ELA - 8th Grade Teacher
Andrea Logan — ELA/Social Studies - Grade 6 Teacher
Collin Magarian — Math/Science-Grade 6 Teacher
Mary Fagan Murphy — Math Lab / Math Interventionist
Luke Schultz — Music Band Teacher

NARRAGANSETT SCHOOL:
Brandi Comeau — Elementary Alternative Programming Teacher
Virginia Drew — Grade 5 Teacher
Shari Edgecomb — Grade 1 Teacher
Kayla Fotheringham — SPED FLS Teacher
Sarah Little — Preschool SPED Teacher/Case Manager
Ashley Peterson — Kindergarten Teacher
Tareyn Prince — Speech Pathologist (Pre-K)

VILLAGE SCHOOL:
Jennifer Baker — Assistant Principal
Lexi Caddell — Elementary Alternative Programming Teacher
Cheryl Fotter — Principal
Megan McLaughlin — Grade 2 Teacher
Rachel Watson — Social Worker
Cadence Whitehouse — SPED Behavior Teacher

Welcome New Gorham Schools Teachers and Staff

Gorham MAINE

Upcoming Meetings

9/1 Regular Town Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
9/9 School Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

BUSINESS AND THE ARTS

Kathy Garrard Joins USM Board of Visitors

Marissa Bodnar, *Contributing Writer/USM*

Photo Credit: Courtesy of Kathy Garrard

Kathy Garrard joins the USM Board of Visitors

Katherine "Kathy" Garrard, a former editor in chief of the Gorham Times, recently joined the University of Southern Maine's Board of Visitors (BOV) following confirmation of her appointment by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees on July 13.

About the appointment, Garrard said, "I am honored to join the University of Southern Maine Board of Visitors and grateful to President Edmondson for this opportunity. I look forward to contributing to the Board's mission of strengthening connections between the university and the broader community and provide a Gorham perspective to help ensure the voice and interested of the community are part of the conversation. USM is an extraordinary asset to Maine, and its Gorham campus plays a vital role in the town's economic vitality, cultural life, and sense of community."

The Board of Visitors is a group of community volunteers who advise and support USM on a range of issues and initiatives. Members serve as ambassadors for the University, help strengthen community connections, and provide perspective on regional needs and opportunities.

Garrard brings extensive experience in communications and stakeholder relations, with a career focused on helping organizations build relationships, engage their communities, and communicate effectively. She is also deeply connected to Gorham, where she has lived for 35 years. She and her husband, Steve, raised their three daughters in the community they continue to call home.

Garrard is the co-founder and president of the Gorham Village Alliance, supporting efforts to promote a vibrant downtown and strong local business community. Her longtime involvement in Gorham, along with her professional experience building partnerships and connections, will bring a valuable local perspective to the board and help strengthen the relationship between USM and its host community.

Garrard earned a bachelor's degree from Northeastern University and is a graduate of Leadership Maine, a statewide program that develops leaders committed to strengthening Maine's future.

USM President Jacqueline Edmondson shared the following comment: "We are absolutely thrilled to welcome Kathy Garrard to the University of Southern Maine's Board of Visitors. As a dedicated 35-year resident of Gorham, Kathy deeply understands the heart of our local community. Her background in stakeholder relations and her commitment to fostering collaboration make her an invaluable voice as we continue strengthening connections between USM and the communities we serve."

Gorham United Organizes Amazon Protest Event

John Ersek, *Staff Writer*

A gathering, at the site of Amazon's proposed distribution center on Rt. 25, was organized by Gorham United, a citizens organization. About fifty people took part in the event that took place on Saturday, Aug. 8.

Attendees spoke against the town council's 2025 decision to sell 94 acres to Amazon, and urged councilors to rescind the sale. A poster by members of Maine's Artist Rapid Response Team (ARRT), and was displayed throughout the day

Photo Credit: Katharine Atwood

People listen to speakers at the "Day on the Land" protest event on Saturday. Aug. 8.

Photo Credit: Katharine Atwood

"NO amazon" poster created by members of Maine's Artist Rapid Response Team (ARRT).

Photo Credit: Sasha Tycko

Council candidate Sam Purinton addresses attendees at the "Day on the Land" event

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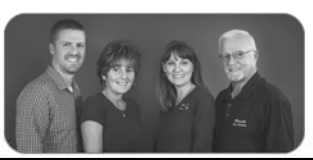
✓ Compare real-time offers side-by-side
✓ CascoFCU.com/Student-Loans

1 SUNSET LANE, GORHAM / $549,900
3 BEDROOM, 2.5 BATH



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OF INTEREST

Summer in Maine is beautiful and fleeting. There are only so many weekends before school starts, gas prices are still around $4/gallon, and planning around the changeable weather can be impossible. Presumpscot Regional Land Trust (PRLT) offers the perfect opportunity to have new adventures close to home that fit into and enrich people's everyday, busy lives. Now in its fourth year, PRLT's Summer Trail Challenge invites participants of all ages to visit trails throughout the land trust's Greater Portland preserves, tracking down signs and recording their journey in a passport that they then turn in for a prize. This year's Challenge shines a spotlight on little-known facts about the flora, fauna and geology of the area to learn about alewives, cover boards, field horsetails, and the ponds and rivers surrounding them. Participants find the signs featuring a fun fact and then record something they learned in their passport to prove they visited the location. The signs are located at six PRLT preserves: Black Brook Preserve and East Windham Conservation Area in Windham; Mill Brook Preserve and Rivermeadow Nature Preserve in Westbrook; Cummings Preserve in Gorham; and Steep Falls Village Preserve in Standish. PRLT collaborates with the towns to promote the event and help fund the materials necessary to put on the Challenge. The challenge runs through the end of August, with prize pick-up in September at REI Westbrook. To participate, sign up online at https://www.prlt.org/summer-trail-challenge-2026 where you can also get all the details about passport pick-up, prize collection, and the maps for each location. For more information about the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust visit their website at https://www.prlt.org/.

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension has launched Tractor Safety: Foundations, a self-paced online course that provides learners with the foundational knowledge needed to operate tractors and agricultural equipment more safely and confidently. Designed for beginning tractor operators, both youth and adult, the course expands access to critical safety training, particularly for those in regions of the state where in-person options are limited. The online format covers the same core curriculum as UMaine Extension's popular 5-week in-person program, but without the hands-on driving experience. For more information and to register, visit the Tractor Safety: Foundations course webpage at https://discover.maine.edu/product?catalog=Tractor_Safety_Foundation.

The Gorham Backpack program is collecting school supplies and pantry items. According to their recent Facebook post, "As our students head back to school, we want every single one of them to feel ready and supported. The good news is that school supplies for our elementary students have been donated. But right now, we have nothing for our middle and high school students in need, and the food closet at Gorham High School is completely empty. If you're able to help, we'd be so grateful for donations of school supplies for our middle and high schoolers, and food closet items to help restock GHS." Donations for Gorham may be dropped at the Middle School.

Donate blood at the American Red Cross Blood Drive at Gorham Central Fire Station. With the American Red Cross' declaration on July 27, 2026 of its second national blood crisis in its history, citizens can answer the call to help save lives by donating blood. All blood types are needed, although the need is dire for type O blood. Please consider donating at the American Red Cross' blood drive on Monday, Aug. 31, 2026 from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Gorham Maine Central Fire Station (270 Main Street) in the Meeting Room. To schedule an appointment for this blood drive, please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "GorhamFire" to schedule an appointment. Interested donors can streamline their donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/Rapid/Pass to complete a pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of a scheduled appointment.

Play Golf – Do Good! The 32nd Annual Rotary Classic Golf Tournament will be held on Monday Sept. 28, 2026 at Val Halla Golf & Recreation in Cumberland, ME. Thanks to many generous sponsors, Westbrook-Gorham Rotary Club Charities had a record-breaking tournament in 2025. Join the fun by entering your team or by becoming a Sponsor. Find more information at https://westbrookgorhamrotarygolf.org. Proceeds benefit Rotary's local high school and vocational scholarships; a 4-Day Rotary Youth Leadership camp each summer; Interact Clubs at Westbrook and Gorham High Schools; projects in literacy, fighting food insecurity, and supporting veterans; and other local community programs and causes in the Town of Gorham and City of Westbrook.

The Gorham St. Anne's Knights of Columbus will host its 4th annual 5K Race/Walk on Saturday, Oct. 10 at 9 a.m. at Shaw Cherry Hill Farm on Route 25 in Gorham. This year's goal is to raise $9,000 to benefit local food pantries. Proceeds will benefit the Gorham Food Pantry, Standish Food Pantry, Buxton Food Co-op, Buxton Community Cupboard, and the Sebago Warming Hut Food Pantry. The first 100 registrants will receive a T-shirt, and all participants will have breakfast and the chance to win prizes and awards in various best-of-age categories. Registration costs $25 per adult, or $15 for kids up to age 12. A special family rate of $60 for three or more registrations is also available. To register, visit www.gorhamknights.org/events/5k.

VFW Post 10879 thanks Gorham for its continued support of local veterans through donations and participation in Post fundraisers throughout the year. The success of these efforts would not be possible without the tremendous support of the people and businesses of Gorham, and the Post is proud of the relationship it has built with the community. Veterans who have served in foreign conflicts are invited to attend the Post's monthly meetings, held the second Tuesday of each month (Sept. 8) at 5:30 p.m. at the Gorham Fire Department, 270 Main Street, Gorham, ME 04038. Eligible veterans are encouraged to join for camaraderie, continued service, and the opportunity to connect with fellow combat veterans while supporting those who have served our nation. For questions, contact Jake Bauder, Quartermaster, at (207) 607-0370.

Metro Bus Offers New Tap-To-Ride Fare Payment Option. Riding the Metro bus is now easier! Greater Portland Metro has launched a new Tap-to-Ride fare payment option, allowing riders to tap their phone, Apple Watch, or credit card when boarding the bus.Smartcard and mobile app users should continue to use their DiriGo Pass for frequent riders benefits including fare capping and free transfers.Tap-to-Ride is ideal for infrequent riders taking single-leg trips who are not eligible for a reduced fare. All trips are charged the full base fare for the route being boarded. Visit the Greater Portland Metro's site for more information at https://www.gpmetro.org/trip-planning-online-fare-apps/#tab-taptoride.

PUBLIC SUPPERS

Living Waters Church is having a Haddock Supper Buffet on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 5:00 p.m. Suggested donation: $12 Adult, $5 Child, $24 Family. Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Takeout containers will be available.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Gorham Medical Closet is available to Gorham residents in need of medical equipment. The closet also accepts CLEAN donations. Wheelchairs, walkers, canes and scooters are just some of the items available. They are open Monday through Thursday by appointment only. Call Carol Robinson at (207) 400-7171 or Anne Murphy at (207) 671-5971 and they will assist you.

Continued on Page 10

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WINDHAM $349,900
Welcome to Windham Hill Woods, a well-established and desirable condominium community offering an exceptional combination of convenience, amenities and value. Ideally located on the south side of downtown Windham, this townhouse-style condo provides easy access to shopping, dining and area amenities while helping you avoid the traffic congestion found farther north. The thoughtfully designed floor plan offers comfortable living across three levels. The 1st floor features a granite kitchen, inviting living room with hardwood flooring, half bath and a sliding glass door leading to your private deck overlooking the wooded edge.

BUXTON $629,000
Set on a private 2.25-acre lot, this expansive 2,119 square foot ranch offers an exceptional blend of comfort, quality, and functionality, all designed for effortless one floor living. Tucked back from the road and surrounded by beautiful mature landscaping, the property provides a peaceful setting with a picturesque backyard to enjoy in every season. Inside, the thoughtfully designed layout features three bedrooms and two full bathrooms, including a convenient bathroom with laundry. Warm wood floors run throughout much of the home, adding character and continuity to the living spaces.

SEBAGO $545,000
A rare opportunity to own one of the Sebago's most recognizable mixed-use commercial properties! Home to Richards' Dairy Delight, a beloved local tradition since 1954, this high-visibility landmark has been serving generations of residents and visitors while enjoying a prime location in the heart of one of Maine's premier destinations. The first floor features a fully equipped, turnkey restaurant and ice cream business, w/ the business name & equipment conveying with the sale, allowing the next owner to continue its long-standing legacy or bring their own vision to this established location. An outstanding

BIDDEFORD $404,900
Prime investment opportunity in the heart of downtown Biddeford! Situated on a corner lot, this 2-unit property offers fantastic rental potential or an ideal owner-occupied setup. Unit 2 features a comfortable 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom layout, while Unit 1 provides a spacious 3-bedroom, 1-bathroom floor plan. Complete with a 2-car garage for off-street parking and extra storage space. Enjoy ultimate convenience just steps away from Biddeford's thriving food scene, craft breweries, shops, and revitalized Mill District. Bring your vision and capitalize on one of Southern Maine's fastest-growing downtown markets!

BUXTON $479,900
Set on a picturesque 3.31-acre lot with rolling lawn & classic New England charm, this timeless Buxton farmhouse offers the perfect blend of character, space, & versatility in a convenient location. A dedicated mudroom entry sets the tone for everyday living, leading into a warm and inviting interior. The family room with pellet stove provides a cozy gathering space, while the formal dining room and front parlor offer flexibility for entertaining or quiet relaxation. The kitchen is well-equipped with a gas cooktop, wall oven & its own pellet stove, creating a functional & comfortable home.

Julie Chandler

Mike Griffin

Peter Mason

Of Interest Continued from Page 9

The Mission of Hope Clothes Closet is open the first and third Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon at Cressey Road Christian Church on Cressey Road to anyone who needs clothing. The closet also takes donations of clean clothing, and now has all types and sizes of spring and summer clothing. Share a cup of coffee with the staff while you browse.

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

SENIOR NEWS

Gorham Seniors Co-op meets weekly at 34 School Street in Gorham, Mondays at 10 a.m. for "Games and Puzzles," and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. for "Coffee and Conversation." Seniors from Gorham and neighboring communities are welcome. For more information visit: https://www.gorhamarts.org/seniorscoop.

The Senior Meal Site at St. Anne's Church resumes for the season on Sept. 16 and will meet 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.

LIBRARY NEWS

Baxter Memorial Library - The Baxter House Museum is open through August on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Admission is free, but donations are accepted and encouraged. IT: Ask Me Anything! is held every Wednesday from 3 to 4:30 p.m. with Cody in the Schneider Room. Check the calendar in this issue for what's coming up at the library, or visit the library in person or online at https://baxterlibrary.org/events/ to see what's happening. Children under the age of 8 require adult supervision. 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.

North Gorham Public Library is hosting a free Chair Yoga Class on Saturday, Aug 29 from 9 - 10 a.m. Stay tuned for information about a 12-week class beginning in September. The library has a Story Hour for pre-schoolers throughout the summer. Every Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Claire Steeves reads a story and introduces the children to a fun, creative activity, a little music, and movement. The library also offers free one-day passes to the Portland Museum of Art for up to two adults and six children. Also available are free tickets to the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens again this year. Through Oct. 18, the library can provide tickets each day for two adults and up to 10 children (escorted by the adult(s). Come in or call (207) 892-2575, or email northgorhampl@gmail.com if you are interested. The NGPL supports North Gorham and Standish, and is open Monday 3 to 6 p.m, Tuesday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday closed, Saturday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday closed. Donate books anytime (please, no textbooks, encyclopedias, or Readers Digest condensed books). FMI: email libng@north-gorham.lib.me.us. Sign up for the library's email monthly newsletter: northgorhampl@gmail.com, or call (207) 892-2575. Check out What's Happening or the Events Calendar on their website, or their Facebook page for weekly updates.

Advertise your home business or yard sale with a classified ad. Only $9 per ad!

CALENDAR

Saturday, August 29
North Gorham Public Library, Free Chair Yoga Class, 9 - 10 a.m.

Monday, August 31
American Red Cross' blood drive, Gorham Fire Department, 270 Main Street, 1 - 6 pm

Tuesday, September 1
Baxter Memorial Library, French Language Discussion Group, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 2
Baxter Memorial Library, IT: Ask Me Anything!, 3 p.m

Thursday, September 3
Baxter Memorial Library, Trustee Meeting, 6 p.m.

Monday, September 7
The Public Works office and garage will be closed for Labor Day. There will be no changes to the trash collection schedule the week of September 7.

Tuesday, September 8
Baxter Memorial Library, Toddler and Family Storytime, 10 a.m.
Westbrook-Gorham Rotary, lunch meeting, Westbrook Regional Vocational Center, 11:30 a.m.
VFW Post 10879, monthly meeting, Gorham Fire Department, 270 Main Street, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 9
Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Storytime, 9:30 a.m.
Baxter Memorial Library, IT: Ask Me Anything!, 3 p.m.

CLASSIFIEDS

Pampered care for petite paws for small dogs in our home. Just like your home you can travel rest assured that your pup will have lots of love, socialization and be safe. At our cozy haven your pup becomes a cherished member of our pack without the use of gates or crates. With a spacious fenced in backyard and dog proof interior we ensure a safe and comfortable environment. 21 years and insured. Dog walks weather permitting and if pup enjoys. We also offer day care on Tuesday and Wednesday. Many dogs need socialization time - call or text Lorie Webber (207) 838-0132. http://www.smalldogscare.com/

Get your home ready for Summer by using our "Summer Painting Special." We will paint any 4 rooms for you (up to 12'X15' each). Walls receive two coats of Sherwin-Williams Paint. 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.

16-20 hrs/week Custodial position at First Parish Congregational. Work includes cleaning, yard work, light repair, and room set-up in large church building. Ability to work independently and lift up to 50 pounds required. Day or day/evening hours. Contact Christine at christine@firstparishgorham.org

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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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the blotter

Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department

In May, a citizen called in to report that two hunters had come onto his land to hunt without permission. He admitted that the land was not posted yet but that these people had walked right by his house. He noted that in the preceding days, a couple of people riding a silver pickup had been knocking on his door, apparently trying to get permission. They had never gotten this permission, however, and still showed up in full gear. Two officers searched the property, soon hearing what they recognized as human-made turkey calls in a blind behind the property. They made contact with the hunters, who had both already caught a bird each. Officers explained why they were there, and the hunters started packing up without issue. They were packed up soon after, and the land owner was notified. They received a verbal warning for trespass only. Someone called in to report a man emerging from the woods with a gun before realizing they were just turkey hunters. No need for police.

A citizen came into the station for fingerprinting after having been given notice that she was obligated to do so after her prior arrest.

A caller complained about a loud truck that apparently drives by regularly. He said he was going to do something if police did not. Officer attempted to call him but each call was declined. Officer then checked the area and while the usual amount of traffic was loud as always, did not hear any one vehicle over the others. Caller was also not seen doing anything about it nor did police get any other complaints in the area.

Officer observed a male riding his bicycle southbound on South Street with no lights or reflectors. He apologized and activated the equipment.

Officer checked on a vehicle parked in the park and ride. He spoke with the occupant who said he is currently homeless and would be sleeping there for the night. Officer did not observe any violations or anything further suspicious.

Officers responded to the area of New Portland Road and Brackett Road for the report of a car versus deer accident. The caller reported there was no damage to their vehicle and continued on. The officer called the complainant and confirmed there was no damage on his vehicle and the location where the deer was. Officer checked the area and found the deer in a yard across from Juneau Way. Officer confirmed that the deer was deceased and dragged it near the edge of a dirt driveway. Officer had dispatch make Public Works aware, then cleared the scene.

School begins soon. Please always drive carefully, but watch especially for school buses stopping, starting, and turning as they transport our children.

What you'll do as a caregiver for my Mother:
Foster relationships with her through companionship and compassionate caregiving. Assist with light meal preparation & perform light housekeeping duties.
Provide personal care services, including assistance with grooming, transportation to appointments, medication reminders, and managing incontinence.
The Job is 5 hours/day, five days a week & the pay is $35 per hour. You can email me for more info at lawrenceejob@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE:
NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE

Please take notice that Kevin Bosworth, with a mailing address of 3 Old Fort Road, Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107, is intending to file a Stormwater Law permit application pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 420-D with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection on or about August 27, 2026. The application is for the construction of a 7-building self-storage facility (44,350 square feet total storage) with associated paved driveways and stormwater infrastructure on Ossipee Trail (Rt 25) in Gorham, Maine.

A request for a public hearing or a request that the Board of Environmental Protection assume jurisdiction over this application must be received by the Department in writing, no later than 20 days after the application is found by the Department to be complete and is accepted for processing. A public hearing may or may not be held at the discretion of the Commissioner or Board of Environmental Protection.

Public comment on the application will be accepted throughout the application processing period. The application will be filed for public inspection on the DEP's website at: https://www.maine.gov/mels/hub.html.

Written public comments may be sent through the website. A copy of the application may also be seen at the municipal offices in Gorham, Maine.

For more information on how to submit public comment with the DEP, please go to the DEP's website: Public Participation in the Licensing Process (information sheet) Maine DEP.

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Beyond the Weathered Fence

Linda Treworgy Faatz, *Contributing Writer*

Photo Credit: Linda Treworgy Faatz

Glorious Treworgy garden in mid-summer splendor.

The fence rails split by hand long ago
Encloses the drifts of feverfew growing wild
Beyond the pile of ground leaves waiting to be used for garden mulch.
In the distance the rambling rose in full bloom
Is held up by the spreading branches of the lilac.
Ostrich ferns have spread to frame the wildwood path.
Afternoon sun highlights the burgundy leaves of the japanese maple
That canopies the arbor.
Lichen covers the bench showing the beauty of age.
Past the spreading juniper the path opens up leading to the secret garden.
Bees from the hive nearby buzz happily from flower to flower.
You only have to stop for a moment to see familiar surroundings in a new way.
Why hurry?
How nostalgic are the old stone walls that line each garden room.
Old stones that pay tribute to a farmer's labor.
The rope swing still hanging from the sugar maple branch is reminiscent of childhood fun.
Red geraniums fill the Blue Hill granite planter from the old farm house.
As the sun filters in to highlight the hostas by the back door, the peaceful
Quiet fills all my senses.
This is Language without words.
The vivid imagery of poetry is unspoken in the garden.
We only have to be quiet to hear it.

Linda Treworgy Faatz, a passionate gardener for many years, lives in her family home at Friend's Corner and cares for the extensive Treworgy gardens.

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