Gorham Times

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What's On Your Ballot?

Gorham Times Staff

Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026

On the Town of Gorham Official Ballot for the Municipal Election on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026, Gorham voters will be asked to vote for no more than two candidates for Town Council to serve a 3-year term, and no more than three candidates for School Committee.

Candidates for Town Council are Roger W. Kramer, Suzanne E. Phillips, Samuel R. (Sam) Purinton, and Charles L. (Lou) Simms, with an opportunity to write in two more names.

Candidates for School Committee are Nancy N. Flagg, Sheldon Jones, Karl J. Krebs, Michelle L. Littlefield, Michael D. Lund Ziegler, and Matthew M. Steinback, with an opportunity to write in three more names.

In this issue of the Gorham Times, the candidate profiles for Town Council and School Committee can be found on page 6. In the next issue, we will present candidate profiles for the State of Maine Primary Election, Districts 108 and 109.

Page 2 of the ballot contains Referendum Question 1, "Shall the Town vote to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and/or notes in anticipation of such bonds in a principal amount not to exceed $6,688,752.00, and to appropriate the proceeds thereof for the purpose of financing costs of the following projects.

1. Gorham High School Parking, Sidewalks, ADA Access & Drainage, at an estimated project cost of $763,000.00.

2. Gorham High School Old Portable Replacement (Replace old portables with new connected expansion - 6 classroom spaces), at an estimated project cost of $4,600,000.00.

3. Gorham High School Window Replacement, Door Replacement and Brick Veneer Work at an estimated project cost of $1,325,752.00.

According to the fiscal note on the ballot, the total estimated debt service of the bonds authorized by this question is $8,669,565.00, of which principal is $6,688,752.00 and estimated interest at 3.7% over 15 years is $1,980,813.00.

The Town Council recommends a "Yes" vote (7 in favor/0 opposed).

A financial statement for the question can also be found on the ballot; sample ballots can be found at the Town of Gorham website, https://www.gorhammaine.gov/town-clerk/pages/2026-elections.

Gorham Fire Department

Roger Marchand, *Staff Photographer*

Photo Credit: Roger Marchand

Members of the Gorham Fire Department march down South Street during the Stephen Ward 911 Memorial 5K run-walk on Sept. 13. First responders complete the course in full gear to honor the 343 New York Fire Department members who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001. All registration fees go directly to the Stephen G. Ward Memorial Scholarship Fund, which is awarded annually to a high school senior graduate pursuing postsecondary education.

Gorham Adult Education's New Headquarters Location

Lori Arsenault, *Managing Editor*

Photo Credit: Lori Arsenault

Gorham Adult Education new location at 381 Main Street, Suite 4.

Though many of the classes offered through Gorham Adult Education (GAE) are still located at Gorham Middle School, Village School, and other Gorham school buildings, the headquarters have relocated. The GAE main office and classrooms are now located at 381 Main Street, Suite 4, formerly occupied by MDS Printing, now located in the Industrial Park.

GAE is a part of the Gorham School System. They offer the community three types of classes, Community Enrichment, Academics, including High School Completion and English for Multilingual Learners, and Short-term Workforce Training.

In the 2025-26 school year, the GAE Commuity Enrichment program served over 600 people and an additional 130 people in the Workforce and Academic programs.

At the new location for Academic and Workforce Training, the new facility includes a Learning Lab especially for digital skills and English, in addition to other classrooms and offices. The staff agreed that a major benefit of the new space is its proximity to the Metro bus stop at the corner of Libby Ave. and Main Street. Most classes are in-person, with limited online options for the highest levels.

GAE staff includes Bridget Kahn, director; Kate Points, program coordinator; Tania Kabambi, academic coordinator; and Kristen Poulin, enrichment coordinator. The main office is open on Monday - Thursday from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and on Fridays by appointment only.

It's not too late to sign up for classes for the fall of 2026. They have already begun, but are still accepting new students. You may register online or in person. Register onlineathttps://www.gorham.maineadulted.org, plan a visit, or call (207) 222-1095.

The GAE mission statement is: "Gorham Adult Education recognizes that adults have diverse learning needs. We are committed to meeting these needs by providing high-quality opportunities to all students. Gorham Adult Education meets you where you are today and helps you fulfill your potential."

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NEWS FROM AUGUSTA

Voting Resources for the Upcoming Election

Rep. Parnell Terry

Election Day is right around the corner, and Gorham residents will have an opportunity to make their voices heard on a number of important issues on Nov. 3. Regardless of party affiliation, I want to emphasize that your vote matters.

Maine has a long tradition of strong voter participation. This commitment to democracy has helped shape our community and state. With this in mind, it is a great time to make a plan to vote!

As always, you can vote in person at your polling location on Nov. 3. It is always a good idea to make sure your polling location has not changed before you head out the door. You can check the Voter Information Lookup Service here: https://www.maine.gov/portal/government/edemocracy/voter_lookup.php. You can also call the Town of Gorham to verify your polling location at (207) 222-1600.

I know that it can be difficult for everyone to vote in person on Election Day. Many people are working long days or hold multiple jobs. Older Mainers and veterans may have limited mobility, and young families are often busy with after-school activities, like shuttling kids between sports practices. Weather can also make travel difficult, and Election Day falls right in the middle of hunting season.

If you want to vote before Election Day, early voting runs from Oct. 4 through Oct. 29 this year. Between these dates, stop by the Gorham Municipal Center at any time during normal business hours to cast your vote. You do not need to complete an absentee ballot application. Currently, the Town Clerk's Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

You can also request an absentee ballot either online at https://absenteeballotrequest.sos.maine.gov/ or by calling the Town of Gorham at (207) 222-1670. The last day to request an absentee ballot is Oct. 29 and Gorham will begin mailing ballots to voters on Oct. 4.

If you are voting absentee, I encourage you to request and return your ballot well in advance of Election Day. You can return your ballot by placing it in the secure ballot drop box outside of the Gorham Municipal Center, via U.S. mail or by delivering it in person to the Gorham Town Clerk's Office. With recent USPS mail delays, this year, absentee voters may consider dropping their ballot directly in the secure drop box outside the Gorham Municipal Center to ensure it's received by the deadline. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Gorham Town Clerk's Office at 75 South Street by 8 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 3.

If you're not registered to vote yet, it's not too late. Here in Maine, you can register anytime leading up to the election, including in person on Election Day.

For additional information about voting, visit the Secretary of State's website here: www.maine.gov/sos/elections-voting/information-about-voting.

Beyond casting your own ballot, you can also remind others about the importance of voting. Voting is the cornerstone of our democracy, and our greatest civic duty. It's important to know what's on the ballot, and to weigh in on the decisions that will impact Gorham, Maine, and the nation.

Please also feel welcome to reach out to me at Parnell.Terry@legislature.maine.gov if you have any questions or concerns, or need assistance. I can best represent our community by hearing from you about issues both in our district and across the state.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Absentee ballots must be returned to the Gorham Town Clerk's Office or to the Town's Ballot Box outside the Municipal Center, not to your polling location.

Rep. Terry is serving his first term in the Maine House and represents part of Gorham. Terry is a member of the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee and the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee.

Letters to the Editor

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

To the Editor,

I get why so many people are burnt out on politics, I am too. Too often, it feels like the people we send to Augusta tune out the folks back home and forget why they wanted to serve in the first place.

That's why having Sophie Warren in office has been such a breath of fresh air. Over the past year as part of the Gorham Democrats, I've watched her do the real work. She shows up, listens without an agenda, and tackles tough, messy issues with genuine thoughtfulness rather than soundbites.

It's easy to feel cynical, but seeing someone from a younger generation step up, take responsibility, and stay grounded gives me hope. We don't need more political theater, we need people who truly remember who they work for and take that responsibility seriously.

I'm proud to support Sophie Warren for State Senate, and I hope you'll join me in voting for her this November.

Heather Robinson, Gorham

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FOCUSING ON GREATER PORTLAND TO THE LAKES REGION AND ALL POINTS IN BETWEEN

REALTOR KELLEY'S PUP OF THE MONTH:

MEET CLYDE! Clyde is a 9 month old, male, mixed breed. He was brought in, with his sister, because the owner was unable to care for him. He's a sweet young guy. Because he is new to us, we are unsure how he does with cats and kids – but we will update! He does do well with other dogs though! Bonnie and Clyde do not need to go together.

To find out more information about Clyde please visit www.harvesthills.org.

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Gorham Times

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Ad deadline is the Wednesday of the week prior to issue date. Go to gorhamtimes.com and click on the advertising link for schedule.

EDITORIAL POLICY
The Gorham Times takes all reasonable care to prevent errors and disclaims all legal responsibility for any such errors, omissions, or typographical errors. The Gorham Times will print corrections if notified within 48 hours. We reserve the right to refuse publication of unsolicited materials. All submissions are subject to editing. Opinions expressed in the Gorham Times do not necessarily reflect those of the staff or publishers.

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Upcoming Advertising Deadlines
September 30
October 14
October 28

Volunteers on Labor Day

John Teidje, *Staff Writer*

Photo credit: Gaynor Reynolds

Volunteers on Labor Day: Chris Crosby and his daughter Lauren, Ryan Glidden, Linda Huard, Mary Morin and Tracey Mezzanotte gathered to plant mums and grasses in the front of the Gorham High School entrance sign. The Bradys of Gorham and the Gorham Recreation Department donated funds for the project and O'Donal's Nursery offered a discount on the plants.

Where Are They Now

Chris Crawford, *Features Editor*

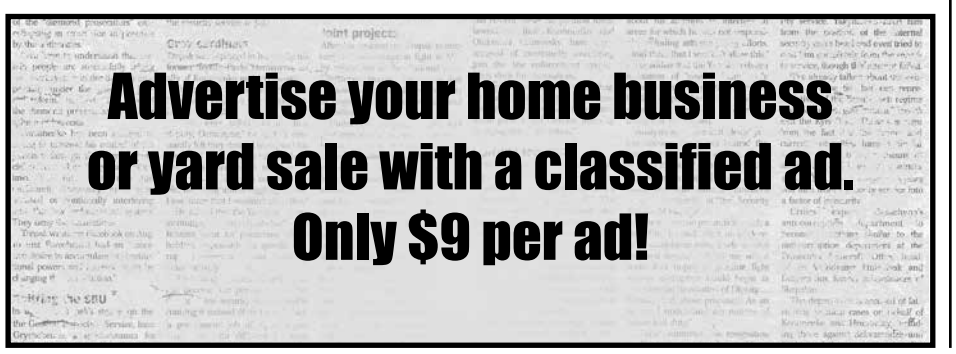
In the early days of the Gorham Times newspaper, a conversation with Cindy O'Shea, who was the principal of Narragansett School for many years, sparked the idea for writing a column that would feature the accomplishments of Gorham High School graduates.The idea dovetailed with a state grant whose goal was to encourage high school graduates to further their education by attending a four-year college, community college or trade school, or by pursuing another means of furthering their education, such as an internship.

The Gorham Times also believed that "Where Are They Now" columns would promote community pride by demonstrating that our local investment in education pays off. Our Gorham High School grads go on to do amazing things. For over 30 years, the Gorham Times has enjoyed recognizing their success by writing about a number of graduates in many different occupational fields. Some have achieved wider fame, while just as importantly, others have made their mark closer to home by living and working here in Maine.

The list of grads is long and varied. A GHS grad conceptualized and launched the idea of the Food Network in the early days of cable TV. Others have been active in the arts, becoming writers, creating memorable films or performing on stage, film and TV. One grad, along with a team of animators, created the iconic image of Gollum in the "Lord of the Rings" film as well as other animations for Academy Award–winning "Avatar" films.

Many GHS grads have stayed in Maine and become public servants, health care providers and educators. Some have started businesses, like an ad agency whose work was instrumental in the passage of Maine's historic same-sex marriage legislation. Their ad campaign was so effective, it became the model that other states used to pass their own laws.

Some of the ideas for "Where Are They Now" articles are suggested by family members, so please keep us in mind if your graduate has been out in the working world for at least five years and is doing interesting work here in Maine or elsewhere. Gorham Times also publishes "Meet Your Neighbor" articles about residents (not necessarily GHS grads) who are doing interesting work as well. We are always happy to hear from our readers. Please email ckck5@icloud.com with Gorham Times WATN as the subject.



Volunteers Are Welcome Here

Lori Arsenault, *Managing Editor*

The Gorham Times was founded in August 1995 by Maynard Charron, a board of directors, and a planning committee. The start-up was supported by generous donations from many Gorham residents, business people, and advertisers. It is a nonprofit corporation, still funded almost entirely by advertising revenue, subscriptions, and generous contributions of time, talent, and treasure.

The foremost goal of the Gorham Times has been "to bring the news to all of Gorham." The staff and board are still dedicated to that goal, providing quality Gorham-related news coverage and exceptional customer service to its advertisers and readers.

The Gorham Times is published every other Thursday. It reflects the many components of our town with news stories and feature articles about local government, schools, organizations, and people. It does not take an editorial stance, but does encourage the airing of different viewpoints by providing a forum for fair-minded discussion.

While the paper is 31 years old, the volunteers have turned over many times. Yes, volunteers. Maybe even volunteers like you.

Whether you know about the town or want to learn, joining the team in any capacity is one way to do it. What do you know how to do? What do you love to do? We have many things that must be done, and would love to have a chance to discuss how you might like to help create and maintain this independent resource for our town.

Do you have an interest in Gorham and how the paper operates? We'd love to have you join us for production meetings held every other Monday at 4 p.m. at Gorham Rec. Contact us for more information. In the words of our founder, Maynard Charron, "Gorham is a better and more informed town because of all of you."

You're Not Too Smart to Be Scammed

Wendy Bowen, *Contributing Writer*

The credit union where I work sees it all. We also communicate with other credit unions across the state to share timely information about the latest scams and make sure everyone knows what to watch for. If a scam starts in northern Maine, there's a good chance it will eventually make its way south. We do our best to warn members about the latest suspicious texts, emails and phone calls, but inevitably, someone gets caught up in one.

One day, I received a text that triggered a surprisingly strong reaction from me. It appeared to be from Walmart, confirming my preorder for the latest video game system. Gaming is a somewhat controversial subject in my household because those systems come with a hefty price tag. My immediate thought was to log in to our Walmart account to see how much this "purchase" had cost us — which I assumed was going to be shockingly expensive — and then send my husband an angry text.

When I checked our purchase history, there was nothing there. I then checked my digital banking app, and there was no transaction there, either. That's when it clicked: I had reacted to the panic and fear the text was designed to create. Fortunately, I had not clicked the link in the original message, and I had also double-checked everything before sending that angry text to my husband.

Another great example comes from a 2024 article written by a financial advice columnist for The Cut/New York Magazine. She described falling victim to an Amazon scam call and spending hours on the phone with fraudsters. Eventually, she withdrew $50,000 in cash, put it in a shoebox and handed it over to a stranger. What makes her story so compelling is that she described exactly what she was feeling in the moment — how the scammers created such a sense of panic and urgency that her usual logic and judgment seemed to disappear.

Her story is a powerful reminder that scams don't just happen to people who are naive, easily fooled and "should have known better." They can happen to anyone. Scammers know exactly how to push our emotional buttons, and sometimes, all it takes is one moment of panic to make a smart person do something they normally wouldn't.

Being scammed doesn't mean you're gullible, careless or not smart enough to know better. It means you're human — and scammers are experts at creating a sense of urgency, fear and confusion to make you act before you think.

The best defense is to slow down, take a breath and verify what's happening before you click a link, make a call, send money or share personal information. And if something does go wrong, don't let embarrassment keep you from asking for help. The sooner you speak up, the more likely it is that something can be done.

Remember: You're not too smart to be scammed, but you're never too smart to stop, question, and double-check and ask for help from an expert.

Wendy Bowen is Marketing Manager at Casco Federal Credit Union.

Financial Focus: Build Confidence in 401(k) Decisions

Jessica Szafranski, *Contributing Writer*

In its simplest form, saving can mean putting money into a jar, adding to it and letting it grow slowly. A 401(k), or other workplace retirement plan, is a step beyond that. It's more like a garden than a jar. Once you understand the basics of your 401(k), it becomes easier to feel confident in your decisions.

In a jar, your money only grows when you add more. In a garden, what you plant can begin to grow on its own. Your investments can earn returns, and those returns may in turn earn additional returns. That's called compounding, and it can have a meaningful impact over time. Like a garden, however, growth is not guaranteed. Markets can rise and fall, and investments can lose value.

Most workplace retirement plan contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, which lowers today's taxable income; you'll pay taxes when you withdraw it in retirement. Some plans also offer a Roth option: you contribute after-tax dollars and withdrawals in retirement can be tax free. Your plan administrator can provide more information on these two options.

Many 401(k) plans include an employer match, either up to a set dollar amount, perhaps $500, or a percentage of your salary, typically 3% to 5%. Contributions you make, as well as those from your employer, can grow over time. Try to contribute at least enough to capture the full match; anything less means you're leaving money on the table.

Now the question is how to invest your contributions inside your 401(k). The menu of investment options may seem complicated, but most fall into a few common categories.

Stock or equity funds focus on stocks, which represent ownership in companies. Because they're tied to company performance, they have the potential for higher growth over time, but their value can go up and down in the short term. When you're decades from retirement, that short-term volatility matters less; you have time to ride out market swings.

Bond funds invest in loans made to governments or corporations. These tend to be more stable than stock funds but typically grow more slowly. They can help balance market ups and downs.

Balanced or blended funds hold a mix of stocks and bonds in a single investment.

Target-date funds combine different types of investments in one fund. As you move toward a specified retirement year, the fund gradually adjusts to focus more on stability and less on growth.

The earlier you start planting, the more time your money has to grow. Even small contributions early in your career can end up as large amounts later, simply because they had more time to compound.

If you change jobs, keep in mind that your employer's contributions may not be fully yours immediately. It depends on your plan's vesting schedule, so it's worth checking before you go.

The most important steps in a retirement plan are getting started, contributing consistently and taking advantage of what your plan offers. With a little knowledge, you can feel more confident moving forward. The garden is yours. Start planting.

Jessica Szafranski operates a Gorham Branch Office of Edward Jones. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

CryptoVerse by A. Logophile

JT OUA YTE XMJFX JF OUA BJXUO NJBAHOJMF?

XJLA GMYB MSJFJMF JF OUA FAZO ADAHOJMF.

TOMS, DMMC EFN DJTOAF OM PUEO SAMSDA TEG

EFN TUMP YS EO OUA SMDDT MF ADAHOJMF NEG.

CLUE: A = E

Solution On Page 11

MUNICIPAL

Planning Board Approves Amazon Warehouse Project

Sally Fay, *Staff Writer*

At its regular meeting on Monday, Sept. 14, the Gorham Planning Board voted unanimously to approve Amazon.com Services LLC's application for construction of a 146,280 square foot "last mile" warehouse facility on Main Street (Route 25), east of the town center. Five Planning Board members (Hager, Benson, Delaney, Frank, Nichols) were present for the vote; one member (Walsh) was absent and one board position is currently vacant.

The approval followed a short presentation by project representative Chris Taylor, P.E., from Sebago Technics, who outlined recent site plan modifications, as well as a brief discussion among board members and Town staff. Numerous local citizens attended the meeting to witness the board's discussion and vote. No public comments were taken at the meeting, as the agenda item was not designated as a public meeting.

Following the board's decision, disappointed attendees gathered outside the Municipal Center, where representatives of local citizen group Gorham United shared their intention to explore other avenues to oppose the project. The group has launched a petition to enact a 6-month moratorium on industrial developments that generate more than 1,500 average daily vehicle trips. The Amazon project is estimated to generate 3,000 average daily trips.

State level environmental and transportation approvals for the project remain pending.

Following the Amazon vote, three other agenda items were taken up by the Planning Board.

A public hearing was held on the site plan for New Portland Parkway Subdivision, a proposed 9,820 square foot warehouse with 4 individual units on Jenna Drive, including associated driveways, parking, and stormwater infrastructure, with a proposed subdivision amendment revising the impervious cover allocation. The property is zoned Industrial. One member of the public spoke in favor of the project but raised general concerns about pedestrian safety issues on the roadway. The board moved to table review until the next available meeting, pending site plan revisions: 5 Ayes, 1 Absent (Walsh), 1 Vacancy.

A public hearing was held on a site plan amendment to revise the approved landscaping plan for Dollar General, located at Cornerstone Drive off Dingley Spring Road, zoned Roadside Commercial. One member of the public spoke against the project. The board moved to table review pending additional information and revisions to the plan: 4 Ayes, 1 Nay (Frank), 1 Absent (Walsh), 1 Vacancy.

The board discussed and reviewed the site and preliminary subdivision plan for Southridge Condominium Association, a 22-unit multi-family development and associated infrastructure proposed to be constructed on a 4.33-acre parcel on South Street, zoned Urban Residential. Preliminary subdivision approval was granted: 4 Ayes, 1 Nay (Hager), 1 Absent (Walsh), 1 Vacancy.

Three other agenda items were not taken up due to Planning Board lateness rules: the final subdivision and site plan for 30 units of multifamily housing on County Road (Thistle Petite Condominiums); subdivision plan preapplication review for a 6-lot residential subdivision, part of a mixed-use project located at 239 County Road; and an amendment to the Land Use and Development Code zoning map to create a new University District zone to implement the Comprehensive Plan. These items will be scheduled for the second monthly meeting of the Planning Board on Sept. 28.

Online Permitting System SmartGov Now Live

Town of Gorham Staff

The Town of Gorham has announced that the public can now submit all permit applications online through a service called SmartGov.

SmartGov is an easy-to-use online platform that allows residents, contractors and businesses to:

- Apply for building and Code Office–related permits online
- Apply for Planning Department applications online
- Apply online for select permits such as street opening, excavation license, sewer and driveway permits through Public Works
- Track application status in real time
- Submit documents and make payments securely
- Receive notifications and updates electronically

Why use SmartGov?

- Convenient access from any device
- Faster processing and improved communication
- Environmentally friendly—reduces paper waste

To access access SmartGov, visit: https://twn-gorham-me.validation.smartgovcommunity.com/ApplicationPublic/ApplicationHome

If a citizen is unable to submit an application online through SmartGov, paper applications can still be accessed through a respective department now through Oct. 31, 2026 and submitted in person in that department's office. To visit a department's webpage, visit: http://www.gorhammaine.gov/departments.

Gorham Public Works Update

Kelly Meslin, *Gorham Public Works*

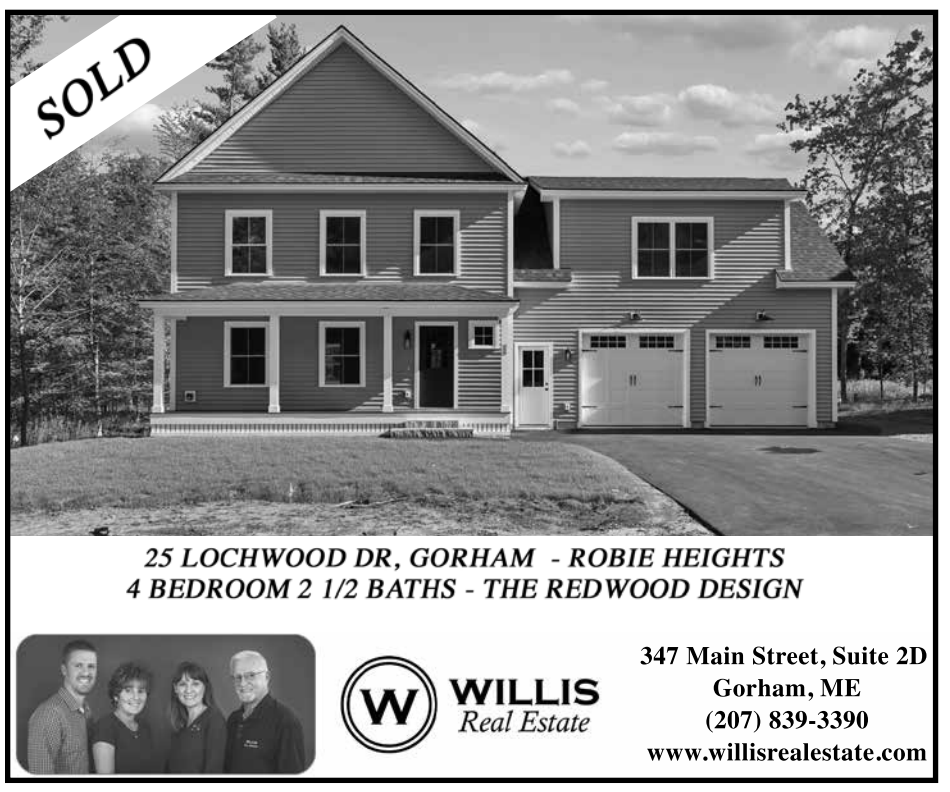
The Town of Gorham officially launched its automated curbside trash and recycling collection service on Monday, Sept. 14, 2026. The automated service, partnered with the Town's contractor, Casella, eliminates the Pay-As-You-Throw (P-A-Y-T) trash tag program. Residents are no longer required to purchase town-issued tags.

Every eligible residence was delivered two 65-gallon wheeled carts—one for household trash and one for single-sort recycling. If you have not received these carts, please reach out to Public Works at (207) 222-4950.

To accommodate the mechanical routes, Gorham expanded its collection schedule from a four-day week to a five-day week (Monday through Friday). Because many local routes have shifted, residents are urged to verify their designated pickup day using Casella's "Recycle 101" app. All carts must be placed curbside by 7 a.m. Make sure to check the cart placement and route schedule to ensure proper collection at https://www.gorhammaine.gov/public-works-department/pages/trash-and-recycling

For residents wondering what to do with their old trash and recycling containers, free disposal is available at the Gorham Public Works Facility at 80 Huston Road. Residents can drop off old bins until Friday, Sept. 25, 2026.

The Fall Brush Drop-off days take place on select Saturdays in October at Public Works, allowing residents to dispose of brush free of charge. Two days are scheduled, Oct. 10 and 24, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Candidates Running for Town Council 3-Year Terms

Suzanne Phillips,
Gorham resident since 1985.

Education: Gorham High School class of '94; B.A. in Art and Education from University of Southern Maine.

Employment: Gorham Historical Society President; various local part-time jobs.

Personal: Married with 2 cats

Why should citizens vote for you?

During my time on the Town Council, I have worked to honor the historical character and community values that make Gorham special. As we grow, we need balanced development that provides housing, supports local businesses, and preserves what makes Gorham unique. We must make thoughtful decisions about how fast Gorham grows, where development occurs, and how we manage its impact on our community. Affordability must remain a priority as families, seniors, and generational households face rising property taxes. The work done in recent years can help create a sustainable vision for Gorham—supporting responsible growth without sacrificing affordability, character, or community values.

Samuel R. Purinton,
My family has been in Gorham going back to my great-grandmother. I've lived here since 2022.

Education:
Bachelor's in Economics from Eckerd College.

Employment: Community Organizer

Why should citizens vote for you?

Gorham voters should vote for me because I want to fund Gorham's schools and preserve Gorham's quality of life. Gorham is a special place, and I'm worried that some recent projects, like the Amazon warehouse and proposed "Portland West" road, will turn Gorham from a family-friendly town into one that primarily services out-of-town interests. I understand the need to have a balanced tax base, but these projects are not worth the quality-of-life trade-off. I think Gorham can do better at protecting quality of life for residents, and that's what I'll do if elected.

Charles (Lou) Simms
Gorham resident since 2020. My wife grew up here and we chose Gorham to raise our son closer to family.

Education: Master's, Resource Admin & Mgmt, UNH (2014); Undergrad, International Studies, USM (2007).

Employment: Senior Investment Officer at Maine Technology Institute;

Why should citizens vote for you?

Gorham needs leadership that values our residents' input and prioritizes our collective quality of life above the profits of a few corporate interests. We need to invest in our kids and our community – not a blank check, but thoughtful budgeting that prioritizes our people. We must evolve our land-use policies to meet today's markets and contemplate how different types of development bring very different costs and benefits to our town. If elected, I will strive to preserve our remaining open spaces and family farms, while addressing the challenges of rising prices for housing, transportation, taxes, and other costs of living.

Roger Kramer
I've lived in Gorham for 50 years.

Education:
Gorham High School graduate.

Employment: Self-employed for 37 years. My business has always been in Gorham.

Why should citizens vote for you?

We as a town have lost our way. There are always growing pains, those who have been in our community the longest are suffering the most. Property tax plays a roll in the towns patriarchs sufferings. We are heavily regulated with forced sprinkler systems to permits to build a shed or dog house. The towns people are not a piggy bank for the elected, it is the peoples town and those who are elected to serve should do no harm to the property owner. I am a realist with a strong moral, ethical and a common sense approach background.

Candidates Running for School Committee 3-Year Terms

Nancy N. Flagg, Ph.D.

Background: Gorham resident for 2 years Leadership Consultant, B.A. Psychology, B.A. Sociology, M.A. American and New England Studies, Ph.D. in Leadership, USM, Fulbright, Commonwealth of Dominica

Why should citizens vote for you?

Gorham is adjusting to population expansion, technological advancement, and changing budget constraints. With my background of nearly 20 years as a local business owner and training in multiple areas including leadership at USM, I have multiple ways to contribute. Raised by a K-3 teacher and with my four children grown and finding their ways, I have time and an understanding of what this generation is facing as well as what their parent and grandparent generations are balancing. I want to give back and share what I have learned and have the flexibility in my life to do that right now.

Karl Krebs

Background: Gorham resident for 7 years; Behavioral Health Professional and Educational Technician at Margaret Murphy Centers for Children; Bachelor's degree, University of Colorado; Former Gorham Schools educator, Father of two current Gorham students.

Why should citizens vote for you?

After our schools opened back up following the 2020 shutdown, my work in Gorham Schools gave me valuable insight into the many ways our schools are intertwined with our greater community, even for residents and families who don't have student-aged children. I want to make sure that our town continues to cultivate this important relationship, and I would love to be a steward to carry that forward. I am also mindful of the need to balance our residents' financial realities with the allocation of adequate resources to operate our schools in a manner that best serves our students.

Sheldon G. Jones

Background: Gorham resident for 41 years. Project Director in telecommunications construction. Gorham High School graduate. Married, love coaching youth t-ball and soccer.

Why should citizens vote for you?

As a lifelong Gorham resident and father of two young children working their way through our schools, I believe it's important for parents to stay involved. Gorham has always been an excellent place to live and raise a family. I've also seen how much more expensive living here has become. I would bring a calm, levelheaded approach, along with experience managing construction projects, budgets, and crews. I would ask tough questions along with some simple ones; listen to educators, parents and residents; learn from fellow board members; and weigh costs and benefits before casting my vote.

Michelle Littlefield

Background: Grew up in Scarborough, moved to Gorham in 2013. Owner of Third Space Market.

Why should citizens vote for you?

My goal is to ensure our children receive the best education we can provide. I believe in data-informed decisions and will continue to use my background in finance to constructively support and refine the budget process. We must address continuing facilities challenges head-on. I believe in making stronger connections at the state level to align legislation to actual practice. I look forward to applying lessons from my first term so that we can continue to improve how we serve our children and support our educators, while not losing sight of the needs of taxpayers.

Michael Lund Ziegler

Background: Gorham resident for 4 years. Executive Director, Portland Conservatory of Music. B.A. Music Education, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay; M.M. Conducting, Ball State University. Married to my wife, Melissa, with 3 kids in the Gorham schools.

Why should citizens vote for you?

Having started my career as a public school band, orchestra and choir teacher in Wisconsin, I am intimately familiar with what our teachers do each and every day to support our kids and understand the support they need to do that invaluable work. I now run a non-profit community music school in Portland and understand the challenges of accomplishing important things with limited resources. With three kids in the Gorham schools, I bring a collection of experiences and a perspective to the role that positions me to contribute in helpful and meaningful ways.

Matthew Steinback

Background: Gorham resident for 11 years. Master of Science degree in Psychology (2014), Bachelor's degree in Psychology w/ a business concentration (2006); Specialty certificate in addiction treatment (2011).

Why should citizens vote for you?

Gorham voters should support me because I will bring experienced, thoughtful and independent leadership to the School Committee. As a father with two Gorham students and a behavioral-health executive and clinician with nearly 20 years of leadership experience, I understand the importance of our schools and the responsibility of leading complex organizations, managing budgets, and making difficult decisions. I will listen to students, families, educators, and taxpayers, ask careful questions, and follow the evidence. I'm committed to strong schools, student well-being, responsible stewardship, and transparent decisions that prepare every student to thrive. I would be honored to earn your vote.

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SCHOOL

School Committee Meeting, Sept 8

Michael Lortie, *School News Editor*

Chairperson Nicole Yeo-Fisher called the September committee meeting to order and six members were present. (Tompkins) The committee approved the minutes of the June 10 Regular Meeting and the June 24 and Aug. 26 Special Meetings. (6-0)

Each of the five principals reported on the successful opening of school. They discussed their new personnel, new initiatives and early indicators of success at their level. From their presentations, the positive culture of their building and the school system in general was emphasized.

Norm Justice, director of facilities, reported on the summer work done in the buildings including masonry work at Great Falls, pavement work at Village, modifications of three classrooms and movement of 33 classrooms and programs at Narragansett, movement of the Adult Education Department, duct work at GMS and the completion of the building projects at GHS. Mr. Justice thanked his staff, Gorham Public Works, Great Falls Construction and all of the business partners that completed work over the summer.

Each committee member had the opportunity to discuss recent events and observations. The student representatives, Lola and Dannah, discussed the opening of school, the beginning of the fall sports season and the bell-to-bell cell phone ban and the presentation of the school system's AI draft. Committee member Jeff Ballard thanked the transportation department and the Pre-K program for their extra care in assisting the littlest Rams get off to a successful beginning of the school year. Committee member Michelle Littlefield told a story of a group of GHS football players hanging at her place of business one afternoon. They were polite, friendly and engaged in conversations with a group of community senior citizens. They truly represented themselves, the school and their families proudly as they exhibited the code of conduct. Chairperson Nicole Yeo-Fisher thanked all school staff for their efforts in the new school year.

Each subcommittee reported on its most recent work and its next meeting dates.

Superintendent Heather Perry gave a monthly report. She highlighted the State of the School Report and attendance numbers and trends. The newest attendance numbers will be officially reported to the state on Oct. 1. She also noted that there are presently openings for bus drivers and educational technicians.

The committee voted (6-0) to approve the contract of the superintendent of schools from 2026-2031.

The committee voted (6-0) to approve the School Committee meeting schedule including the change of the next Workshop Meeting from Sept. 23 to Sept. 24.

The committee voted (6-0) to approve the superintendent goals for the 2026-2027 school year. The four goals that she is prioritizing are: a continuation of the work with staff on the metrics for student success, staff literacy on Artificial Intelligence, development of the Aspire Program Pre-K through grade 5 focusing on building fine and gross motor skills and purposeful learning through play and the purposeful use of technology.

The committee voted (6-0) to approve the FY 2027-2028 Budget Development timeline.

The committee voted (6-0) to table the first reading of the school department policy: Life Saving Medical Devices and Treatment (EBCF). They conducted a first reading of the following policies: Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect (JLF) and the Immunization Policy (JLCB).

The complete official minutes of this meeting and a video recording of the proceedings may be found at the School Department website.

The Gorham Backpack Program Works

Gorham Times Staff

The Gorham Backpack program has been 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 A Gorham High School is completely empty."

Calling for help, the organizers are grateful for the donations.

A Facebook post from Sept. 19 reads, "A huge thank you to two incredible supporters of the BackPack Program! Jackie Leeper and Alpha Delta Kappa collected two full trunkloads of donations at their very first meeting of the year, a generous tradition they keep up every fall." What they called "the big dropoff" happened at GMS last Wednesday morning.

The organizers also extended a big thank you to Jeff Ballard, who launched a creative fundraiser offering free pickup and delivery of old trash cans to Public Works for recycling, asking only for a donation to the program in return, raising over $1,000 while keeping cans out of the waste stream and helping neighbors along the way.

So, please keep in mind that the BackPack Program's needs are ongoing throughout the school year. Donations for the program can be made out to Gorham School Department, add Backpack Program to the memo. Mail to Hollis Cobb, Finance Officer, Gorham School Department, 75 South Street, Gorham, ME 04038. Learn more at growgivegorham.org/.

SPORTS

Fall Fun at Gorham Rec

Katie Brown, *Sports Editor*

Photo Credit: Katie Brown

Fourth Grade Boys soccer (l-r): Atticus Cloutier, Calvin Stuart, Brody Muehle and Rumi Kebdani

The Gorham Parks & Recreation Department's Fall Youth Soccer program is officially underway, having kicked off the week of Sept. 8, 2026, and running through Oct. 24, 2026. The recreational program focuses on inclusive fun and skill development across divisions from kindergarten up to the fifth/sixth grade teams. Teams have practice one day a week and organized games are on Saturday mornings. The older grade levels have travel options on certain weekends, which gives them more exposure to what soccer games will be like in middle and high school. The league operates heavily on volunteer coaching, meaning exact practice schedules are decided by each individual team's coach.

Currently, there are approximately 440 kids participating in grades pre-K through 6 involved in various soccer programs, including Youth Fall Soccer, Kiddie Kickers, and Peewee Pros. Youth Sports Manager Liv Schwartz shared, "We had our first game day last weekend, and things are off to a great start so far! We're very excited for another good season and grateful for all of our volunteer coaches making the program possible for our participants."

Schwartz added, "Some other exciting things we've got going on/coming up is the K-2 Flag Football program kicked off last week with the help of the GHS football team and will continue throughout the fall. And lastly our DISCover Ultimate Day with Maine Ultimate Frisbee will take place at GMS."

A reminder to keep your calendar updated, as sign-ups for specific programs take place during a window of time typically at least two weeks before any season begins so as to arrange teams. The Recreation Department offers community events and programs year-round. For a full list of programs visit www.gorhammaine.gov/recreation-department.

Photo Credit: Katie Brown

The Girls 3/4 team enter the field for opening day

Photo Credit: Katie Brown

Boys Rec teams in action

Gorham Goodwill Celebrates Grand Reopening

Lori Arsenault, *Managing Editor*

Photo Credit: Erick Green

Goodwill's Gorham store reopens

Photo Credit: Erick Green

Ribbon-cutting ceremony

Photo Credit: Erick Green

Goodwill's Gorham store reopens.

Photo Credit: Erick Green

Goodwill's mascot, "Puffy G"

The grand reopening and community ribbon-cutting ceremony for the 12,000-square-foot Gorham Goodwill store, located at 102 Main Street, took place on Sept. 10 at 9 a.m. Just before the store's regular opening time, Goodwill's mascot, "Puffy G," came out to meet the guests, along with Goodwill leadership and store employees.

Several people standing in line for the store to open learned about the ceremony while they were standing in line, including two new USM students, who were shopping at Goodwill for the first time. Chelsea Brown, USM student from Sanford, described "a very wholesome experience to stumble into, and glad I could be a part of it." Brown's shopping companion, Brady Knight from Lisbon, said the event was "unexpected, but honestly, some of the best things are unexpected."

At precisely 9 a.m., with a long line of shoppers like Brown and Knight and other supporters all standing in line together, the reopening celebrations began. The first speaker of the day was Keith Crowley, director of development and community engagement. He welcomed the attendees and introduced Tripp Harrison, president and CEO of Goodwill Northern New England since 2023, who spoke to the crowd.

Harrison said how much Gorham means to Goodwill NNE as the organization's headquarters for over 25 years. He explained how they "wanted to make a reinvestment in this store for the great thrift shopping experience." He said it was the right thing to do for their shoppers, their donors, and their employees, and noted that through this "meaningful investment…a renewed commitment to the Town of Gorham" has been created. Goodwill's workforce programs serve over 120 Gorham residents, with over 24 employees who work in the store every day.

Next to speak was Kelly McCormick from the Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce, representing the Chamber in "celebrating Goodwill as both a valued Chamber member and an important community partner." She continued, "This reopening represents more than just a refreshed store," calling it an investment in jobs and opportunity for the Gorham community.

McCormick said, "Goodwill makes important contributions to our regional economy by creating employment opportunities, supporting workforce development, providing affordable goods, and helping connect people with opportunities." Addressing Harrison and the employees, she said, "Your work also strengthens local employers and non-profits, and makes a meaningful difference in the lives of people throughout our region." McCormick mentioned her good friend Gail McMullen, who has been a dedicated member of the Biddeford Goodwill team for nearly 50 years in a career that has brought tremendous potential for purpose and enrichment to her life.

The Goodwill team then came out and cut the ribbon. The crowd followed them into the store with gift cards they had been given, and proceeded to shop in the newly organized and revitalized store.

Gorham's economic development director, Kevin Jensen, commented beyond the reopening of the retail location, saying that Goodwill plays a few different roles in the Gorham community. "As an employer, they are one of our largest in Gorham, providing meaningful work to over 240 individuals across retail, the warehouse, and their headquarters located in the Gorham Industrial Park."

Jensen added, "Goodwill is also an important workforce development service provider, offering job training, career advising, work experiences and pathways to employment. They partner with other Gorham businesses to provide job placement, apprenticeships and workplace learning opportunities."

"These programs reach and support Gorham residents, our students and young people, and others who benefit from the wrap-around support provided through a Goodwill program," Jensen continued, finishing with, "it's important to recognize what Goodwill NNE stands for as an organization based here in Gorham. Their impact cannot be measured simply by the activity we see here at the Gorham Village Mall. It is more deeply felt by their work as a vital service provider across the State of Maine.

Congratulations to the whole Goodwill team. To learn more about the Goodwill NNE legacy, visit https://goodwillnne.org/.

Maine Antique Tractor Plow Day and Crafters Market

Contributed by Parsons Farm

Photo Credit: Parsons Farm

Antique tractor

On Saturday, Oct. 17 beginning at 8 a.m., everyone is invited to visit Parsons Dairy Farm at 321 Buck Street in Gorham for the annual Maine Antique Tractor Plow Day and Crafter Market Farmers are prepping the ground for another year of crop production, and using antique tractors and implements from all across New England.

At the event, which features dozens of local vendors, visitors can see and learn how farmwork has been done throughout the years. Meet the men and women who embody this passion of agricultural history. Visit local vendors of vegetables, homemade eats, handcrafted goods and more. Grab breakfast and lunch in the sugar shack. Visit the mini-horses and baby cows. Meet members of the Maine Antique Tractor Club. Enjoy the auto show.

Breakfast from 7 to 10 a.m. will feature pancakes with Parsons maple syrup and breakfast sandwiches. Lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. features hamburgers and hotdogs (try the maple-glazed onions) with French fries.

Welcome to Vigor Strength Studio

Krista Nadeau, *Staff Writer*

Photo Credit: Hank Caiazzo

Left to right: Jaryd Penn, Zachary Russell, Julian Despres, Cali Roy

The definition of the word "vigor" is what one will find when stepping through the doors—a place to build active physical and mental strength, energy, and vitality. Vigor Strength Studio is located at 645 Main Street in Gorham and just celebrated their first year in business at this location.

Co-owners Julian Despres and Zach Russell first met years ago. A partnership formed while Despres was Russell's personal trainer at another gym— it's where their shared passion for health, wellness, and helping to build a stronger community would initiate the journey leading to the opening of Vigor Strength Studio.

Julian Despres is a drill sergeant–type coach who is focused on movement quality and posture. His goal is to motivate and to help people reach their full potential. Jaryd Penn is social and purposeful. One of USM's finest, he trains all skill levels and is also SPEED certified, meaning he can (and does) train athletes to be on top of their game. Cali Roy is an athletic trainer by trade and specializes in strength and conditioning training and injury prevention. If someone needs to be fixed up, cupped, or taped, she is the go-to. Zach Russell is a no-nonsense kind of human. He approaches exercise from many disciplines and believes that together they provide a comprehensive plan to fitness. He is an Army veteran, a mobility specialist, and especially enjoys training younger athletes.

This team of passionate, experienced and educated coaches is what sets Vigor Strength Studio apart from the rest. In place of mirrors, motivational banners hang from the walls, reminding clients: "Nobody Cares, Work Harder," "Do the Work," and "Mindset Is Everything." Appropriate music plays in the background, adding to the energy.

Community is built in this space. Coaches are constantly engaged. Inspiration and motivation are both individual and collective. One goal—to be healthier. Despres says, "Not every exercise is for every body." A person that walks through the doors at Vigor Strength Studio is met with a conversation about their individual health history and goals, and a plan is created with those things in mind. Every movement and exercise is carefully tracked on digital spreadsheets for each client. The objective is to properly move your body. Vigor gives clients instruction, tools and motivation. There is a culture here that is real, raw and authentic…and it's palpable.

The Your Nervous System Reset class is new to the studio. Instructor Sharon Little focuses on stress management, bio-energetic testing and nervous system regulation. Classes are a great way to use noninvasive bodywork and grounding techniques to downshift and regulate the nervous system. Classes are held on Saturday mornings.

Vigor Strength Studio takes a whole-body approach to health. It's a place where nothing is overlooked—a place for community, strength training, injury prevention and somatic recovery.

"Strength is understanding that your power is both physical and emotional. That it comes from the body and the mind. And the heart." – Henry Rollins.

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 house-keeping 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

PRESIDENT'S LIST
Maddie Clough, Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, New Hampshire
Shaun Patten, Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, New Hampshire
Olivia Falagario, Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, New Hampshire

OF INTEREST
The National Merit Scholarship Corporation has announced the names of more than 16,000 semifinalists in the 72nd annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for about 6,700 National Merit Scholarships worth approximately $24 million that will be offered next spring. Zachary K. Bourgoin of Gorham High School has been selected to compete for three types of National Merit Scholarships.

Following on its Drop-in Open House held at the Gorham Municipal Center on Tuesday, Sept. 22, the Maine Department of Transportation will hold a virtual public meeting on Thursday, Sept. 24 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for interested citizens who were unable to attend the in-person event. The meeting's purpose is to update the public on findings from its Portland West Balanced Mobility Improvements Study to address congestion and improve safety and mobility in the communities west of Portland. A registration link for the meeting can be found at https://www.maine.gov/dot/major-projects/portlandwest

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_Foundations

Play Golf – Do Good! The 32nd Annual Rotary Classic Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, Sept. 28 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.

Baxter House Museum will be open to the public on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The museum offers free docent-led tours as well as self-guided tours. Learn about the history of Gorham and experience what living was like here in the 1800s.

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 3 or more registrations is also available. To register, visit https://www.gorhamknights.org/events/5k.

Galilee Church is hosting its annual Trunk or Treat Event on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 4:30 - 7 p.m. at 317 Main Street. All are welcome. https://galileebc.org or (207) 839-6985 for more information.

VFW Post 10879 thanks Gorham for 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 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gorham Fire Department, 270 Main Street. 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 the nation. For questions, contact Jake Bauder, Quartermaster, at (207) 607-0370.

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, Sept. 26 at 5 p.m. Suggested donation: $12 Adult, $5 Child, $24 Family. Parker Farm Road in Buxton.

White Rock Community Clubhouse will hold a Public Bean Supper on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 4 - 5:30 p.m. Eat in or take out. Meal includes baked kidney and pea beans, coleslaw, potato salad, macaroni and cheese, biscuits, hot dogs and dessert. $12 adults, $6 under 12. 34 Wilson Road, Gorham. Updates at facebook.com/whiterockcommunityclub.

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.

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 summer and 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 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.

Continued on Page 10

(207) 839-3300
Po·Go REALTY
pogorealty.com

BUXTON $520,000
Set on 1.06 acres in a private, established neighborhood near the Gorham/Buxton town line, this property enjoys the added benefit of abutting town-owned land with a playground and ballfield - providing convenient recreational space just beyond the property. The main level offers an inviting layout with a front dining room open to the updated kitchen, which was remodeled in 2021 and includes newer appliances. The first-floor family room features recently refinished hardwood floors and provides a comfortable gathering space, while a dedicated first-floor laundry room adds everyday convenience. Enjoy the deck overlooking the pool.

BUXTON $564,000
This charming 4-bedroom home offers a bright and functional layout in a peaceful rural setting, just a short drive from Portland. Step onto the inviting farmers porch, perfect for enjoying your morning coffee or relaxing in the evening. Inside, you'll find a versatile layout featuring a first-floor bedroom, 2 full bathrooms. The second level boasts beautiful pre-finished African cherry flooring throughout the remaining bedrooms and offers easy access to a spacious walk-up attic--ideal for seasonal storage or future expansion. Out back, the expansive rear deck provides an excellent space for outdoor entertaining and overlooking the private yard.

GORHAM $415,000
1 owner home featuring 2 comfortable bedrooms and 1.5 baths, this well-maintained home boasts gleaming hardwood floors, energy-efficient replacement windows, and an inviting farmer's porch perfect for morning coffee or relaxing in the evening. Enjoy year round living in the light filled 4-season sunroom, or head downstairs to the finished basement complete with a cozy wood stove—ideal for a family room, home office, or recreation area. Outdoors, the property shines with incredible storage and vehicle space, including a detached 2-car garage with ample storage space above and an additional detached 1-car garage.

WINDHAM $339,900
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 much of the traffic congestion found farther north. Inside, the thoughtfully designed floor plan offers comfortable living across three levels. The first floor features a granite kitchen, inviting living room with hardwood flooring, convenient half bath and a sliding glass door leading to your private deck overlooking the wooded edge. Upstairs, you'll find a spacious primary bedroom, second bedroom, full bath & a bonus 3rd floor loft.

GORHAM $84,900
Desirable location in Patio Park, a 55+ community, between Gorham & Westbrook. This 1971 Detrotier manufactured home has newer flooring, replacement windows, newer hot water tank, roof, bathroom, recent interior paint, new porch & new furnace in April 2025. The storage shed has been rebuilt and the yard landscaped with flower gardens & plantings. A cute & cozy updated home offering 2 bedrooms & a full bath that's energy efficient. Enjoy the canopy porch for your morning coffee or afternoon tea.

Julie Chandler

Mike Griffin

Peter Mason

Of Interest Continued from Page 9

The Senior Meal Site at St. Anne's Church meets 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 - 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/. 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 Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9 - 10 a.m through Dec. 15. 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)). 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.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE NEWS

The Department of Theatre has an incredible line-up of shows this year for the whole family - musicals, mysteries, comedy, radio theatre, student-directed work and more. Tickets for the full season are on sale at PortTIX. There is a 10% discount when you purchase tickets to three or more shows or four tickets to the same show.

The first production of the season is "The Lightning Thief," a touring production in collaboration with the Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine and the Osher School of Music, Sept. 25-27. If you like the book by Rick Riordan, you'll love this rock musical adaptation that's great for kids ages 8 and up. When teenager Percy Jackson discovers he's a demigod, he and his friends embark on an epic journey to find Zeus' missing lightning bolt and prevent a war among the gods. "The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical" is an action-packed mythical adventure "worthy of the gods" (Time Out New York).

Interested in learning more about the Bible?
Join us for video classes taught by Les Feldick
in his "Through the Bible" series

Hosted by Grace Bible Church
74 Deering Road, Gorham
Every Thursday evening starting September 24
from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m

Our first series will feature the Book of Revelation.
Recommended to bring a Bible to follow along.
FMI contact Ken at (207) 318-1260

CALENDAR

Thursday, September 24
- Baxter Memorial Library, Preschool Storytime, 10 a.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, Book Group, 10:15 a.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, Board Game Café, noon
- Maine Department of Transportation Virtual Public Meeting, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Friday, September 25
- USM Department of Theatre presents "The Lightning Thief," 7 p.m.

Saturday, September 26
- North Gorham Public Library, Chair Yoga, 9 - 10 a.m.
- USM Department of Theatre presents "The Lightning Thief," 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- Living Waters Haddock Supper Buffet, 4 - 5:30 p.m., Parker Farm Road, Buxton.

Sunday, September 27
- USM Department of Theatre presents "The Lightning Thief," 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Tuesday, September 29
- North Gorham Public Library, Chair Yoga, 9 - 10 a.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, Toddler and Family Storytime, 10 a.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, Healthy Lawn Care Made Easy, 5 p.m.

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

Thursday, October 1
- Baxter Memorial Library, Preschool Storytime, 10 a.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, Board Game Café, noon
- Baxter Memorial Library, Beginner Basics Sewing Class, 4 p.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, Trustee Meeting, 6 p.m

Saturday, October 3
- North Gorham Public Library, Chair Yoga, 9 - 10 a.m.
- White Rock Community Clubhouse Public Bean Supper, 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 6
- North Gorham Public Library, Chair Yoga, 9 - 10 a.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, Toddler and Family Storytime, 10 a.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, Dogs Dig Reading, 4 p.m.
- Baxter Memorial Library, French Language Discussion Group, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 7
- Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Storytime, 9:30 - 10 a.m.

Gorham MAINE

Upcoming Meetings

9/24 Capital Improvement Projects/Economic Development Committee Meeting, 11 a.m.
9/28 Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
9/28 Planning Board Meeting (Optional Date), 7:00 p.m.
10/5 Planning Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
10/6 Regular Town Council Meeting, 6:30 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 Fall by using our "Fall 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.

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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

Officer was notified that there was a vehicle with a flat tire on Cressey Road near the Cressey Road Church, Officer located the vehicle with a flat left front tire. The driver stated that she was all set and that AAA was approximately 20 minutes away. Officer advised her to call if she needed any further assistance.

Kubota dealer wanted to see if their equipment was on site at residence, because the equipment was not returned on time. Officer confirmed it was there, and made contact with the renter and told her that if she did not return it today they were going to report it stolen and charge her with theft. She stated she would drop it off around 17:30 hours later today. Nothing further.

While on routine patrol an officer observed a vehicle, bearing State of Maine registration, parked on the side of the bypass, Officer stopped to speak with the operator, who said she was feeding the baby. This ended officer's involvement in this case.

Lost phone, came in as a crash, as the phone fell off the roof of the vehicle. The phone was located on Fort Hill Rd. Officer spoke to the owner who stated he was headed to Amato's on Main Street. Officer met the owner there, and transferred the property over to him.

A citizen called in with questions about a deer-crossing sign. Dispatch called him back and he started to explain he was frustrated with all the cars traveling at high rates of speed. Dispatch told him we could do more patrols in the area, but in regards to the sign, he would have to speak to the town.

A very damaged washing machine was in the roadway on Fort Hill Rd. The washer was moved out of the roadway. Officer had Dispatch notify Public Works about the washer to have it removed.

Caller wanted to report a large political sign that was obstructing the view from oncoming traffic. Officer checked the area and was able to see past the sign with no issues.

Observed a vehicle bearing State of Maine registration with the hazards on. Officer spoke to the operator who said he lost oil pressure in the truck and had a mechanic on the way. Officer remained on scene while the mechanic looked at the vehicle. It was determined that it could be moved off the roadway to work on it some more. The vehicle was moved to a parking lot.

CryptoVerse Solution by A. Logophile

IS THE USA GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION?

GIVE YOUR OPINION IN THE NEXT ELECTION.

STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY

AND SHOW UP AT THE POLLS ON ELECTION DAY.

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Gorham Knights of Columbus

5K Walk/Run

Saturday, Oct. 10, 9 a.m.

Shaw Cherry Hill Farm, Gorham

Proceeds support local food pantries:

Gorham Food Pantry
Standish Food Pantry
Buxton Food Co-Op
Buxton Community Cupboard
Sebago Warming Hut Food Pantry

First 100 Registrants Get an Athletic T-shirt

To register, visit:
www.gorhamknights.org/events/5k

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[1]APY = Annual Percentage Yield as of 2/6/2026. Each cycle an electronic statement is received. A qualification cycle closes on the 25th of each month and begins on the 26th of the previous month. Transaction requirements apply. Each cycle, 6% APY will be paid on balances of up to $10,000 with Evergreen debit and/or SunSelect credit card use of $1,500 or more. 3% APY will be paid on balances of up to $10,000 with Evergreen debit and/or SunSelect credit card use between $750 and $1,499.99, and 0.05% APY will be paid on all amounts above $10,000. Transactions must be credit (Non-PIN) based to apply towards balance total. If requirements are not met in a cycle, balances will earn 0.05% APY. The interest (dividend) rate is subject to change without notice. Membership eligibility requirements apply. Account holder must live, work, worship, or attend school in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, or York counties, or have an immediate relative who meets our field of membership requirements. Federally insured by NCUA.

Moody's
CO-WORKER OWNED
ESOP
2025 Best Places to Work in ME

Your Community Paper
Gorham Times
GORHAM'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1994

Caller wanted to report a large political