

Gorham Times

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

Gorham Open Space and Trails Plan

JoAnn Leib, Staff Writer



Photo credit: Courtesy of the Town of Gorham Planning Department

Inviting your participation in a planning survey between now and April, 2025.

The Open Space and Trails Steering Committee wants your opinion between now and April 2025. Think of an open space in Gorham—one that you've known since childhood perhaps--an unbuilt area or one that you've just found on a hike or family picnic—and ask yourself how you can be sure it will be preserved for decades ahead. Now think about responding to a quick survey put together

by the Town of Gorham Planning Office. To understand the goal of this survey, which can be found online at the Planning Office, at the Baxter Memorial Library, at the North Gorham Public Library and at the Little Falls Activity Center, ask yourself a few questions. Am I familiar enough with the open space and trails in Gorham? Do I want to keep the rural

character of this place and of the community of Gorham?

Is water resource protection important?

Do I value the connection between recreational areas and important wildlife habitats? What about scenic views and vistas?

Is there importance in conserving the land I enjoy while still supporting economic development? Have I, personally, thought about the resources and tools, like the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust or the Maine Farmland Trust, that I might need to help me preserve all or some of my own land?

Have I thought about the climate resiliency of my favorite open space? And did I know that Gorham had an active Snowmobile Club?

And more to the point, what exactly is open space? The Town Planner, Carol Eyerman, an expert with many years of experience on the subject, would offer that a field, a farm, a playground, a trail network, a habitat, a park, a forest, a waterfront, a wetland, a community garden and a place to hunt are all correct answers. The survey Eyerman and her office have developed suggests that there are many other open spaces to add to this list, and because of that, she would like to see what you think between now and April. This is a great opportunity to have your voice heard, the Town Planner says, assuming you will take a few minutes to work with her. Eyerman's style and commitment are the driving

force for this project. "I respect the town ordinances—structure is important. It's what guides the work we do."

And she'd like to know even more: the survey focuses on what might prevent you or others in your household from using Gorham trails. Is it proximity of the trails to your home? Safety concerns? ADA accessibility? Parking problems? Is it that the location of the trails isn't familiar to your group, or that your family isn't sure of what trails are available? Some of the quick answers can be found on three newly designed maps exhibited at the sites noted above. The maps, in colorful poster format, detail open space, trails, sidewalks and future farming attractions. Other questions will be answered by the Planning Board as the surveys are read, evaluated and shared. Planners like Eyerman cite this participation by an informed public as the key ingredient in what makes a thriving town stay that way.

Visit the website at: <https://www.gorhamopenspace.me>



Repair Fair at Baxter Library

John Ersek, Staff Writer

The Baxter Memorial Library is sponsoring its first repair fair on Saturday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. While this will be the first such event in Gorham in recent memory, it is also part of a regional and nationwide trend, in which people with specialized knowledge teach others how to repair and mend all kinds of everyday objects. This free event will be facilitated by at least 14 volunteers from the local community and is open to all residents of Gorham and surrounding towns. Besides teaching repair skills, these volunteer "repair experts" are also available to actually repair many of the items themselves.

Some examples of items that are appropriate to bring include sweaters, shirts, and pants with holes that need to be mended; clothing which needs elastic bands or zippers replaced; simpler appliances like lamps, vacuums, and coffee grinders that need new cords; broken costume jewelry;

bicycles with flat tires, broken chains or worn out brakes; and furniture that has rungs or legs that need to be re-glued. Parents and children may want to try bringing toys whose electric motors have stopped running.

In the past few years, events like this have been held in Portland, Brunswick, and South Portland. Similar events are scheduled at libraries in Scarborough and Cape Elizabeth.

Assistant librarian Nissa Flanagan is coordinating the event for the library. She commented that she was surprised when so many people from Gorham offered their expertise and assistance so quickly, just after she posted a notice asking for volunteers. She added that some volunteers said they wanted to help their neighbors after living here for many years, while others see it as a way to meet their neighbors after recently moving here.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

MTA Drops the Gorham Connector Project

John Ersek, Staff Writer

The Maine Turnpike Authority is dropping its controversial Gorham Connector project, a proposed four-lane highway that would run from South Portland through Westbrook and Scarborough to Gorham.

Instead, state transportation authorities say they will undertake a comprehensive effort to find ways of easing persistent rush hour traffic in the region.

Turnpike officials spent more than a dozen years and millions of dollars pursuing a five-mile toll road that would connect Portland's western suburbs to the interstate. Traffic congestion in the area routinely causes backups and spills into residential neighborhoods, creating safety problems.

But growing public opposition to the \$330 million project led the Turnpike to pause it last year.

Now all work has stopped while the state conducts fresh research on the issue, said agency spokesperson Erin Courtney. The Turnpike Authority has spent more than \$18 million on the project since 2001, including \$6.5 million on land purchases.

"We're not doing anything right now to be looking at what those alignments could be," Courtney said. "It is going to rely on whatever comes organically through this process. In a sense, we've abandoned what we were working on. But I don't think it's all for nothing."



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
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inside the Times f i GOCAM YouTube

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"THIS IS A TEST"
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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.

Bring Your Own Chair: Women's History Month

Rep. Ellie Sato

March is Women's History Month—a time dedicated to recognizing the countless contributions women have made throughout history, across various fields. From politics and science to the arts and beyond, the stories of women often go untold or underappreciated. But March provides an opportunity to change that narrative, honoring the legacy of those who have fought for equality and justice, while also shining a light on the issues that remain.

I always start by looking back on the trailblazers who have come before me. It's important for me to remember the dirt paths that were later paved and the trees that were cut back to lay the road for me to get to the State House. One of my favorite quotes is by Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman to be elected to Congress and to run for a presidential nomination. Chisholm faced racial and gender-based discrimination at every turn, yet she refused to be silenced or sidelined: "If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair." Her groundbreaking political career, marked by resilience, courage, and a steadfast commitment to justice, provides a timeless example of leadership that continues to inspire future generations.

I'm also reminded of the long and hard-fought battle for women's suffrage. This includes the courageous women who braved violence and opposition to their steadfast activism beginning in the United States at the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848. Over 120 years later, a young attorney by the name of Ruth Bader Ginsburg emerged as a pio-

neering force for gender equality. Her work, which led her to become one of the first women to sit on the Supreme Court, helped dismantle systemic barriers and paved the way for greater legal protections for women, particularly in areas like employment and education. Ginsburg's efforts in the 1970s laid the foundation for the transformative strides in women's rights that followed, solidifying her place as one of the most influential figures in the fight for gender equality.

Fast forward to 2022, the Maine House of Representatives elected its first leadership team made up entirely of women, including former Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross, who also was the first African American woman elected Speaker of the House, House Majority Leader Maureen Terry (a fellow Gorham resident!), and Assistant House Majority Leader Kristen Cloutier. The Maine Senate followed suit this year by electing their first slate of all-female leadership, including Senate President Mattie Daughtry, Senate Majority Leader Teresa Pierce, and Assistant Senate Majority Leader Jill Duson, who was the first African American woman elected to the Maine Senate.

Looking back, we've made much progress, but celebrating trailblazers like these isn't enough. While it's an honor to be the first Japanese-American woman elected to the Maine State Legislature, I do not want to be the last.

That's why I'm proud to be a cosponsor – alongside 96 of my colleagues – of LD 260, a constitutional amendment that would establish that all Mainers

have equal rights under the law. The bill addresses important issues such as gender discrimination, healthcare access for women, and the ongoing battle for equal pay. The timing of its introduction in Women's History Month couldn't be more fitting, as it highlights the ongoing struggle for gender equality and how much work remains to ensure that women, no matter where they live, can thrive equally in every aspect of life.

The fight for women's rights is far from over. As we honor Women's History Month, we must keep pushing forward, continuing the work done by those who came before us. Women's history, or herstory, isn't just about remembering the past; it's about shaping a future where every woman's voice is heard, valued, and empowered.

I encourage you to reach out to me any time with concerns about issues you care about, questions on policy or legislation, ideas on ways to better our community, or even just to introduce yourself. I hope to continue the conversations I began last summer, so please do not hesitate to email me at ellie.sato@legislature.maine.gov, or call the House Democratic Office at 207-287-1430.



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

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Upcoming Advertising Deadlines

March 19
April 2
April 16
April 30

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.

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The Gorham Times is seeking a volunteer to take over our compact, walkable in-town distribution route, delivering 300+ papers to 20+ locations (many in the same buildings). Route is roughly a square bounded by Main Street, Mechanic Street, Railroad Avenue, and Elm Street. This is a great opportunity to meet interesting people and learn about community organizations.

Contact us for more information.
gorhamtimes@gmail.com. (207) 839-8390.

Reverberations - USM's 2025 Juried Student Exhibition

Abigail Chamberlin, GHS Student Intern

The University of Southern Maine Art Gallery is hosting their 2025 Juried Student Exhibition this March. This year, the theme is reverberations; these can include echoes or representations of catalysts. The theme is up to interpretation, and artists are encouraged to creatively build off the theme rather than strictly adhering to it.

Artists can submit up to three pieces to be blindly judged by Elana Adler, a multidisciplinary artist and teacher at Maine College of Art and Design, and Meg Hahn, a painter, curator, and arts organizer based in Portland. They were selected based on expertise in a variety of media and their diverse backgrounds as artists.

The Juried Student Exhibition pro-

vides USM students and artists across all majors with the opportunity to receive feedback from professionals in the art community, expose their artwork to a wide range of viewers, and prepare them for professional art settings and processes.

The show opened on March 6 and will be open through March 29 to USM students as well as the general public. Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, Best in Show, and a Palette of Identity Award that is sponsored by the Office of Equity, Inclusion, and Community Impact. The Gallery is located on the Gorham campus at 5 University Way. All are encouraged to visit and enjoy the inspiring artwork created in our local community.

Repair Fair CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Recent news articles about other local repair events have mentioned that many people see them as primarily ecological in nature, as they can help prevent damaged or worn items from going into landfills. Some people have also emphasized the economic benefits, as the events help people save money when they don't have to replace worn out items so quickly. Others point out the community-building aspects of gathering people

together to help each other accomplish some positive, beneficial tasks.

**Use it up.
Wear it out.
Make it do
Or do without.**

Postal Inspector's Reminder

Provided by the US Postal Service

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service National Consumer Protection Week, took place on March 2-8, 2025, opening with a warning about the dangers of imposter scams. Imposters are scammers who work very hard to convince consumers they are a friend or relative, or that they are from a legitimate source, such as a bank or government agency. The fraudsters then take personally identifiable information (PII) and use it to steal victims' money.

"There are many types of imposter scams," Inspector in Charge Eric Shen of the Criminal Investigations Group says. "But they all start with messages like, 'I'm in trouble...,' 'I need...,' 'You've won!...' or 'I have a great offer for you!' These scammers lull consumers into a false sense of trust, gain access to privileged information, and then drain financial accounts."

"With a few simple tips, consumers can protect themselves from imposter scams," INC Shen says:

- Take your time to make financial decisions. Whether it's investments or unsolicited offers, like the lottery or sweepstakes, don't rush into sending your money to someone you don't know.

- Is it really a representative from your bank sending that email or text? To be certain, call your bank at the number you were given when you

opened your account. Don't call a number that you haven't verified and never click on any links in an email or text.

- Grandparents: Before sending money to help a grandchild who says they're in a desperate situation, make sure it's really them! Call them or their parents at a number you recognize to confirm they sent you a message.

- If you meet someone over the internet who professes their love for you right away, but needs financial assistance to meet you, exit the conversation as quickly as you can.

- The Postal Service will NEVER send you an unsolicited text. Any text or email claiming you have a USPS delivery problem is designed to steal your PII. Delete these messages, but before you do, send the bogus text or email to spam@usps.gov.

- Put your phone number on the National Do Not Call Registry at 1 (888) 382-1222 or at www.donotcall.gov.

- If you are a victim of a scam or suspect fraud, report it: Submit an online report to the Inspection Service or call us at (877) 876-2455.

Remembering these simple tips will help keep consumers' personal information and finances safe.

For more information on how to spot an imposter, visit our website at www.uspis.gov/ncpw-2025.

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Anchored in Health: Get Up Get Moving

Taryn Beaumont, Contributing Writer

With winter still hanging on, many of us may be guilty of entirely too much sitting lately. We sit in the office all day, sit through meetings, and are so tired at the end of the day that all we want to do is sit on the couch and soak in a good show on Netflix. Sound familiar? All of this sitting can make our low back feel extremely stiff and tight. Generally speaking, prolonged periods of sitting and seated postures can create lots of pain and tightness in our low back. Day after day, this can really add up, landing you at your doctor's or PT's office looking for some relief.

What muscles and structures are actually "tight"? Muscular tightness can be a literal and figurative sensitive subject. You've probably felt feelings of general tightness in the area of your low back, but if someone asked you to put your pointer finger directly on the "pain spot", you probably couldn't identify just one area, or pinpoint where the pain is coming from. This discomfort is likely due to lack of blood flow (from lack of movement) to several structures of the lower back.

Oftentimes, the perception of "tightness" is our body's indication that we really just need to move. So how do we move and how do we start?

We should be moving and/or exercising for between 60-75 minutes a day. A study by Ekeland et al concluded that between 60-75 minutes of exercise equivalent to moderate intensity on a daily basis was enough to counteract the effects of eight hours of daily sitting, which is the average for most humans. The study also found that individuals who did not participate in any form of physical activity, regardless of their daily sitting time, had the highest risk of early death. That risk, the study concluded, was equivalent to the risk associated with obesity and smoking. To clarify, no physical activity at all

poses a greater risk to one's health than extended periods of sedentary behavior, such as sitting. And some movement is always better than no movement at all.

What exercises can you do to help your low back tightness? Punch these exercises into YouTube and start moving but always consult your doctor or medical provider before starting or modifying an exercise program.

- Standing hip flexor stretch on a chair
- Jog in place
- Cat cow stretch
- Squat to a chair
- Calf raises

Additionally, hitting the local indoor track or swimming pool for 30-60 minutes can be very beneficial. Outdoor winter activities also count: skiing, snowshoeing or playing in the piles of snow with your kids all count toward physical movement, not to mention the added benefit of social time with your family and loved ones.

Armed with knowledge and movement ideas, we can help to make a difference in our feelings of general low back tightness from prolonged seated postures. Regular and consistent movement incorporated into our day will arm us with prevention against these pain symptoms and prevent stiffness.

We'll all be happy at winter's end. Until then, get up, get out there and get moving.



Taryn Beaumont is a Doctor of Physical Therapy for over 12 years, most currently working in home health care. She is

also a mom, a Lymphedema Specialist, and fitness lover.

Sunny Daze: Parker Solar Probe

Chris Crawford, Features Editor

The Parker Solar Probe will soon be orbiting the sun again. Over its seven-year life span, the Probe has used trips around Venus as a slingshot to propel it back to orbit around the sun approximately every 3 months. After 22 trips already made, its second to last pass will occur on March 22. Its final trip is scheduled for June 19, when the Parker Solar Probe's mission will end and the spacecraft will orbit until its fuel supply runs out.

Why should we care about the exploration of our sun? It's simple: the sun is life and this remarkable mission, begun almost 70 years ago, is helping scientists learn what makes our sun, and all stars tick.

Eugene N. Parker, an astrophysicist and professor at the University of Chicago is the father of the Solar Probe Project. He originally developed the concept of the solar wind in the late 1950's. Met with much skepticism, his theory was eventually proven to be true.

Launched on Aug. 12, 2018, the Parker Solar Probe is the only space vehicle ever named for a living person. Parker attended the launch of his probe, and saw it become the first spacecraft to fly through the sun's corona in 2021, but he did not live to see the full fruits of his labors. Parker died at the age of 94 in 2022.

Before the Probe could be sent to orbit the sun, the technology had to catch up in order to build a spacecraft able to withstand such adverse conditions. Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) built the Parker Solar Probe and manages the mission for NASA.

The Probe's 4 1/2-inch-thick carbon composite shield can withstand scorching temps of nearly 2600 degrees, while keeping the instruments inside below a comfortable 80 degrees as it swings around the sun collecting invaluable data about the star at the center of our universe.

The Parker Solar Probe is also the fastest object ever built. It travels at a maximum speed of slightly above 430,000 miles per hour. Scientists say that is fast enough to travel from Tokyo to Washington, D.C. within a minute or from London to D.C. in 30 seconds.

According to NASA, the Probe has now flown to within about 3.9 million miles of the sun, closer than any other human-made object. Surviving extreme temperatures, it "phoned home" in December and sent back data at the end of January which NASA hopes will help explain how stars, and specifically our sun, actually work.

The project has already provided new insights into the origin of solar wind, first described by Parker. Blowing at speeds that exceed 1 million miles per hour, solar winds travel to the farthest reaches of the universe. The Probe has discovered that the solar wind is created by small, frequent eruptions of energy from the sun's surface rather than by one large eruption as previously thought. Scientists are also eager to solve the mystery of why the hottest part of the sun's corona is actually the part farthest away from the sun.

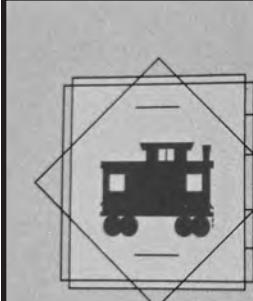
The sun impacts the environment and technology systems here on Earth. New information is helping scientists better predict "space weather" caused by solar flares whose radiation, traveling at the speed of light, reaches Earth approximately eight minutes after the flare occurs. Coronal mass ejections (CME's) on the sun are slower and also have an impact here. They take three days to reach Earth. These solar events do not cause harm to humans.

To learn more, visit the Parker Solar Probe at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory and visit NASA.com and space.com.



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SOLUTION ON PAGE 11

Gorham Town Council Report, March 4

Gorham Times Staff

At the March 4 meeting of the Gorham Town Council, there were 30 members of the public in attendance, and all seven councilors. The minutes from the Feb. 4 meeting were accepted (7-0)

In open public communications, resident Ken Curtis voiced concern about current Gorham resource issues along with increased need by adding more housing developments. Resident Camille Sao expressed appreciation for the council's consideration when voting on the Shaw Brothers Quarry expansion.

Councilor communication included Councilor Siegel's praise of the Baxter Memorial Library's Baby and Toddler Story Times. Councilor Lavoie announced the next Finance Committee meeting. Councilor Willis reported his attendance at the 2025 MEREDA conference with some members of the GEDC and local businesses.

Councilor Kuech said she was dressed in an "Edward the Owl" outfit for "Read Across America" day and encouraged residents to come read with children in their classroom. Councilor Gagnon reminded residents to set the clocks ahead on Sunday, March 9, and to change the batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors at the same time. Chairperson Phillips announced Maine Maple Weekend on March 22 and 23 and to be aware that traffic will be heavy in some areas of town.

Town Manager Parashak reported that department heads are working on their budgets for presentation in April. He said he was looking forward to working with the School Department on theirs. Other reminders included ongoing town-wide winter parking bans, and surveys on the town website requesting input on Gorham's Open Space & Trails Master Plan.

School Committee Chair Sarah Perkins reported on Kindergarten Information Nights, Pre-K Enrollment, the March 10 Eat and Learn Event at GHS, The Fiscal

Sustainability Committee, a temporary solution for the Tennis Courts, and the budget workshop series, 7 p.m., March 11, 17, 24, and 31, with a vote taking place at the April 9 regular meeting.

Public hearings and council actions included:

-Public Hearing #1: A proposal to issue a renewal Massage License to Natalie Bagley had no comments in the public hearing. Voted (6 yeas, 1 abstention: Lavoie)

-Public Hearing #2: A proposal to create a contract zone on 170+/- acres of the Gorham Country Club. Concerns were heard from several residents from Mahlon Ave and McLellan Road about increased traffic issues, overcrowding of schools, and long-term impact, as well as one Mahlon Ave. resident who spoke in support of the contract zone and more housing in the development. Voted to table the order for a month (2 - 5 Gagnon, Kuech, Willis, Lavoie, Siegel). Voted to create the contract zone (4 - 3 Simms, Gagnon, Phillips).

-Public Hearing #3: A proposal to create a contract zone to support an agritourism venue at 64 Flaggy Meadow Road, with no comments from the public. Voted (6 - 1, Gagnon).

-Public Hearing #4: A proposal to make revisions to current zoning to include Gorham Village Center District, Little Falls Village Center District, Urban Commercial, Development Transfer Overlay, and Office Residential Districts to amend setbacks, impervious surface ratios, and building heights in support of economic development. There were no comments from the public. Voted with amendments (5 - 2).

-An action to forward to the Planning Board the termination of a contract zone agreement for 34 County Road, 15.69 acres on Map 6, Lot 14 at the request of the current property. Voted (6 - 1, Gagnon)

-An action to consider 2025-2026 Board and Committee appointments,

Planning Board: Russell Frank, David Walsh, Stephen Crisafulli; GEDC: Peter Mason, Mark Curtis, Benjamin Gilman; Board of Appeals: Gary Baca, Michael Weisman, Craig Stirling; Fair Hearing Board: Timothy Farwell; Conservation Commission: William Moreno, Thomas Mazza, Stephen Rowe; Board of Trustees, Baxter Memorial Library: Keith Potts, Geraldine Day, Virginia Wilder Cross; Historic Preservation Commission: Lawrence Peterson, Linda Whitten; Board of Voter Registration Appeals: Sara Fleming; Board of Assessment Review: Marilyn Amoroso; Revolving Loan Fund Committee: Jeremy Hankin, April Edwards; Board of Health: Katherine Garrard. Voted (7 - 0).

-An action to accept a warranty deed from Thomas Biegel and Kristine Biegel to the Town of Gorham with regard to a portion of the property located off Elkins Road, for a turnaround, conditioned upon the Grantors preparing and providing the deed and other necessary documents related to the conveyance, subject to review by the Town Attorney, meeting all applicable road requirements as set forth in the Land Use and Development Code. Voted (7 - 0).

-An action for the Ordinance Committee to discuss guidelines for the creation of an Affordable Housing Committee (five to nine members) to provide recommendations to the Council to improve affordable housing in the community. The Council will approve guidelines and bylaws for the committee once a committee is seated. Voted (7 - 0).

-An action to set an August workshop to discuss Smart Growth concepts. Voted (7 - 0).

-An action to ask the Ordinance Committee to review reducing and/or eliminating traffic generation requirements for accessory dwelling units on private ways. Voted (7 - 0).

-An action to accept the Finance

Committee's recommendation that online permitting software be used to bundle permit applications in a projected roll-out in 2025. Voted (7 - 0).

-An action to consider adopting Town Council goals as outlined during the January 2025 Goal Setting Workshop for the 2025 year. Voted (7 - 0).

The Town Council report provides a summary of the actual meeting. Readers are encouraged to visit the Town of Gorham website for the complete meeting minutes and to view the full video of the meeting. <https://www.gorham-me.org/>

Top Priority Goals

Fill the Industrial Park

- Reconsider allowable uses
- Focus on filling the park in a sensible way

Preserve the rural character and historical aspects of Gorham

- Rural character and historical districts needs to be defined
- Incentive farmland and open-space
- Allow for and increase commercial activity in village
- Allow for and increase housing density in the village

Encourage long-term economic development and fiscal sustainability

- Change zoning to encourage commercial development
- Plan for fiscal sustainability: (1) based on projected growth, and (2) in ways that stabilize taxes over the long run

Improve infrastructure to support controlled growth

- Provide parameters for developers
- Access federal and state grants

Preserve and enhance quality of life

- Develop and promote trails and other outdoor recreational activities
- Improve and promote the things that already make us unique and that we do well
- Develop and promote reasons to live, work, play in Gorham

Planning Board Results, Mar. 3

JoAnn Leib, Staff Writer

Item 1 Public Hearing-Zoning Map Amendment: District change. Proposal to change Map 22, Lot 7 on Washburn Rd, from the Suburban Residential District (SR) to the South Gorham Crossroads (SGXR) District. Moved to send to Town Council with a recommendation for adoption. 7 ayes.

Item 2 Public Hearing-Land Use and Development Code Amendment-Amend road standards-for technical updates to Chapter 2, Section 2-5 minimum standards for the design and construction of streets and ways. Moved to send to Town Council with a recommendation for adoption. 7 ayes.

Item 3 Discussion-Preliminary Subdivision and Private Way-Nicole and Jahrel Registe. Represented by Peter Dalfonso, PE, Dalfonso Engineering. Lani Lane Subdivision-Request for preliminary subdivision and private way extension reviews off Wood Road. Moved to approve plan of private way. 6 ayes, 1 opposed (Walsh). Moved to grant preliminary and final subdivision approval with conditions. 6 ayes, 1 opposed (Walsh).

Item 4 Discussion Sketch Plan Review-

John Dee, represented by Paul Gadbois, PE, Paul P. Gadbois Engineering. A proposal to construct a mixed-use development on County Road, with 2 commercial lots and 6 residential house lots containing duplexes. Zoned South Gorham Commercial Corridor (SGCC), with contract zone proposal to be dissolved. Discussed.

Item 5 Subdivision and Private Way Amendment-3 Brown Investments, LLC-Bramblewood Estates Subdivision. A request to amend an approved subdivision plan to convey a portion to the abutting landowner allowing construction of an access road. Applicant is represented by Daniel Riley, PE, Sebago Technics. Moved to approve amended plan with conditions. 7 ayes.

Item 6 Discussion-Revisions to Abutter Notifications. Review recommendations from the Planning Board Ordinance Committee regarding changes to the criteria and processes for abutter notifications. Moved to send a letter recommending abutter notification procedure changes to Town Council, with revisions. 7 ayes.

Grand Jury Indictments, Feb.

Gorham Times Staff

Matthew J. Chapin, 20, of Gorham, was indicted on two counts of gross sexual assault, one count of unlawful sexual contact, and unlawful sexual touching.

Heng Chau, 35, of Gorham was indicted on one count of unlawful trafficking of scheduled drugs, and one count of

unlawful possession of scheduled drugs.

Kevin J. McGovern, 45, of Gorham was indicted on one count of aggravated criminal OUI.

Jacob Alan Sawtell, 31, of Gorham was indicted on one count of theft by unauthorized taking, and one count of violation of condition of release.



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GHS Students win NASA TechRise Challenge

Michael Lortie, School News Editor



Photo Credit: Rebecca Ambrose, GT Consulting Teacher GHS

Front row left to right: Kevin Munyaneza, Everett Hurder, Lucy Dubail.
Back row left to right: Isaiah Whitehead, Sawyer Smith, Baxter Flagg, Carter Taiani, Henri Wichmann.
Missing from photo: Laura Burt, Toren Johnson, Riley McCallister, and Zachary Bourgoin.

On Thursday, Jan. 30, Tanya Silva, Engagement Director for Future Engineers: NASA TechRise Student Challenge, announced that NASA has selected sixty winning teams from across the nation for its fourth "TechRise Student Challenge." This is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) competition offering sixth through twelfth graders the unique opportunity to design and test their own innovative solutions for space exploration and the study of Earth, while getting hands-on insight into the payload design and flight test process. This inspires a deeper understanding of space exploration, Earth observation, coding, electronics, and the value of test data.

A team of Gorham students was among the sixty winners. Zachary Bourgoin, Baxter Flagg, Everett Hurder, Riley McCallister, and Carter Taiani, along with their teacher, Rebecca Ambrose submitted the following idea:

"The investigation we are planning to conduct is an attempt to find more cost-effective spacesuit materials. We learned that the production of a single spacesuit can cost upwards of \$20 million dollars. We are investigating the extent to which Mylar insulation, a key component in the creation of space-

suits, will be able to shield our sensors from ultraviolet radiation and temperature changes. We are planning to test at least one other form of material, in order to compare its performance to that of Mylar. Ideally, we would like to create our own alternate form of insulation. We will graph the changes in UV radiation levels and temperature for both materials as they relate to the balloon's altitude."

Competition winners receive \$1,500 to build their payloads and an assigned spot on a NASA-sponsored commercial flight test. This is an incredible achievement and opportunity for the students and Gorham High School.

During a meeting on March 3, the team drafted this statement; "While working on the NASA "TechRise Challenge" we hope to learn more about the different fields of STEM. Our experiment is testing how more commonly found materials could potentially be used to create a spacesuit. While working on our experiment we are developing our skills in CAD, learning how to solder, and learning how to effectively wire our flight box. We will also need to learn how to interpret the data that will be collected during our launch. As a team it is exciting to collaborate on a CubeSat experiment that will fly around 70,000 feet into the atmosphere."

GMS Teacher Named Middle School Art Teacher of the Year

Gorham Times Staff

On Monday, March 3, GMS Principal Lucas Witham announced to the staff that Art teacher Hannah West had been named the Maine Middle School Art Educator of the Year by the Maine Art Education Association.

In recognizing this award, Mr. Witham stated, "This is a well-deserved recognition that highlights the incredible impact she has on our students, school, and community. From leading Makerspace, organizing student showcases, and securing grants for creative opportunities, to

fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment for all students, Hannah goes above and beyond every day."

He continued; "On top of all that, Hannah is a true leader among our staff, serving on committees, mentoring future art educators, and consistently advocating for the value of arts in education. Her ability to make every student feel seen, valued, and capable of artistic success is truly remarkable."

Gorham Middle School is extremely proud of Hannah West.

"This Is a Test," GHS One-Act Success

Michael Lortie, School News Editor



Photo Credit: Jocelyn Miller, GHS Musical Producer

The cast and crew of "This is a Test"

On Feb. 28, March 1, and March 2, the cast and crew of the one-act play, "This Is a Test," dazzled the community with three performances. It was directed by Joshua Hurd.

The play was entered in the regional one-act competition at Thornton Academy on March 7 and March 8 in competition with other local high schools. On March 8, Gorham's entry advanced to the state One Act Festival on March 21 and 22 at Camden Hills Regional High School.

The play tells a day in the life of Alan and his classmates who are high school students in the 1980s. Through dialogue as well as dance and music, they tell the story of the pressures of high school life and the challenges that they face from Alan's perspective.

The cast was terrific and the play was an enjoyable mix of angst and humor.

The cast and crew of "This Is a Test:"

Alan	Logan Mills
Lois	Alexandria Gossen
Mother	Izzy Phinney
Teacher	Isabelle Smith
Eva	Isla Rutherford
Chris	Max Lampron
Pat	Seamus Bailey
One	Elle Woodman
Two	Laurali Vail
Three	Sophia Proulx
The Voice	Sadie Woodman
Student A	Noah Williams
Student B	Rigel Arlet
Stage Manager	Gillian Lachance
Asst. Stage Manager	Anaiah Brown
Light Board	Dexter Vance
Sound Board	Daniel LaBarge

Traveling Art Exhibit Focuses on Teen Driver Safety

Gorham Times Staff

A powerful traveling art exhibition designed to raise awareness about teen driver safety is currently on display at Gorham High School. The exhibit features over 75 paintings and drawings, all created by high school seniors who were winners of the annual Arrive Alive Creative Contest, sponsored by the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein. This artwork has been showcased in schools, libraries, malls, and other public venues across Maine, with the goal of promoting safe driving habits to drivers of all ages in all 16 counties.

Now in its 21st year, the Arrive Alive Creative Contest invites graduating high school seniors throughout Maine to create a project that depicts the dangers of drinking and driving or distracted driving. Seniors can enter a creative project of their choice, including essays, poems, paintings, videos, songs, public service announcements, T-shirt designs, and more. First-place winners receive a new laptop computer, second- and third-place winners receive a new iPad, and everyone who enters the contest wins fun prizes from the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein.

In the past 20 years, the contest has received more than 1,500 entries from over 125 high schools across Maine, with more than \$200,000 in prizes awarded to graduat-

ing high school seniors. The contest not only highlights the creativity of Maine's youth but also serves as a platform to address the ongoing tragedy of preventable driving accidents in communities throughout the state.

"The work we see in the Arrive Alive Creative Contest is incredibly moving and real," said attorney Ben Bornstein. "Our goal is to help raise awareness and educate teenagers about the dangers of distracted driving in their formative driving years. Our traveling art exhibit highlights the dangers teenagers face when behind the wheel and is inspiring in its peer-to-peer messaging."

To learn more about the Arrive Alive Creative Contest, including a complete set of rules, please visit: www.arrivealivecreativecontest.com.

Are you interested in seeing this award winning exhibition of high school seniors from all over Maine? The Arrive Alive exhibit is open to the public ONLY on Thursday evenings during Parent/Teacher conferences at the high school; 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., until the end of March. The exhibit is NOT available during any high school sporting or theater event, when the hallways are locked off from the public.

Boys Hockey Team Returns to the Regional Final; First in a Decade

Katie Brown, Sports Editor



Boys Ice Hockey playoffs and their loyal fans

Photo Credit: Eteri Shvets

The championship season resumed for the Rams with many exciting finishes and compelling contests. There was plenty of hype and excitement especially for the boys ice hockey team which returned to the regional final; its first in a decade. How it happened: the No. 3 Rams took care of sixth-seeded Greely in the quarterfinal match-up with a 4-0 shutout. Freshman standout Stephen Connolly brought on the heat scoring all four of the Rams goals in the third period while goalie Chesebro earned the shutout.

The Rams then moved on to the semifinals v. Kennebunk on Saturday, March 1 at the University of Southern Maine Ice Arena at the Costello Sports complex. Senior defenseman standout Jacob Shvets put the Rams on the board with a heavy shot early in the contest, which ultimately set the tone in their 3-1 victory. Kennebunk tied the game 1-1 in the second period before Levi Wagner chipped in 2 goals, one of those set up from Landan Anctil.

“It was a total team effort” emphasized sophomore forward Wagner following the semifinal win against

Kennebunk. Shvets had the same sentiment as his teammate “everyone works off of each other and believes in each other and not one person puts the team on their back.”

These testaments rang true for the Rams who put on a show in their playoff quest. The Rams headed into the regional final to take on defending state champion Cheverus/Yarmouth on March 4 at Cross Arena in Portland. Connolly and Anctil both chipped in a goal apiece but it wasn’t enough to hold off the defending champs. The Rams are a young team and luckily will be back with most of their squad returning; they certainly have a bright future ahead.

Other compelling contests and accomplishments:

The girls’ hockey team racked up wins in their last five regular season games in a row. They lost a close one to Portland 3-2 in their quarterfinal match up.

For the Alpine ski team it was Brook Stevens and Cassidy Hjort who represented the Rams in the state championship GS at Sugarloaf mountain in Carrabassett Valley on February 25.

The post season in the water

results: for the second year in a row, Brodie Berlinger has another state championship win. Berlinger won the 500m freestyle in swimming.

The girls basketball team continued their post season debut spanning a decade of strong performances and deep playoff runs. Logan Doughty led the Rams back to the regional finals scoring 22 points v. Sanford in the semi’s, leading them back to another regional final debut. The girls team fell short to South Portland who went on to win the state championship in Class AA.

Four of the Rams varsity players earned much deserved recognition. Stand-out athlete Julia Reed is a Miss Maine Basketball Semifinalist, Maine McDonald All-Star, AA South Player of the Year and AA South All-Defensive team. Vanessa Walker earned AA South Honorable Mention and the Lisa Blais Manning Award. Logan Doughty earned AA South Honorable Mention and Lauren Dunbar AA South 2nd Team.

To round out the postseason, the boys basketball team was selected by the Maine Principals



Photo Credit: Coach Munkacsi
Brook Stevens (left) and Cassidy Hjort (right) at Sugarloaf for states race day

Association as this year’s winner of the Sportsmanship award for Class AA south. Congratulations to all of the coaches, athletes and teams for an outstanding season.



Boys Basketball Award

Photo Credit: Maine Principals’ Association (MPS)



Logan Doughty in action

Photo Credit: Colleen Heal



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Three Gorham Youths Win Free-Throw State Championship

James Falk, Knights of Columbus Council 10221 Community Director

Since 1972, nationwide councils throughout the USA have sponsored their State Knights of Columbus (KOC) Free-Throw Championships for up to 6 boys and up to 6 girl winners from the ages 9 to 14. Anthony Alfiero of Gorham council 10221 served as the Maine State Free-Throw Director.

At Old Town High School on Saturday, March 8, Jack (John) Ouellet of Gorham won the Age 10 Boys State Championship in the KOC Free-Throw Tournament.

Aiden Berthiaume of Gorham placed first place in the Age 11 Boys

State Championship in the KOC Free-Throw Tournament, making 17 baskets from 25 consecutive free-throws.

Sylvie Ouellet of Gorham won the Age 12 Girls KOC State Championship. This is the second year in a row that Sylvie Ouellet won the Maine State Championship for her age group.

International winners are decided by the KOC Supreme council in New Haven, CT based on scores achieved in the State competition. A perfect score of 25 made in a State tournament is an automatic International champion.



Photo Credit: Anthony Alfiero

Photo from left State Deputy Michael Giroux, Sylvie Ouellet, Jack Tardiff from Biddeford, State Community Director Robert Michaud.



Photo Credit: Anthony Alfiero

Photo from left State Deputy Michael Giroux, boys winner Aiden Berthiaume from Gorham, girls winner Delaney White from Naples ME, and State Community Director Robert Michaud.



Photo Credit: Anthony Alfiero

Photo from left State Deputy Michael Giroux, unidentified girls winner, boys winner Jack (John) Ouellet from Gorham, ME, and State Community Director Robert Michaud.

Gracious Professionalism® and "Coopertition®" is FIRST®

Lori Arsenault, Managing Editor



Photo Credit: Lori Arsenault

Gorham resident James Lockman as game announcer at the NE District Southern Maine FIRST Robotics event, March 1 and 2.

James Lockman's oldest child, Arthur Rosa (GHS 2013) came home from school the first week of his freshman year and announced that he was joining the robotics team. James asked what it entailed, and he said, "Oh, not a lot. Just take me to practices and competitions. And, help the team where you can."

James said, "I arrived and was asked to take on one of the sub-teams, and I've never looked back."

James explained that parents and professionals volunteer with the team and also at events. He said, "I have had several volunteer roles at events, including pit announcer, awards judge, practice field supervisor, master of ceremony,

and play-by-play game announcer. The events don't happen without volunteers, and when my kids were in the program, I wanted to help make their experience the best it could be."

James has been the game announcer at the FIRST World Championship for many years and says it's so exciting to see teams from around the world come together for a common, positive purpose. His kids have graduated and left the team, and James is still volunteering, without an apparent exit strategy. Why? James gives this answer.

"Societies get the best of what they celebrate, and as a society, we tend to celebrate our star athletes in school and in life. FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) celebrates STEM students with a large arena sports experience, as thrilling as any sports tournament."

James explained, "All three of my kids have gone on to technical colleges. Their choices emphasized collaborative learning via projects, and FIRST's model aligns very well with that. FIRST reveals its game in early January, and teams have 8 weeks to design, prototype, build, program, test, and practice playing the game before heading to competitions. This fast-paced flow is a fantastic preparation for real-world design scenarios in many different industries."

"Gracious Professionalism" is a key ideal of FIRST. If you win, you congratulate your opponent on getting to the finals. If you see a team with a broken part, you

offer one from your spares. If a team comes to a competition and they are short of students, you offer your own students to help them compete. If someone offers criticism, you thank them for their input.

The FIRST community uses no demeaning, angry, hurtful or dismissive language or behavior, ensuring that all viewpoints are heard and respected, and that all students, mentors and volunteers are welcomed.

"Coopertition," James explained, "revolves around the idea that teams can benefit by helping their opponents. Traditional sports focus on winning."

James explained that "In FIRST, the challenges are difficult, but they can be made easier if both sides do something. In this year's game, teams can score 6 points by putting a big playground ball into a slot on the side of the field, but when they do that, they give the ball to their opponent who can then score 4 points with the ball."

"There is another scoring opportunity where teams must put big plastic pipe segments onto a rack in the middle of the field in order to earn a special ranking point. If each side puts 2 balls into their slot, then it becomes easier to earn the ranking point with the pipes."

Team 172 (Gorham/Falmouth) works with other teams around Maine to design, build and practice before competitions, helping each other to do better at competitions. At their first competition of the season, Team 172 won



Photo Credit: Lori Arsenault

NE District Southern Maine event at Falmouth High School.



Photo Credit: Lori Arsenault

Sean Edwards (GHS '06), FIRST alum and software engineer, is now a judge for the Maine events, and IT advisor to the Gorham Times, where his mom is the managing editor and a FIRST Robotics volunteer since 2002.

the Excellence in Engineering Award.

The next event for Team 172 takes place Friday March 14 to Sunday, March 16 at the Colisée, 190 Birch Street in Lewiston. FMI: <https://pinetreedistrict.org>.

COMMUNITY

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Nathan Eichner, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

DEAN'S LIST

Caolinn Bauer, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, Massachusetts
Ramy Bergquist-Guimond, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, Massachusetts
Nathalie Dever, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, Massachusetts
Maevie Donnelly, Emmanuel College, Boston, Massachusetts
William Eiten, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania
Claudia Peterson, Emmanuel College, Boston, Massachusetts
Sabrina Waters, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, Massachusetts

OF INTEREST

The Gorham Community Chorus and Gorham First Parish UCC Choir performs a choral concert of reflection and hope following five years of COVID-19. The concert, "I will lift up," directed by John Rimkinas, with Eric Peppe, piano and Ryan Slocum, organ, will include "Requiem" by Gabriel Faure and "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes" by Adolphs Hailstork. It will take place on Saturday, March 15, at 7 p.m. at First Parish Church. Suggested donation is \$15. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the American Lung Association. FMI: gorhamcommunitychorus@gmail.com.

University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a webinar for home gardeners titled "Backyard Resilience for Pollinators from 6 – 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, as part of a 5-part series. Registration is required; sliding scale options are available. FMI, Rebecca Gray, (207) 356-1348 or extension.gardening@maine.edu. The Extension is also hosting online information sessions for adults interested in becoming Maine 4-H volunteers. The informational sessions are free; registration is required. FMI, contact Jennifer Loble, jennifer.lobley@maine.edu, (207) 255-3345. Adult volunteers are also needed to help 4-H youth understand ticks. To learn more and register for the April 11 training at Wolfe's Neck Farm in Freeport, contact Emily Booth, emily.booth@maine.edu, (207) 581-8205. To see the full list of extension events, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/4ce4tz4y>.

Gorham's Cemetery Advisory Committee is seeking committee volunteers. To apply, please complete and submit a volunteer application online, or contact Town Clerk Laurie Nordfors at lnordfors@gorham.me.us. Applications will be accepted through March 27.

Gorham School Committee nomination papers are available at the Town Clerk's office. Any registered voter must submit nomination papers with no less than 35 or more than 50 signatures of persons who are registered voters of the Town of Gorham. FMI: Town Clerk's Office, (207) 222-1670.

Share your input on Gorham's Open Space & Trails Master Plan through April, 2025. <https://www.gorhamopenspace.me>.

New Ventures Maine offers free online workshops and classes in career building, entrepreneurship, and financial education in February and March. Learn more at <https://newventuresmaine.org/>

Joe Bornstein's 21st Annual Arrive Alive Creative Contest is open to graduating high school seniors throughout the state of Maine. Seniors may enter by submitting a creative project of their choice that sends a message to their peers about the dangers of drinking and driving and/or distracted driving. First-place winners receive a new laptop computer, second- and third-place winners receive a new iPad, and everyone who enters the contest wins fun prizes from the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein. Past winners have submitted essays, poems, paintings, videos, original songs, public service announcements, t-shirt designs, board games, drawings and more. Some incredibly moving, all equally real! FMI, visit <https://arrivealivecreativecontest.com/>.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

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

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

SENIOR NEWS

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

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

PUBLIC SUPPERS

Living Waters Church will hold a Haddock Supper Buffet on Saturday, March 29, at 5 p.m. Parker Farm Road, Suggested donation: \$10 adult, \$5 child, \$20 family.

The St. Anne's Knights of Columbus will hold its in-person Lenten Fish Dinner every Friday until April 11 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at St. Anne's Church in Gorham. Despite an increase in food costs, thanks to a generous donation, the price will be the same as last year. Dinner includes baked haddock, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, peas, a roll, beverage, and dessert for \$14. Pay at the door. FMI, visit <https://www.stanthonyparish.org/knights-of-columbus>.

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 is calling all makers, repairers, and handy folks to help with their Repair Fair scheduled for Saturday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you have items in need of repair and want to learn how to fix them, save the date. If you are willing to help, please reach out to Nissa Flanagan at nflanagan@gorham.me.us or (207) 222-1190. The library has an extensive listing of events at their 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.

Beyond the Bridge: A Solution to Homelessness

Patrick and Cindy O'Shea, Staff Writers

On Thursday, March 13 at 6 p.m. at Hannaford Hall there will be a screening of the documentary, "Beyond the Bridge: A Solution To Homelessness." This will be followed by a panel discussion led by Pat Callahan. The film was produced by A Bigger Vision Films. Dan Sawyer is the producer and director, and Tim Hakhko is the cinematographer and editor.

When asked where the idea for the film came from, Hakhko explained how he helped edit a documentary by Dan Sawyer's entitled, "Under the Bridge: The Criminalization of Homelessness." This documentary explores the lives of homeless individuals living in a tent city under a bridge in Indianapolis, Indiana. They decided their next project would focus on the solution to this problem.

In 2021, with funding from foundations, Sawyer and Hakhko traveled 40,000 miles around the U.S. to find answers to this question and visited twelve different cities. They found two large cities, Houston and

Milwaukee, that were having success solving the problem of homelessness and their solutions were transferable. They learned that when all local stakeholders work together to first find housing and support systems, then homelessness can be reduced. To learn more, the film website can be found at: <https://asolutiontohomelessness.com/>

The film's editor, Tim Hashko, lives in Gorham with his wife and 10-month-old daughter. He is originally from the U.S.S.R. and first came to the U.S. when he won a contest to become a foreign exchange student. He said where he lived in Belarus was very poor, but didn't have the homeless problem found in the U.S. In 2017 when he became a citizen, he wanted to do something to help his new country and that is how he became involved in the homeless problem.

Hakhko said he took the typical path to film editing, first doing weddings, corporate events and then documentaries. He spent a year editing the film: "Beyond the Bridge: A Solution To Homelessness" here in Gorham.

National Good Samaritan Day

Gorham Times Staff

Thursday, March 13 is National Good Samaritan Day. Its roots trace back to a story told by Jesus in the Gospel of Luke about a Jewish traveler who was attacked and left on the side of a road. Several travelers passed by but did not stop to help the injured man, except for a Samaritan, sworn enemies of the Jews, who went out of his way to help.

While its beginnings are found in Christian theology, being a good Samaritan is a tenet in religions around the world. It reminds us that everyone deserves honor, dignity and assistance, even when it might be inconvenient to offer it.

National Good Samaritan Day was designated to honor a woman named Catherine "Kitty" Genovese, who was murdered near her New York City home on March 13, 1964. Although more than 30 people saw something or heard her screams, no one

came forward to help or to call the police.

National Good Samaritan Day encourages all members of a community to pay attention and to intervene when someone is in need.

March Quotes

"March sweeps in on windy feet and sweeps my doorstep and my street." - Susan Reiner

"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'" - Robin Williams

"That's the trouble with March—the warmth never lasts. There's that narrow stretch when it parades as spring, just enough for you to thaw if you're sitting in the sun, but then it's gone." - V. E. Schwab

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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 will 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. 19 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 (207) 838-0132 <https://www.smalldogscare.com/>

CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 12

Baxter Memorial Library,
Baby Storytime, 9:30 a.m.
Teen Advisory Board Meeting, noon - 1 p.m.
Early Release Crafternoon for all ages, 1 - 3 p.m.
Author event with Peter D. Brown, author of "I Am Jayvyn," 6 p.m.

Thursday, March 13

Baxter Memorial Library
Toddler Storytime, 10 a.m.
Friends of Baxter Memorial Library Meeting, open to the public, 6:30 p.m.
Film Screening, "Beyond the Bridge: A Solution to Homelessness. Hannaford Hall, Portland, USM Portland, 6 p.m.

Friday, March 14

St. Anne's Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Dinner, 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 15

Baxter Memorial Library Pokémon Club, 10 a.m. - noon
USM Athletics, Women's Lacrosse vs. University of Maine Farmington, 1 p.m.
Gorham Community Chorus and Gorham First Parish UCC Choir Concert, 7 p.m.

Monday, March 17

Lecky Brown Senior Center games and cribbage, 10 a.m. - Noon

Tuesday, March 18

Baxter Memorial Library, Preschool Storytime, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, March 19

Baxter Memorial Library, Baby Storytime, 9:30 a.m.
Lecky Brown Senior Center guest speaker program, The Originals, 10 a.m.
Senior Meal Site at St. Anne's Church, 11:30 a.m.
USM Athletics, Women's Lacrosse vs. Clark University, 5 p.m.

Thursday, March 20

Baxter Memorial Library
Toddler Storytime, 10 a.m.
Book Club discussion, "The Women" by Kristin Hannah, 10:15 p.m.

Friday, March 21

St. Anne's Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Dinner, 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 22

Baxter Memorial Library
Repair Fair, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
RPG Club, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Women's Lacrosse vs. West Connecticut State, noon

Monday, March 24

Lecky Brown Senior Center games and cribbage, 10 a.m. - Noon
Baxter Memorial Book Club, "So Late in the Day: Stories of Women and Men" by Claire Keegan, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 25

Baxter Memorial Library,
Preschool Storytime, 10 a.m.
Evening Book Discussion: "So Late in the Day: Stories of Women and Men" by Clair Keegan, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, March 26

Lecky Brown Senior Center guest speaker program, The Originals, 10 a.m.
Senior Meal Site at St. Anne's Church, 11:30 a.m.

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

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A couple of juveniles were out running through the Woodspell Road neighborhood trying to be funny. Officer spoke to the dad of one juvenile and to the complainants. Everything was all set, and kids went home with dad. They were educated on the bad choice.

Officer made contact with a caller at his home on Jonathan Road, after he reported an unknown person arrived at his home, knocked on his door and asked for an iPhone charger. After stating that none was available to give, the person simply turned and walked away. The reason for the contact is unknown. No further information is known. The area was checked for the vehicle and for the driver, but nothing was observed.

A waste truck was noticed driving in the opposite lane on Sebago Lake Road. It was trash day, and they were avoiding a trash bin that was in the road.

Animal problem. A Main Street caller found a beagle, and the owner responded.

Officer was made aware that a signal light was out at the intersection of Water and Main Street. Public Works was made aware of this issue.

Cressey Road. A disabled motor vehicle was reported on Cressey Road near "the Church" and was reported to be an over-width loaded tractor trailer. Officer checked Cressey Road and did not locate this vehicle.

Officer was later dispatched to a traffic accident involving an over-width tractor trailer unit on State and Narragansett Street. This is likely the same event.

Responding to a complaint on North Gorham Road, officer patrolled the area of North Gorham Road and Standish Road. Another officer patrolled the area of North Gorham Road and Middle Jam Road. Nothing suspicious was observed. Officer spoke to a homeowner in the area who said it may have been fireworks because the neighbor has been using them since New Years, however they did not hear anything.

While on patrol, officer noticed a vehicle with its lights off, parked at the opening to a field in the area of Ossipee Trail and Spiller Road. The vehicle kept turning its lights on and off and inching forward and backward. When officer made contact with the operator, he told officer he was on his property and another individual lives across the street, so they were waiting for her to get home. Nothing suspicious to

report.

Officer responded to Old Standish Road, Buxton to assist on an active domestic. Upon arrival there were already two Buxton officers on scene. Officer provided scene security until BPD said they were all set.

Officer assisted with the installation of a car seat on Main Street.

Main Street caller had questions about a scam that he was almost the victim of in regard to house rental, however no money was lost during the transaction. Officer advised him to report it to the online reporting as no money was lost.

Officer answered questions from a Daniel Street caller.

Officer found an individual on the side of the road in the vicinity of Ossipee Trail and Wood Road with his hazards on. He was out of the vehicle and claimed he was looking for directions even though his GPS currently had the address typed in it. Officer checked him for impairment and he was not impaired.

Officer arrived at a store on Ossipee Trail where caller, who is an employee, told officer that his boss wanted him to call if a particular individual came back to the store. He advised that they wanted her trespassed from the store. Officer was unable to contact her, and filled out a trespass form to have Buxton serve at the address. Buxton was able to serve the notice.


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