

# Gorham Times

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

## Gorham High School Presents “Little Shop of Horrors”

Jocelyn Miller, GHS Musical Producer



Photo credit: Molly Breton and Company

Zack Bourgoin (Seymour), Noah Williams (Voice of Audrey II), Daniel LeBarge (Puppeteer)

Gorham High School will present “Little Shop of Horrors” for six shows over the next two weekends. Friday and Saturday performances (Jan. 31, Feb. 1, 7 and 8) will be at 7 p.m. and Sunday Matinees (Feb. 2 and 9) at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$14 and are available for purchase online. Find the link to our new ticketing platform “On The Stage” on the Gorham High School website.

Tickets will also be available for sale at the door on the date of the performance.

This horror comedy rock musical follows a meek flower shop assistant Seymour who pines for his wide-eyed co-worker Audrey. During a total eclipse, he discovers an unusual plant that he names Audrey II. Audrey II is not very healthy until Seymour discovers that she feeds only on human flesh and blood

and she begins to grow larger and larger.

The growing plant attracts a great deal of business for the previously struggling store owned and operated by a hilariously desperate shop owner Mushnik. After Seymour feeds Audrey's boyfriend, the sinister dentist Orin, to Audrey II, he must come up with more bodies for the increasingly bloodthirsty plant.

GHS's production of “Little Shop of Horrors” promises to impress audiences with classic songs such as “Downtown (Skid Row),” “Somewhere That's Green,”

and “Suddenly Seymour.” Alan Menken and Howard Ashman, the dream team behind the songs and lyrics of “Little Shop of Horrors,” composed the score to reflect the styles of early 1960's rock and roll, Motown and doo-wop.

This year GHS worked with Monkey Boys Productions out of Pennsylvania to rent the Audrey II puppets that can be seen throughout the show. These puppets have been used in many off-broadway productions of “Little Shop”

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Photo credit: Molly Breton and Company

Full Cast and Crew of GHS production of “Little Shop Of Horrors”

## Groucho Glasses, Gorham, and Guinness World Records

JoAnn Leib, Staff Writer



Photo credit: JoAnn Leib

Gorham Times from 2006

If you were to ask 1,463 Gorham folks what they were doing on a sunny July 30, 2006, even where they were gathered and what they were wearing, they could tell you in an eye blink. They'd say they were standing on the site of what is now the Gorham Police Department trying to break a record. They were laughing and wearing Groucho Marx-like disguises: fake eyeglasses attached to an oversized nose, dark eyebrows and a black mustache, and they were hoping to step into the Guinness Book

of World Records. A day to remember.

By the next day one of several Maine newspapers who headlined the event, captioned their article, “Gorham Goes Groucho.” USA Today added a note on Aug. 1, 2006. The Associated Press asked, “What Would Groucho Say?” And the challenge was on to see if Gorham could break the existing record.

Cindy Hazelton, director of Gorham Parks and Recreation, who looks back on 33 years of working for the town, recalls that day well and credits her 2006 staff and a young intern from St. Joseph's College with brainstorming the escapade.

“We started with ten ideas and landed on the Guinness book of World Records, and we found and filled out the Guinness application. Then it was real—Groucho Marx glasses. We knew we'd have to compete against the record holder, an Australian Junior Rugby team. We knew we'd have to set a number goal—theirs was 1400--find a calendar date and designate two official witnesses who Guinness

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## Committee Looks to Get Gorham Residents on the Bus

Kelli Deveaux, Staff Writer

At the Jan. 16 meeting of Gorham's Capital Improvement Projects/Economic Development Committee, Town Councilors Gagnon, Lavoie, Siegel and Simms took up the questions of how, and why, to increase ridership of the Metro public bus system in Gorham.

Town Manager Ephrem Paraschak gave background on the interconnected interests and history of the bus service provider, University of Southern Maine, and the Town of Gorham. He noted that the town established a relationship with Metro in 2017, driven by the company's interest in raising ridership, recognizing that USM was paying significantly for the Husky Line bus to run to and from their campuses in Gorham and Portland. Since then, Metro has expanded service to two additional sites in Gorham, and the town has become a paying member of the service, which also grants them a seat on the Metro Board of Directors, currently filled by Councilor Siegel.

Mr. Paraschak noted that changing adult behaviors is hard, but increas-

ing ridership with youth may be more effective. Councilor Simms stated there have been conversations with Gorham School Superintendent Heather Perry about giving kids access to the Metro system, much like students in Portland Schools have, and tapping into the opportunities to learn about public transit. But Simms repeated concerns that the bus stops need to be convenient to where people are, including students. Councilor Lavoie questioned if youth were heading into Portland or Westbrook regularly after school, and if adding a stop would be beneficial or a waste. Discussions about possible bus routes and stops led Gorham Director of Community Development Tom Poirier to note that asking for additional stops is a lot easier than asking for new bus routes.

The group discussed working with major employers along the bus route to offer incentives to their staff for using the bus line, but many shared stories of family members who work in the

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Policy on News from Augusta: The Gorham Times asked our three state legislators from Senate District 30, House District 108 and House District 109 to provide us with "News from Augusta." We publish their articles on a rotating basis. The submissions are devoted to updates of legislative and administrative news, proposed and passed bills and laws, and developments and events that are of interest and have an impact on Gorham residents. The Gorham Times reserves the right to edit the submissions and it further reserves the right to reject any submission, at its sole discretion.

# Hitting the ground running in Augusta

Rep. Ellie Sato, D-Gorham

For those who don't know me yet, my name is Ellie Sato, and I was recently elected to represent the parts of Gorham that are east of Route 114, and North Gorham, in the Maine House of Representatives. This is the first of many columns I will write for the Gorham Times over the course of the next two years, with the intention of sharing the work I am doing in my committee, providing updates on the progress of the bills I introduce, and offering helpful information and resources. I'm truly grateful and honored to have been sworn into office as your representative, and look forward to working alongside my colleagues, our community and the people of our state.

It is my job to make your voices heard in Augusta. Whether you are struggling with a particular state program, tax burdens or another issue, I want to uplift the voices of Gorham residents and help create visibility for you. That's why I'll approach my work in the Legislature with you, fellow constituents of Gorham, as my primary focus. Though we all have different jobs and responsibilities, we all want a similar thing – for state government to work for us – continuing essential services and reducing the cost of living wherever possible. From my time working in the State House as a legislative aide, I know firsthand that the public servants in the building are working overtime in a complicated system to do whatever they can to make life better for everyday Mainers – and I look forward

ward to utilizing my experience and energy toward doing the same in this new role.

For the 132nd Legislature, I am pleased to have been appointed to serve as a member of the Legislature's Judiciary Committee. This is an important policy committee of the Legislature and our work will have real impacts on Mainers' lives. We handle issues related to the state's court system, indigent legal services, civil and human rights, tribal sovereignty and much more.

Much of the most important work of the Legislature happens in committees, and the Judiciary Committee plays a crucial role in making sure that state government delivers for many of our most vulnerable Mainers – this includes ensuring adequate legal representation for those accused of crimes, overseeing procedural changes to civil cases such as landlord-tenant disputes, reviewing legislation addressing discrimination and working with the Maine Human Rights Commission.

The legislative session is newly underway, and over the coming months we will consider more than 1,500 bills submitted by members of both chambers from across Maine. We will also be working towards crafting, and passing, a balanced two-year budget. Gov. Janet Mills recently released her recommendations for the budget, and the Judiciary Committee will be meeting with the Appropriations Committee to ensure necessary services benefiting Mainers remain adequately funded. Our committee work outside of the budget

has also already begun, taking testimony regarding new initiatives and hearing reports from commissions, including the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services and the Independent Commission to Investigate the Facts of the Tragedy in Lewiston.

I am committed to fulfilling my responsibility of representing you by diving into the nuanced policy work in the Judiciary Committee and by bringing my expertise to the table, not only as a former staffer in the State House, but also as a former bartender. I am someone who empathizes with what Mainers from different walks of life are facing in these times, especially with inflation and the cost of living remaining high.

Most importantly, I encourage you to reach out to me any time with concerns on issues you care about, questions on policy or legislation, ideas to better our community or to introduce yourself. I hope to continue the conversations I began this past summer, so please do not hesitate to email me at [ellie.sato@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:ellie.sato@legislature.maine.gov).



Rep. Ellie Sato, D-Gorham, is serving her first term in the Maine House of Representatives.

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be fewer than 300 words, signed with a first and last name, typed or e-mailed and include a phone number 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.

Dear Gorham Times and citizens of Gorham,

The Martha T. Robie Memorial Park will be enjoying its 90th birthday this year! We are blessed that we had community visionaries back in 1935 who recognized the need for recreational space within Gorham village.

The "Friends of Robie Park" and the Gorham Recreation Dept. invite everyone to come hear the exciting progress regarding the Robie Park Master Plan. The meeting will be held on February 10 at 6 p.m. in the Gorham Recreation Dept. Multi-purpose room.

In this meeting we will hear Cindy Hazelton provide an update on the upcoming Phase 1 work along with a look at future phases. In addition, there will be discussions on how community members can donate their time, talent, or treasure to support the work associated with the Master Plan for the park and brainstorm ideas for future events at the park. Some examples might include snowshoe intro, tiny house/village building and hot cocoa event with bonfire. We hope that you can all make this event.

Mike Chabot, A "Friend of Robie Park" and Robie Park Master Plan Committee Vice Chair

To the Editor,

As the principal of Gorham High School, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Gorham Police Department for their unwavering dedi-

cation to the safety and well-being of our community, particularly within our schools. The strong relationship between our schools and the Gorham Police Department is built on mutual respect and a shared commitment to fostering a secure environment for our students and staff.

Our School Resource Officers (SROs) play a vital role in ensuring campus safety while also building meaningful relationships with students. Their guidance and mentorship extend far beyond their official duties, reinforcing the importance of trust and community within our schools.

One recent example of this partnership is the School Safety Presentation held on Jan. 21, 2025. The Gorham Police Department collaborated with us to provide parents with essential information about school safety measures and emergency preparedness. This event reflects their dedication to proactive communication and community engagement.

Beyond safety, the department's involvement in programs like Camp 911, youth sports camps, and other outreach initiatives highlights their commitment to connecting with our young people. These efforts foster positive relationships and demonstrate their care for the future of our community.

In a time when school safety is of paramount importance, we are fortunate to have such a proactive and collaborative partnership with the

Gorham Police Department. Their efforts not only protect our students and staff but also strengthen the bond of trust within our community.

On behalf of Gorham High School, I extend my deepest thanks to the Gorham Police Department for their continued support. We look forward to building on this partnership to keep Gorham a safe and welcoming place for all.

Brian Jandreau, Principal, Gorham High School

To the Editor,

I did a rough back-of-the-envelope calculation last fall based on the school bond for new classrooms at the high school. If it costs 9 million dollars to provide classroom space for 150 new students, simple arithmetic tells me that each new student in the system costs \$60,000 in new infrastructure. I see that school impact fees charged to developers for each new home are only \$1000, and often are waived altogether. That means that existing taxpayers must pick up the tab.

Now, I'm happy to have the school system well-funded, but we know developers are making a bundle on the housing they build and sell. It becomes a classic case of privatizing the profits (to the developers) while socializing the costs (to the local property taxpayers). Why are the school impact fees so far out of line with the cost of the students the new housing brings?

Betsy Hooper, Gorham

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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

February 5

February 19

March 5



# S. Mason Pratt Speaks at Baxter Memorial Library

Roger Marchand, Staff Photographer



Photo credit: Roger Marchand

On a cold Jan. 22 around 25 community members attended a book talk by local retired lawyer and novelist S. Mason Pratt at Baxter Memorial Library. He opened his presentation with some background on what led him to become a novelist as well as what inspired him to write his present novel, "On the Knife Edge," which is part historical but mainly fiction. His fascination with the sinking of the container ship El Faro off the coast of the Bahamas during Hurricane Joaquin in 2015 led to doing research on the incident. He then explained how this helped him develop the plot for his book.

## Jazzercise in Gorham

Lucia Holloway, GHS Student Intern



Jazzercise comes to Gorham.

Jazzercise classes (a dancing form of exercise) are now available in Gorham. Classes are held every week excluding Wednesdays at one of two locations in Gorham. The business was originally brought to Gorham by Meredith Bullard who moved to Maine 15 years ago from North Carolina, where she first started jazzercise classes in 2007.

Jazzercise is a unique form of exercise which has remained a constant in the industry for decades. Bullard



Photo credit: Meredith Bullard

hopes to grow the company and become more involved in the community. Jazzercise being a welcoming community to all, classes see a variety of ages.

Currently, there are two gym locations, 10 Wentworth Drive and 34 School Street, which are leased spaces from Gorham Arts Alliance but there are hopes to one day have a stand-alone gym location.

Sign up for Jazzercise classes on the jazzercise app/ or at <https://jazzercise.com>.

# University Arts Preview

John Ersek, Staff Writer



Photo credit: John Ersek

Current art exhibit at the USM Art Gallery, 37 College Avenue.

The USM Art Gallery on the Gorham campus is currently featuring "Life Forms: Grow" which is a collective exhibit by four Maine based sculptural artists who are members of a twelve-artist group also known as Life Forms. This current exhibit includes works by Elaine K. Ng, Leah Gauthier, Jackie Brown, and Ashley Page, and the exhibit is open until Feb. 15. The art gallery's open hours are Tuesday through Friday, from 11a.m. until 4 p.m.

Ng's works are textiles featuring her own designs (some contemporary, some influenced by tradition) which make use of the complex, laborious Mughal Indian fabric process known as kalamkari, or chintz, which originated in India during the 17th Century.

Many of Page's works feature modified depictions seed pod clusters and flowers. She includes depictions of some of the external influences which affect seed dispersal and germination, such as wind, water, and fire.

Brown's ceramic works are influenced by her interest in geological timeframes and their effects on soil and rocks. Many works are created through her experiments with a ceramic 3D printer. Her large works are described as "fragile stacked plateaus," while the smaller ones "drip, lean, coil, and crawl."

Gauthier's works include tapestry disks, as well as smaller fabric and felt tower constructions (which utilize living succulent plants). Both types of works are intended to symbolize various daily atmospheric influences (such as wind) as well as longer-term climatic changes and their effects on humans.

Both of the spring semester's theatrical productions feature recent adaptations based on classic novels.

The Theatre Department will be presenting "The Birds" (based on the novel by Rebecca DuMaurier) on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays in late February and early March. "The Birds" opens Friday, Feb 21, with the closing performance on the afternoon of Sunday, March 2.

Theatre will also present musical version of Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women" in April. It will open on Friday, April 4, with the closing performance on Sunday, April 13.

All theatre performances are in Russell Hall.

The Osher School of Music has scheduled a full slate of performances for the first two months of the spring semester. It should be noted that the school of music is scheduled to move to a new performance space on the Portland Campus during the summer of this year. Most USM musical performances will take place in Portland beginning in the fall of 2025.

The Osher School of Music's first faculty performance of the semester will take place on Friday, Jan. 31 at 7:30 p.m. "Bold as Brass" features William Dietz and the Faculty Brass Quintet.

The following faculty concert has a Valentine's Day theme. It will take place on Sunday, Feb. 9 at 2 p.m. featuring Laura Kargul on piano and Callie Brennan on violin.

The Faculty Concert Series continues on Friday, Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. It is part of the "Women in Music" series. "The Influencers: Streisand to Schuman, Boulanger to Browning" features sopranos Malinda Haslett and Mary Bastoni. "Wind Ensemble, Chamber Winds and Percussion" is the first concert in the student ensemble series, and is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m.

On Friday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. the Faculty Concert Series continues with "Regnier, Sonenberg, and Brahms," featuring Robert Lehmann, Kimberly Lehmann, Bill Rounds, and Thomas Parchman. The Regnier and Sonenberg pieces are world premieres.

The 48th Annual School of Music Honors Recital takes place on Saturday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m.

The School of Music also has a number of end-of-semester concerts planned for the month of April. See <https://usm.maine.edu/calendar-of-events/location/corthell-hall/> for details. All concerts listed are in Corthell Hall.

Please note: Parking at USM is not free. All visitors who park on campus need to pay for parking in advance through one of the on-campus kiosks. The use of a smart phone (along with a credit or debit card) is required for on-campus parking. Annual parking passes are available.

## New School Committee Member

Michael Lortie, School News Editor

Jaci Reynolds is the newest School Committee Member. Jaci will fill the slot left open by the recent resignation of long-time school committee member Stewart McCallister. She will serve as an appointed member until the next municipal election in June 2025.

Jaci is new to the community of Gorham but has served many years on a school board in her previous home. She served on the School Board in Brattleboro, Vermont, for several years, including navigating COVID-

19 and selecting and onboarding a new Superintendent. While on the board, she served on the Finance Committee. Following her time on the Board, she served on the Independent Budget Review Committee, which assessed the school and town budgets and presented them to the public. Jaci recently moved to Gorham and has two children in elementary school.

The Gorham School District is extremely grateful to Jaci, for being willing to step into this critical role at such an essential time of the year.



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# Financial Focus: You Can Put More into Your 401(K) This Year

Pete Watt, Contributing Writer

Once you retire, you'll likely need to draw on a variety of financial sources - and one of the most important ones may be your 401(k). And for 2025, you can put even more money into your plan than ever.

You can invest in your 401(k) in one of two ways, depending on your employer's plan. With a traditional 401(k), you contribute pre-tax dollars, which can lower your taxable income, and your money can grow, tax deferred. If you have a Roth 401(k) option, you can contribute after-tax dollars, which aren't deductible, but your eventual withdrawals will be tax-free if you've had your account at least five years and you're at least 59 years of age.

For either a traditional or Roth 401(k), as well as similar plans such as a 457(b) (for government employees) or a 403(b) (for educators and employees of some nonprofit groups), the contribution limit has increased by \$500 for 2025, to \$23,500.

If you're 50 or older, you can contribute an additional \$7,500, for a total of \$31,000.

And under the SECURE 2.0 legislation, if you are between 60 and 63, you have a higher catch-up contribution — \$11,250, instead of \$7,500, for a total of \$34,750.

If you can afford to contribute the full amount to your 401(k) or similar plan, consider doing so. Of course, not everyone is in that position. As a younger worker, you may have other financial obligations, such as paying off student loans. You may also be putting away money for other things — such as your children's education — as well as your own retirement. But even if you can't "max out" on your 401(k), try to contribute at least enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered.

Regardless of how much you contribute to your 401(k), consider some suggestions on managing the money within your plan:

- Create a portfolio that fits your risk

tolerance. Most 401(k) plans offer up to a dozen investment options, while some plans offer many more. You obviously want to increase your 401(k) balance as much as possible, but that doesn't necessarily mean putting all your 401(k) dollars into the most aggressive funds available. Consider spreading your 401(k) contributions among a range of investments, which can help you lower your risk level while still giving you opportunities for long-term growth. Everyone's risk tolerance is different, though, so you'll want to evaluate yours when constructing your 401(k) portfolio.

- Adjust your portfolio as needed. It's important to review your 401(k)'s investment mix at least once a year to see if it's performing as you'd hoped. But be patient - one "down" year doesn't necessarily mean you must make changes. However, as you approach retirement, you may want to lower the risk level of your 401(k) by moving some of your dollars into more conservative vehicles. Still, even when you're retired and have started drawing money from your 401(k), you might want to keep some growth potential in it to help you stay ahead of inflation.

By contributing what you can afford to your 401(k), and by carefully managing the investments within your plan, you can help maximize the value of this powerful retirement savings vehicle — and give yourself a key asset to help you enjoy your retirement years.



Pete Watt, with Edward Jones since 2015, loves working closely with clients to help them and their families develop successful and personalized strategies to achieve their

financial goals. This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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EJPFIM JBBCIBFNI XJI MFAC PNW BLC VGWCO.

BFYBNY, XCJOC DFTCO, VFM DFTCO CIDNGR

JIR LNH JVNWB HCJBLCT, FB'O VCCI ZWFBC XNGR.

CLUE: Z = Q

SOLUTION ON PAGE 11

# Gorham Tree Festival Winner Announced

Gorham Times Staff



Photo credit: Courtesy of the Gorham Tree Festival

The Gorham Tree Festival 2024 has announced the winner of the 2024 festival was Casco Federal Credit Union. The Gorham Tree Festival has donated on behalf of Casco Federal Credit Union to the Gorham Backpack Program. They also thanked the participants, Casco Federal Credit Union, Chalmers Insurance Group, The Bookworm, Atlantic Dance Arts, Redeemer Lutheran Church, and Great Falls Construction.



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# Fire Prevention in Gorham

JoAnn Leib, Staff Writer



Photo credit: JoAnn Leib

At Gorham FD entrance, dedicated to firefighters past, present, future.

Prompted by the cluster of vicious wildfires that broke out in Los Angeles County on Jan. 7, and as new evacuations have been ordered there as recently as Jan. 23, 2025, Gorham's Fire Chief Ken Fickett shared his decades-long experience with the devastation of such infernos.

"Wind played a huge part in those fires." He said, "The heat and drought in the area created dry, dangerous conditions. A spark from a grill or small brush fire could have led to billions of dollars and dozens of lives lost, and 100 mph winds were the worst part of the equation."

It's not as dry in Maine as in Los Angeles, and we don't have to factor in the Santa Ana winds here, but the increasingly hotter summer months are more of a challenge now,

and Fickett assures that the GFD is prepared to meet the challenge. Fickett talked about a 2022 barn fire that brought fire crews from several towns and kept himself and his firefighters and others up for many, many hours. The story was like the worst nightmare.

"We're constantly training—with fires the thing is 'surround and drown,'" Fickett said, "and we stay ahead of most of the fires that do break out. But we need to receive a call before a brush fire or home accident turns into something bigger." Homeowners are sometimes hesitant to call for help until they see that a gust of wind or an exploding tree limb has changed the fire management conditions.

Fickett offered a reminder for citizens who want to stay informed by participating in the Code Red program, a secure sign-up page to keep you safe in the event of an emergency. The system allows for a text, phone or email delivery to participants who connect, and it is a free service. (Visit [www.cumberlandcounty.org](http://www.cumberlandcounty.org) or <http://www.cumberlandcounty.org/130/Regional-Communications-Center>.)

Code Red alerts include fires, severe weather activity, road closures, criminal activity, evacuations and missing person cases. The system is geographically based, alerting only residents in the affected area, and it is current information.

"We work hand in hand with the Gorham Police Department, the town, the county and our own psychological support professional." Emergencies are part of life, but when something goes wrong, often the Fire Department is the first call folks make.

"We're in it to the end," Fickett says.

# Gorham Public Pre-K Enrollment

Michael Lortie, School News Editor

Families who have children who will be four years old by Oct. 15, 2025 are encouraged to apply for free half-day public Pre-K at the partner locations: Gorham School Department at Narragansett School offering half-day AM and PM sessions, Seedlings to Sunflowers Public Pre-K offering half-day Pre-K with wrap-around day care, and Gorham Arts Alliance Public Pre-K offering half day Pre-K programs with wrap-around day care.

This will be the third year of the Pre-K initiative and offers a wonderful opportunity for four-year-old children to receive educational services. There are three steps to apply:

1. Complete an application (Available at the Gorham Schools website through a link or QR Code.)
2. You will receive a notice of Program Placement on Friday, March 14.

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3. Attend screening on Wed., Apr. 2. Please call (207) 222-1250 if you have any questions or need assistance with the application.

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featuring

*vintage & antique linens \* 19<sup>th</sup> century prints, paper & Valentines \* Victorian & Romantic antiques, collectibles, gifts and accessories*

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**Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**  
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*Grandma's Attic Treasures Studio is located at the sign of The Colonel's Lady, 82 South Street (Route 114) Gorham, ME. 04038*

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# Gorham Graduates Return To Intern At Village School

Michael Lortie, School News Editor



Photo Credit: Stacey Sawyer, School Counselor, Village School

Julia and Caroline Smith, GHS graduates who are Teaching Interns at Village School

This semester, included among the Teaching Interns at Village School are two Gorham High School graduates, sisters: Julia and Caroline Smith. Both have also spent time this fall at Great Falls School and have found both schools to be warm and welcoming.

Julia is a 2015 graduate of Gorham High School. She fondly remembers many events from her education in Gorham. In an email response to questions, she stated, "I went to Little Falls for kindergarten, and Narragansett for first and second grade. I remember playing with my friends on the wooden playground. I also participated in the school play as Tinkerbell in fifth grade alongside many of my friends. I could name an abundance of incredible teachers from my time at Gorham schools."

When asked about her reasons for becoming a teacher, she responded, "Growing up, I loved the idea of becoming a teacher, but chose to pursue marketing in my undergrad instead. I've always loved kids but I thought the grass was greener in marketing, and as it turns out for me, it wasn't."

After tragically losing our dad in 2022, I knew I wanted a career that brought me happiness and fulfillment the way his career did for him, and after being

around my friends' and cousins' children, and finding that they were one of my greatest sources of happiness during a really tough time, I finally took the next step. After working in marketing for close to five years, I decided to apply for the Extended Teacher Education Program (ETEP) at USM.

"My favorite teachers from Village School were Mrs. Turner (now Ms. Bywaters) and Mrs. Reynolds and Ms. Mezzanotte for part of fifth grade math."

Caroline is a 2017 graduate of Gorham High School. Her memories of growing up in the Gorham schools include, "Playing on the wooden playground and the current one, admiring the paintings on the walls, loving all of my teachers, and making new friends. A memory that stands out to me was when Village Elementary School's previous Assistant Principal Jane Esty kissed a pig. Additionally, field days at Village were especially enjoyable with various competitions and fun activities."

When asked why she is choosing a career in education, Caroline stated, "My love for children, my desire to make a difference and help others, my positive experiences surrounding my academic journey, and more. Growing up, I loved helping my mom take care of children and eventually babysitting children myself. As the years went on, my fondness for children only grew and I realized how much I enjoyed making kids happy and helping them learn new things. Although I originally thought that I wanted to go into the healthcare field, the foundation of my career choice was based on wanting to help others. The Gorham Schools system brought me some of my best memories, many friends, and an education that I am proud of. These positive experiences with school certainly led to my career choice in education."

Growing up, her favorite teachers were Heather Richards, her third grade teacher, and Jodi Mezzanotte, her fifth grade teacher.

Village School is thrilled to welcome back two familiar faces to work with their students.

## Getting Gorham on the Bus CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

healthcare fields and hospitals who do not have a reliable and set schedule, and the lack of bus frequency making it a time consuming option that few would choose. They also discussed that Goodwill Industries wanted a bus stop by the industrial park, however a lack of crosswalks and sidewalks make it an unlikely, and possibly unsafe option.

Conversation went back and forth on whether Gorham should ask Metro for suggestions to boost ridership, or if the town should propose changes and make requests to which Metro would have to respond. Councilor Siegel noted that as a member of the Metro Board, they had reviewed many requests from communities served, but Town Manager Paraschak shared that Gorham's experience had been more about reviewing and less about making any actual changes, citing the request for a change in how the Metro line accesses the USM campus as

an example of an unaddressed request.

While Councilor Siegel shared the Metro has significant data and analysis on ridership that would be beneficial to the conversation, he also noted, for example, that the increases in ridership seen by Metro since 2020 are from those who are using the service for recreational activities, such as going into town for dinner or a show, and not for daily work commuting. The group agreed as a whole that more information was needed. They determined that Tom Poirier will reach out to Metro for additional information, and will look at the Economic Development analysis. He will bring all of this back to the committee during their next meeting to determine next steps such as surveys of businesses and residents or incentive plans.

The CIP/EDC Committee will meet again on Thursday, Feb. 24 at noon in the first floor conference room at Town Hall.

# GHS School Safety

Kelli Deveaux, Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Jan. 21, Gorham High School Administration and many members of the Gorham Police Department held an in depth discussion with interested parents and community members about school safety. The collaborative presentation reviewed prevention, monitoring, and response planning and protocols that are in place for Gorham High School, and included what parents can do to help keep our schools safe.

Presenters noted that as school shootings have tragically become commonplace, research and best practices have evolved on best ways to prevent and respond to issues of school violence. Extensive training has been received by both school staff and law enforcement that informs the school safety plan.

Recognizing that preventing acts of violence is always best, Principal Jandreau and Assistant Principal Marc Sawyer discussed the investment the school has made in developing a culture of safety and trust amongst staff and students, saying, "The development of relationships is important to ensure students feel connected to and responsible for the positive and healthy school culture."

The focus of ensuring that students have a trusted adult in the building to whom they can speak has proven invaluable. All of the reports concerning comments, social media posts or behaviors that have been investigated by the school over the past year have been because a student raised concern. Presenters reiterated that the message is clear that reporting is not about getting a person in trouble, it's about getting them help; if they see something, say something.

Should the school determine there is a concern about a student's actions, behaviors or words, a risk assessment protocol is followed; the assessment flow chart was shared during the presentation. Based on the assessment results, the school works with family members and outside agencies to get the help needed for students while ensuring the safety of all. One parent noted the difficulty in finding mental health services for youth, and Principal Jandreau acknowledged it has been difficult to always get students help. He noted that issues such as school violence negatively impact the mental health and wellbeing of all our youth, and yet the resources are scarce. Much is falling on the school's counseling and social work staff.

Principal Jandreau and Assistant Principal Sawyer explained that having conversations with kids, as parents and school staff, can help address some of those stressors or need for support. It is also a great first line for detecting concerns. They also shared that the school district utilizes a software called Securely, which monitors online language for concerning words or phrases that might suggest harm to self or harm to others, or that a student is in need of mental health support or is in crisis. Parents can also receive email updates and have access to this information for their students thru the Securly app. They can contact their building administrators for more information if needed.

Parent engagement in monitoring their child's online presence was a key message of Detective Sergeant Steven Rappold, a

self-described "nerd" and the cyber expert for the Gorham Police Department. Rappold outlined the process by which online threats are investigated, and the possible repercussions students face if they make them. To underscore why online comments are taken so seriously, he shared a deeply impactful video of comedians seemingly performing, making statements that were being passed off as funny. It was later revealed that they were quoting statements made by school shooters before committing their heinous crime, comments that weren't taken seriously. The Detective Sergeant reiterated, "Gorham Police Department will take these threats seriously, until we can know that they aren't."

Rappold shared four smartphone device monitoring apps he recommends to parents. They include Apple Screen Time, Google Family Link; Bark and Qustodio, and a website called NetSmartz that includes developmentally appropriate content for teaching and talking to youth about online safety.

Presenters acknowledged that while prevention is the goal, they are ready if something bad does happen at GHS.

Deputy Chief Michael Nault detailed the collaborative relationship between the two departments as critical for the prevention and response planning and explained that each cruiser is equipped with school specific kits that contain maps and floorplans, keys, and detailed emergency response plans in the event of an emergency. The school and police department share communications tools to ensure that emergencies are rapidly addressed. This includes radios, an emergency notification system that is on every school staff and police officer's laptop computer, and a camera system.

They have also trained together, and Nault noted that Gorham Police Dept. actively trains with other agencies in Cumberland County. He was clear that the response plan of Gorham PD is to address any threats immediately, unlike the tragic response in Uvalde, TX.

Students and school staff are also trained to use the A.L.I.C.E. method of responding, which stands for alert, lockdown, inform, counter, evacuate. This response protocol uses clear and direct language to communicate where and what threat exists and gives agency to those in the crisis to make decisions based on the information provided. Based on research, no longer is the guidance to lock the door and huddle in the corner of a room.

Information about the presentation was shared on Jan. 5 via an email from Principal Brian Jandreau. It was also on the school's website, communications app, social media sites and on the Gorham ME Scoop Facebook page, and a reminder email was sent Tuesday morning. Still, only 7 parents were in attendance to hear the information. Those present praised Principal Jandreau for his communications related to possible school safety issues, and the audience thanked all of the presenters for an insightful presentation.

"You send your kids to us every day, you are entrusting us with their safety and wellbeing, and we wanted to assure you that we take that responsibility very, very seriously," said Principal Jandreau.

You're in the Know. **Gorham Times**



# Connolly Named Varsity Hockey Rookie of the Month

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Photo Credit: Gorham Ice Hockey Association

Stephen Connolly Rookie of the Month photo

Top-notch freshman Stephen Connolly, who plays forward for the Rams, is off to a great start to the year. Connolly was named Rookie of the Month in Varsity Boys Ice Hockey on Jan. 13. On Jan. 11, Connolly recorded a hat trick v. Marshwood, scoring 2 goals in the 1st period and tallied another goal in the 3rd period. He also scored a hat trick recently in a game against Brunswick. He has 11 goals and 2 assists for 13 points in 9 games.

Connolly is described by Coach Sullivan as a dynamic player with excellent speed who creates a lot of problems for opponents. He is one of the team's top producers and according to his coach a great running mate of sophomore teammate Landon Anctil. Congratulations to Stephen Connolly for being named Rookie of the Month. Best of luck to the ice hockey team in the latter part of the season and into playoffs.

## Groucho Glasses and Gorham CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

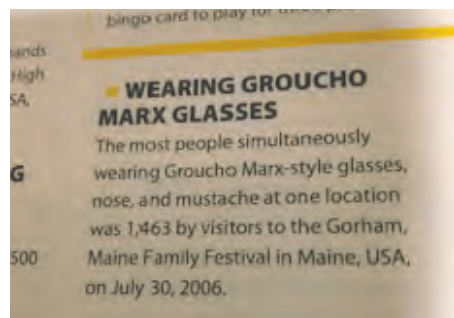


Photo credit: Joann Leib

Guinness Book of World Records lists Gorham, ME

demanding be of, “upstanding character.” Hazelton asked the town manager and a local attorney to get involved, and they agreed. Then there was the matter of purchasing 2000 sets of Groucho glasses. Could local banks support the price—81 cents per disguise? They could, and so Topshelf Collectibles of Gorham gladly delivered dozens of cartons of the plastic eyewear, enough to fill a small office.

“We found a 20’ x 30’ tent. According to Guinness guidelines, there had to be double accountability: a manned entrance and exit and numbered sets of eyeglasses and people to be sure of the count.” The glasses had to be worn simultaneously for a minimum of ten minutes by the citizens of the participating town. But how to persuade folks to actually show up?

“We planned to have a DJ and music, we called friends, and we went door to door to be sure we had more than enough people involved, but to be sure of success, we offered door prizes.” Prizes included a new Jotul stove, an Old Town canoe with paddles and a life-vest, and what Hazelton describes as the most sought-after prize: six long-handled shovels.

“That day—it was like herding cats.

We stopped people who were driving into town to get them to show up. We took pictures. We had a wonderful photographer, Martha Harris, and she got up on one of the fire trucks—on a ladder—to take pictures. Hannaford’s made loudspeaker announcements—you know— ‘leave your carts, go to the Municipal Center for a fun event, and we’ll keep an eye on your things!’ Everyone got involved.”

People were bursting to show their Gorham spirit by checking in and being counted, recounted and photographed. The event played out with the feeling that Gorham had done something memorable. Hannaford’s groceries were retrieved. The number of Groucho glasses was verified, and the count seemed to indicate that there was good news of victory to come, though by then the fun of competing against the New South Wales, Australia’s Toukley Hawks was just as exciting as the hope of making a Guinness World Record. Hazelton quickly filed proof of what she hoped would be the Gorham triumph, and soon enough Guinness World Records acknowledged the successful outcome, on their letterhead, but not yet in print in book form. It would be by chance many months later that Hazelton would be browsing through the Guinness Book of World Records 2008 to happen on the Gorham, Maine notation. “The Most People Wearing Groucho Marx Glasses at the Same Time.” It was there, less than an eighth of a page, but in color, and very satisfying indeed. The event is marked by a framed two-page layout, in full color in the Parks and Recreation Center, 75 South Street, Gorham, Maine.

# Edwards Named Gatorade Volleyball Player of the Year

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Photo Credit: Eric Tirrell

#17 Liana Edwards in action v. South Portland

Sophomore Liana Edwards was named Gatorade Player of the Year in January, after a season in which she helped propel the Rams to win a consecutive Class A State championship. Edwards is a six-foot setter for the Rams directing the offense while also defending/blocking using her quick and tenacious athletic skills. Edwards was also named Varsity Maine Player of the Year.

The Gatorade Player of the Year award recognizes high school athletes who excel on the court, in the classroom and in the community. Each win-

ner receives a \$1000 grant to donate to a youth sports organization of their choice.

Coach Emma Tirrell shared, “We are happy to announce that Liana has the honor of representing the title of Gorham Varsity Volleyball's first ever Gatorade Player of the Year. It is a proud moment for her dedication, hours on the court, and commitment to being a great volleyball player. I look forward to how she contributes to our program in the future and expect great things after being awarded this honor at such a young age. The future is bright!”

## Little Shop of Horrors CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Photo credit: Molly Breton and Company

Alex Tukey (Orin, the dentist)



Photo credit: Molly Breton and Company

Ally Gossen (Audrey)

and along with our cast of students, these puppets really steal the show. Our Audrey II's are operated only by student puppeteers and are quite impressive.

“Little Shop of Horrors” is directed by Joshua Hurd and the music director is GHS music teacher Matthew Murray. Also on the production team are producer Jocelyn Miller, choreographer Mariel Roy, lighting designer Joseph Strout, and costume designer Darnell Stuart. Set builder David Johnston who has been building sets for the GHS Theater department for over 25 years will be retiring after this production. GHS would like to thank him for his years of volunteering for us! The cast list includes:

Chiffon 1- Ella Senatore  
Crystal 1- Sofia Andrade  
Ronette 1- Elle Woodman  
Chiffon 2- Gracey MacDonald  
Crystal 2- Sadie Woodman  
Ronette 2- Olivia Kennedy

Mushnik- Logan Mills  
Audrey- Alexandria Gossen  
Seymour- Zack Bourgoin  
Orin- Alex Tukey  
Audrey II (Voice)- Noah Williams  
Audrey II (puppeteers) Daniel LaBarge, Dexter Vance  
Customer 1- Daniel LaBarge  
Customer 2- Rigel Arlet  
Customer 3- Abigail McCrillis  
Bernstein- Aaron Samara  
Mrs. Luce- Izzy Phinney  
Skip Snip- Finn Senatore  
Mr. Martin- Dekarai St. Germain-Simms  
Ensemble- Doria Crockett, Laurali Vail, Jade Tibbetts, Kasey Plaud, Elle Rector, Sophia Proulx, Isla Rutherford, Lucy Ciampa, Anaiah Brown, Hannah Martel, Fiona Lane, Clover Mae Bayly-Schram, Caroline Jones, Clover Brown, Alexander LaBarge  
Crew- Gillian Lachance, Dexter Vance, Max Lampron, Kaliegh Bauer, Zack Carlson, Jack Williams



# PROJECT WARMTH

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*Making sure no one in our community  
is cold this winter*



Project Warmth was created to help those in our community who need fuel assistance or help repairing their heating system. Our goal is to make sure that no one in our community is cold this winter.

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We would like to thank and recognize those who have already generously contributed to *Project Warmth* this heating season:

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Alan Potthoff  
Bob & Sue LaBrie  
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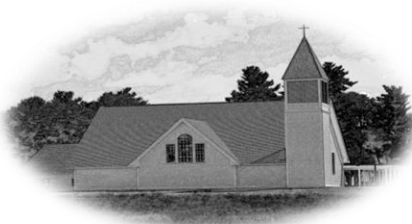
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We are continuing to accept donations as Maine winters are long and cold and the need is great. Donate or apply by calling Cressey Road Christian Church at 207-839-3111 or mail your contribution to:

Cressey Road Christian Church, PO Box 607, Gorham, Maine 04038  
*Checks should be made payable to "CRCC" with "Project Warmth" in the memo line*

*'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers  
and sisters of mine, you did for me.' ~Matthew 25:40*

Gary Slipp – Coordinator



Joseph Saunders - Pastor



# COMMUNITY

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 Marissa Wilson, University of New England, Biddeford and Portland, Maine

## OF INTEREST

The next meeting of the Gorham/Windham/Westbrook TRIAD will be Wednesday, Feb. 12 at 11 a.m. at the Gorham Fire Department Training Room on Main Street. The speaker will be from AARP. Topic is Fraud and Scams. All welcome.

A Business Networking Event will be held at Sebago Brewing Company on Wednesday, Feb. 12 from 4 - 6 p.m. sponsored by MaineBiz Magazine. \$15 per person. <https://www.mainebiz.biz/mainebiz-events/on-the-road-with-mainebiz-in-gorham>

## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Gorham Medical Loan Closet is available to Gorham residents in need of medical equipment temporarily. Wheelchairs, walkers, canes and scooters are some of the items available. The closet is open only Monday thru Thursday, and only by appointment. Call Gerry Day at (207) 756-2210 or (207) 839-3859

The Mission of Hope Clothes Closet is open the first and third Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon at Cressey Road Christian Church on Cressey Road to anyone who needs clothing. The Closet also takes donations of clean clothing, and now has all types and sizes of 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 [www.gorhamfoodpantry.org](http://www.gorhamfoodpantry.org) or contact us at [director@gorhamfoodpantry.org](mailto:director@gorhamfoodpantry.org)

## SENIOR NEWS

The Senior Meal Site at St. Anne's Church takes place weekly on Wednesdays at noon, 299 Main Street Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. Suggested donation is \$4. Meal site is closed if school is closed

or delayed due to such reasons as weather. For updates on the meal and dates open/closed, visit <https://gorhamrec.com> or call (207) 222-1635.

The Lecky Brown Senior Center meets for games and cribbage on Mondays from 10 a.m. - noon. Wednesday's Guest Speaker program, the Originals, begins with coffee at 10 a.m. then presentation to begin at 10:30 a.m. All welcome, 3rd floor First Parish Church. FMI: [leckybrowncenter@gmail.com](mailto:leckybrowncenter@gmail.com)

## PUBLIC SUPPERS

White Rock Community Clubhouse Bean Supper, 34 Wilson Road, Saturday, Feb. 1, 4 - 5:30 p.m. \$10 adults, \$5 under 12. <https://facebook.com/whiterockcommunityclub>.

Bean Supper at Scarborough Free Baptist Church, 55 Mussey Road, Feb. 8, 4 - 6 p.m., Adults \$10, under 12, \$5. (207) 772-1535.

Free Super Bowl Party Sunday, Feb. 9 at 6 p.m., Cressey Road Christian Church, bring a snack to share. Microwave available to warm food.

## LIBRARY NEWS

The North Gorham Public Library is open Monday and Wednesday, 3 - 6 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3 - 6 p.m., Thursday and Friday closed, Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Sunday closed. Story Hour is every Wednesday 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Baxter Memorial Library events are listed in the Gorham Times Calendar, and at the Library website, <https://baxterlibrary.org/>. Library hours are Monday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (207) 222-1190.

## TOWN TIDBITS

CMP is warning local customers to be aware of alleged CMP workers coming to your door and asking for you billing and account information. It is a SCAM. Call GPD and report if you are approached.

Third Space Market opening in the Carter's Market space in April 2025

Many Gorham Athletic groups are currently fundraising. FMI, check individual teams or Facebook Gorham groups.

Subway restaurant in Gorham has reopened under new ownership.

Cracker Barrel restaurant near Maine Mall is closed permanently.

Adopt-a-Hydrant by contacting Gorham Fire Department. Shoveling always welcome.

Smiling Hill Farm is looking for Bunny adopters or fosters.

Blue Seal Feeds has all your Maple Syrup making needs.


Cherry Hill Farmers Market accepting applications for the 2025 season.

Gorham Girls interested in Girl Scouts call the placement team at 207 772-1177.









Town of Gorham looking to hire a Full time, non-union, Animal Control Officer. Visit the Gorham town website at <http://www.gorham-me.org> FMI

Trivia night every Wednesday, 7-9, at Junction Bowl.

Open mic every Tuesday at Sidecar in Gorham



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<b>HOLLIS \$369,900</b> This Gambrel style home is located in a neighborhood setting with a detached 2-car garage. A side deck connects the house and garage. Inside you'll find an eat-in kitchen, front living room with built-ins and hardwood floors, 1st floor bedroom, a den/office and a full bathroom with newer shower completes the first floor. The home is equipped with an on-demand generator. Located on a paved public road.	<b>BUXTON \$629,900</b> Brand new colonial offering 4-bedrooms, 2.5bathroom and a 2-car garage all on a 3.15-acre lot. You'll love this sunlit open floor plan. The kitchen with island and pantry closet is open to the dining room & front living room. A handy mudroom drop-zone has direct access to the garage and a half bath which completes the 1st floor. On the 2nd level you'll find the primary ensuite with double closets, 3-additional bedrooms, a full bath & 2nd floor laundry.	<b>STANDISH \$595,000</b> Now under construction! This 3-bedroom/2.5-bath-colonial with 2-car garage is nicely located in desirable Woodbrey Heights. You'll love this sunlit open concept featuring a leathered granite kitchen, stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors throughout the 1st floor and 1st floor laundry. The full daylight walkout basement is perfect for future expansion or for storage. The private rear deck overlooks the backyard which abuts over 41 acres of protected open space.	<b>BUXTON \$479,900</b> This cape style home offers 1176sqft of living space with an unfinished second floor on a private 5.31-acre lot. The front living room is open to the dining area and kitchen. The primary bedroom has double cedar lined closets. The second bedroom is ample with a single cedar lined closet. A full bathroom with laundry and a jet tub completes the first-floor plan. You'll love how toasty the radiant floor heat keeps your feet. A gorgeous setting in a handy location.	<b>BUXTON \$629,900</b> Like new, this lovely home offers first-floor living at its finest. You'll love this bright open floor plan with cathedral ceilings over the common living spaces. The living room with gas fireplace is surrounded by custom built-ins. The kitchen has a sizeable center island and quartz counter tops which is open to the dining area overlooking the backyard. This 1.05-acre parcel is tucked away on a professionally landscaped lot with an expansive rear patio.
 Julie Chandler	 Mike Griffin	 Peter Mason		



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## Around Town

**Casco FCU New Branch Manager Sarah Frudd** Sarah Frudd has been promoted to branch manager of Casco FCU's West Gorham office. CFCU's Wendy Bowen said, "we a close-knit community institution that values promoting from within. We are excited to support Sarah's career journey and help her advance." Sarah started at Casco FCU in 2016 as a teller and had since been promoted to a Member Service Rep before becoming a Loan Officer. Recently, she took on the additional duty of becoming the lead contact for our indirect lending portfolio and was instrumental in getting our new program up and running. Sarah has demonstrated tremendous growth with her leadership abilities, often helping out and stepping in with whatever was needed to assist staff and members in her branch. Bowen said, "We are fortunate to have Sarah on our team."



**Norway Savings Bank Appoints Dawn Mugford as Senior VP, Risk**

Norway Savings Bank has announced the appointment of Dawn Mugford as senior vice president, risk. Most recently, Mugford served as executive vice president, chief risk officer at Rockland Trust Bank in Rockland, Massachusetts. She brings more than 20 years of experience in risk management. "Risk Management is always different and interesting," Mugford said. "It's trying to figure out what could possibly go wrong and then be prepared in the best way possible for it. It's also about figuring out how to navigate activities to support our customers and strengthen the Bank but still be within our risk appetite."



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## CALENDAR

- Thursday, January 30**  
 Baxter Memorial Library Toddler Storytime for the whole family, 10 a.m.
- Friday, January 31**  
 USM Women's Ice Hockey vs. Albertus Magnus College. 6 p.m.  
 GHS "Little Shop of Horrors" opens, 7 p.m. (6 performances, 1/31, 2/1, 7 & 8 at 7 p.m., 2/2 and 2/9 at 2 p.m.)  
 Osher School of Music Faculty Concert "Bold as Brass" with William Dietz and the Faculty Brass Quintet. 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, February 1**  
 USM Women's Basketball vs. East Connecticut, 1 p.m.  
 USM Men's Basketball vs. East Connecticut, 3 p.m.  
 USM Women's Ice Hockey vs. Albertus Magnus College, 3 p.m.  
 Bean Supper, White Rock Community Clubhouse, 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 4**  
 Baxter Memorial Library  
 Preschool Storytime, 10 a.m.  
 French Language Discussion Group, 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 5**  
 Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Storytime, 9:30 a.m.
- Thursday, February 6**  
 Baxter Memorial Library  
 Toddler Storytime, 10 a.m.  
 Book Club: "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Richardson, 10:15 a.m.  
 Library Trustees Meeting, 6 p.m.
- Friday, February 7**  
 USM Women's Ice Hockey vs. Umass Boston, 6 p.m.
- Saturday, February 8**  
 USM Women's Basketball vs. West Conn, noon (Wade Millett Foundation/NAMI game.)  
 USM Men's Basketball vs. West Conn, 2 p.m. (Wade Millett Foundation/NAMI game.)  
 Women's Ice Hockey vs. Umass Boston, 3 p.m.  
 Bean Supper, Scarborough Free Baptist Church, 55 Mussey Road, 4 - 6 p.m.
- Sunday, February 9**  
 Osher School of Music Faculty Concert "Laura Kargul, piano; Callie Brennan, violin.  
 Super Bowl Party, Cressey Road Christian Church, 6 p.m.
- Monday, February 10**  
 Baxter Memorial Library, Spanish with Yaya for children 105 years old, 10 - 11 a.m.
- Tuesday, February 11**  
 Baxter Memorial Library, Dogs Dig Reading, 4 - 5 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 12**  
 Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Storytime, 9:30 a.m.

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

**AARON CHADBOURNE**



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the Courtesy of the Gorham Police Department  
**blotter**

Bee Happy Way vehicle pulled over on the side of road with all its lights shut off. Officer stopped to make sure everything was all right. Operator said that vehicle had run out of gas, and he had a friend coming with a gas can to help him. Officer asked that driver turn on his hazard lights, which he did.

Church Street alarm. Officer spoke with people leaving the church kitchen area. They reported it was not them, and they did not see or hear anything. Upper part of the church was secure.

Clay Road caller concerned because there had been a So. Portland cruiser parked in the church parking lot all day. Officer called So. Portland officer who he knew lived in the area. It was his vehicle, parked temporarily since he had just had his driveway paved and could not park in it yet.

Caller was calling to report that his bumper was torn off while being towed. Officer advised subject that all he could do was document it, as it would be a civil issue. Officer drove to New Portland Road to confirm the unattached bumper, and when he arrived, a compromise about bumper had been reached.

Units responded to a report of a male acting erratically and that the female in the vehicle had taken off and run over the male's leg. Officers located the vehicle on Deering Road, stopped it and detained

the individuals. Through interviews it was determined that the male had been arguing with someone else and not the female.

A White Birch Lane caller wanted to see if she had any warrants, as she had gotten a call claiming to be from CCSO telling her she had three. Dispatch and officer checked, confirming no such warrant existed and that the call was likely a scam.

Main Street caller was concerned for a friend who had just bought a house in Gorham where Meth was lingering around in the residence. Officer informed caller that if they wanted information on the residence, the caller's son, who is the sole owner of the house, would have to come in.

Woman was reporting that her doorbell was sporadically going off in the middle of the night. Officer informed her that it might be a wiring issue and stated that she should have someone look at it.

A caller was concerned that a vehicle was backed up to the lumber yard and thought it might be suspicious. Officer made contact with the other individual who was cleaning the building.

Police received a report of a truck with unknown plates on State Street in front of a fire hydrant. Officer and two other officers had driven past the location only a minute before and saw no violation. The caller later called back to confirm the vehicle was gone.

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