

Azul Tequila Restaurant Open in Gorham Village



Ubaldo Sanchez, Ilse Fernandez, Aria Sanchez, Ramon Vargas, Juan Sanchez, Elena Sanchez, Martin Vargas, Martin Gutierrez, Sergio Avila

There's a new Mexican restaurant in downtown Gorham and this family knows how to cook! Azul Tequila Mexican Restaurant and Bar is now open and they are serving up

delicious, fresh, authentic Mexican food. Everything is made from scratch with their own special recipes. They are serving up tacos, enchiladas, burritos, taco salads and more. There are

lots of meats and toppings to choose from. You can have anything from chicken, beef, chorizo to their specialty – carnitas. Top it with cilantro rice or corn rice, See Azul, page 16

Op-ed Gorham High School renovations

By Ethan Bump,
Gorham Maine
High School Student

The town council recently rejected the proposal for a \$72 million high school renovation, saying it was 'too expensive.' Perhaps it was a little expensive. However, we need to keep working on it to come up with something better. Gorham High School was built in 1959. Renovations in 1971 and 1995 helped with overcrowding at the time, but the school's student population continues to grow.



Ethan Bump at Gorham High school

The school's last renovation in 1995 was to accommodate 750 students. By the 2003-2004 school year, the building was already overcrowd-

ed by at least 20 students. From there, it kept growing and the building in this current school year, 2019-2020, serves 856 See Gorham, page 16

Gorham Harry Potter book night

We invite you to grab your wand and test your courage at our Tri-Wizard Tournament, as we celebrate our 4th annual Harry Potter Night on February 12 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Baxter Memorial Library, Gorham! Visit an underwater cave to retrieve a gift from a mermaid. Enter the Hungarian Horntail's den and try your luck at stealing a dragon's egg from its nest. Still standing? Navigate the hedge See Harry, page 3



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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Braden Clement becomes shareholder of Skelton Taintor & Abbott



Braden Clement

Effective January 1, attorney Braden Clement—who represents individual clients in a range of civil litigation matters, including plaintiff’s personal injury, professional malpractice, product liability, commercial disputes, family law, and immigration—has become shareholder (partner) in the firm. Clement joined Skelton Taintor & Abbott in 2017.

“Braden epitomizes the diverse talent at Skelton Taintor and Abbott. His thoughtful and skilled advocacy has gained the confidence of his clients and his practice continues to grow. We are fortunate to have Braden on our team and are excited to have him join the sharehold-

ers,” said Sarah Mitchell, President of Skelton Taintor & Abbott.

“I am grateful to be selected as a partner at Skelton, Taintor & Abbott. The team of professionals here is fully committed to this community and the State of Maine at large. I could not be happier to be a part of it,” Clement said.

Prior to joining Skelton, Taintor & Abbott, Clement practiced for several years at a firm in Portland, Maine, where he gained valuable experience in civil trial work. Clement has been listed as a Rising Star by New England Super Lawyers in the category of general litigation in 2016, and in the categories of general litigation

and personal injury in 2017, 2018, and 2019.

Clement received his law degree from the University of Maine School of Law (where he received the Charles A. Harvey, Jr. Trial Practice Immersion Fellowship), a master’s degree from Tufts University, and a bachelor’s degree from Bowdoin College. Clement also participated in the inaugural year of Maine’s Refugee and Human Rights Clinic, where he represented individuals seeking immigration status in the United States and advocated for women under the Violence against Women’s Act.

A native of Central Maine, Clement enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife and two children.

Skelton Taintor & Abbott is one of Maine’s leading law firms serving individuals and businesses in litigation and general representation throughout northern New England for more than 150 years. The firm has been named in U.S. News-Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms” in America. For more information, visit www.STA-Law.com or call 207.784.3200.

Bangor Savings Bank celebrates and donates

Bangor Savings Bank recently marked the grand opening of the company’s newest branch in downtown Auburn with community leaders, business partners, and bank employees.

The full-service branch at 170 Turner Street is the 57th Bangor Savings location in Maine and New Hampshire. Auburn Mayor Jason Levesque was on hand for the grand opening event.

Bangor Savings President and CEO Bob Montgomery-Rice announced a donation of \$2,500 to the YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston.

“With this additional location in the Auburn and Lewiston area, we are proud to serve those who live and work in the area and support these communities even



more,” said Montgomery-Rice. “The YMCA has been an important part of the lives of children and adults in these communities for 150 years, and we’re honored to support their mission.”

Bangor Savings Bank has nearly 900 em-

ployees in Maine, and its customers have voted it New England’s top-rated bank four of the past five years in the J.D. Power and Associates Retail Banking Satisfaction StudySM. Learn more about the bank at www.bangor.com.

Letter to the Editor

Saving for retirement is one of the most important things you can do for your future.

As a college student about to enter the workforce, it is hard for me to even think of what all retirement involves. There is one thing I know for certain, retirement is expensive. More expensive than one can imagine. I’ve always been told by my grandparents, “Start saving for retirement early, you’ll be happy you did.” When talking with my grandparents about retirement, they said the easiest way to

save is by having a plan. It becomes second nature—you don’t even think about as time goes on.

When researching different plan options, I found proposed legislation LD594, A Retirement Savings Program for Maine. LD594 provides an easy pathway to start saving for retirement out of my regular paycheck, regardless if my employer offers a program or not. This program would give employees the option to put a percentage of their paycheck into a retirement savings account.

This program would be portable, meaning I can take it from job to job with me.

It makes sense that people are more likely to save when they can do so through their employer. Imagine what putting away just \$20 a paycheck will amount to in 10 years, let alone 40 plus years.

I’m hoping Maine will pass LD 594. I don’t think a lot of people my age realize how expensive retirement is. This bill will help Mainers of all ages get on the right track.

Harrison Quidort, Portland

MARCAL PAPER

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Special trusts have been set up by vendors and suppliers of the Marcal Paper mill to pay asbestos victims:

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Governor's Address: I urge Maine people to vote No on 1

A little more than a month ago, the residents of a city in central China began getting terribly sick with a virus that no one had seen before. As that virus spread, one of the first things that public health officials did was begin to work on a vaccine because vaccines save lives.

They are one of the best tools to safeguard our health, protect the health of those around us, friends and loved ones and children.

You know a century ago, as Maine celebrated its 100th birthday, influenza – the flu – posed a serious threat to our people and took thousands of lives.

Globally, between 50 million and 100 million people (3 percent to 5 percent of the entire population) died from the flu between 1918 and 1920.

I don't want that to happen again.

A hundred years later, the flu is still a public health concern, but thanks to vaccines, we are much safer than we used to be – if you get vaccinated.

Decades of scientific research prove that vaccines not only work but that they are safe.

Unfortunately, our state has had a vaccination opt-out rate that is three times higher than the national average for kids entering kindergarten. Our state ranks seventh in the country for



Governor Janet Mills

the rate of non-medical opt-outs among school age children.

So last year alone, schools in Lincoln, York, and Cumberland counties experienced dangerous whooping cough outbreaks.

I supported Maine's vaccination laws and, like every other Main-er, I also highly value personal choice. But, as your Governor, I am charged with protecting

the health and safety of all Maine people, and amidst these outbreaks it has become painfully clear that Maine laws have not adequately protected the health of Maine people.

Last year I signed a bill to remove the non-medical exemptions from vaccination laws in order to better protect the health and welfare of people, especially young children, across our state – and this is something that four other states, including Mississippi, have done.

People opposed to this new law, however, have succeed in putting a referendum question on the ballot in March in the hopes of overturning the law.

Their campaign is masquerading itself as opposition to "Big Pharma," but, really, pharmaceutical companies hardly benefit at all from producing vaccines, as the Bangor Daily News recently reported. And in trying to target so-called Big Pharma, whom nobody really likes, their campaign is purposefully trying to conflate vaccinations with other issues like the opioid epidemic when these issues are distinctly different.

Don't buy it. Vaccines work, but to make them more effective, people need to be vaccinated, especially children.

As the American Academy of Pediatrics notes, ensuring that ev-

eryone who can get vaccinated does get vaccinated "is important because it uniquely protects the most vulnerable members of our communities, including infants, pregnant women and other individuals whose immune systems cannot combat certain harmful or deadly infections or who aren't eligible to receive certain vaccines."

Let's not go back to a time when viruses like pertussis, the measles, mumps, or rubella were commonplace.

Let's protect our children. Let's protect the future.

I urge Maine people to vote No on 1 March 3rd.

Gorham quilters needed for veterans



The Quilts of Valor Foundation is a national organization founded in 2003 by "Blue Star" mom Catherine Roberts. With a son deployed in Iraq—a "Gunner" sitting atop a Humvee—she felt "ten seconds

away from panic" twenty-four hours a day. One night she dreamed of a post-deployment warrior struggling with his war demons at two o'clock in the morning. She saw him sitting on the side of his bed, wrapped in



a quilt. The quilt comforted him and fended off the "war demons" that troubled him. From

this vision, Quilts of Valor Foundation began.

See Veterans, page 8

Harry

Continued from page 1

maze without getting lost forever!

Hogwart's classrooms will be open downstairs for crafting a wand and making dragon necklaces. Study for your O.W.L.s next year by taking our Harry Potter trivia quiz.

Wizarding robes and

outfits are encouraged! Magical refreshments will be served. This is an all ages event.

Send all items for **Names & Faces** to **Editor@GorhamWeekly.com**. Deadline is **Friday by five**.

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Laurie A. Steele
Publisher/CEO
Laurie@GorhamWeekly.com

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Millie Barnard
Managing Editor
Editor@GorhamWeekly.com

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Suzanne Murray
Production Manager
Ads@GorhamWeekly.com

Rachel Morin
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What's Going On

Great Falls forum with Frances Eanes

The 2019-2020 season of the Great Falls Forum continues on Thursday, February 20, featuring Dr. Frances Eanes, Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at Bates College, with a talk entitled "Conflict, Consensus, and Community in the Future of Auburn's Ag Zone." The program will take place from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in Callahan Hall at the Lewiston Public Library.

Productive, working landscapes that support farm and forest livelihoods have been steadily lost for decades throughout the United States, especially in New England. Although the driving forces behind this trend—e.g., globalization, urban sprawl, and demographic shifts—are talked about in distant and abstract terms, their effects are profoundly acute and personal, and impact how individuals

and communities see themselves and imagine a more durable future. In this talk, Professor Eanes will explore these challenges and potential solutions through the lens of his in-depth research on the City of Auburn's contentious process to modernize policies that govern the city's "Ag Zone," which covers more than 40% of the city's land base.

Professor Francis Eanes originally comes from the mountains of western Pennsylvania, but has lived in Idaho, Wisconsin, Indiana, and now calls Lewiston home. Having lived in so many different landscapes, his research and teaching interests revolve around urban and rural land use planning. He is especially interested in the social, cultural, and livelihood connections that people develop with land, and how these can help to form healthy

and more equitable communities. He and his students have worked with community partners in Lewiston-Auburn on a variety of local research projects, including some related to the future of Auburn's Ag Zone. Before coming to Bates, Professor Eanes earned his doctorate in environmental studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was a postdoctoral researcher in natural resource social science at Purdue University.

Admission is free to all Forum events and no reservations are required. This program is a bring-your-own, brown-bag lunch event. Coffee, tea and bottled water will be available on site at the library.

The Great Falls Forum speaker series is co-sponsored by Bates College, Lewiston Public Library, and the Sun See Forum, page 13

Bill Staines at Chocolate Church Arts Center

The Chocolate Church Arts Center, at 804 Washington Street in Bath, will present folk singer and songwriter Bill Staines on Friday, February 7. A New England native, Staines has performed his particular brand of Americana folk for over 45 years and will take the stage in the annex at the Chocolate Church Arts Center for an intimate performance of some of his best-loved material.

Staines became involved in the Boston-Cambridge folk scene in the early 1960s, and quickly gained popularity in the Boston area. In 1971, after one of his shows, the Boston Phoenix proclaimed that Staines was "simply Boston's best performer." A decade later, the annual Reader's Poll of the Boston Globe named him one of Boston's favorite artists.

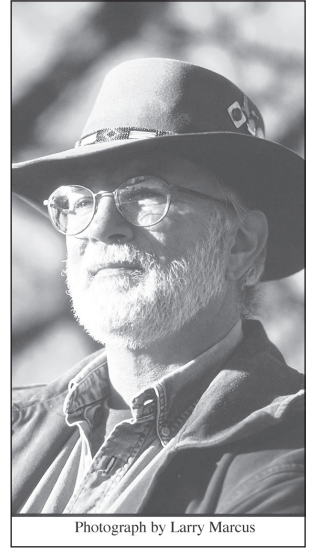
In the time since he burst onto the scene, Bill Staines has worked as the quintessential folk troubadour, singing his songs at the country's top festivals, concerts, clubs, and coffeehouses. The veteran songwriter still performs over 200 shows each year to bring his music to audiences all over the United

States. Staines' melodies and lyrics recall with compassion and depth the landscapes and characters he's known, and in the words of The Austin American Statesman, his words have the "ability to translate the common details of common lives into songs of uncommon eloquence and beauty."

With his moving songs, his warm, smooth baritone, his prowess on guitar, and his gentle humor, Staines has also become a favorite of other folk singers and a significant influence on many. His songs have been recorded by noted musicians including Peter, Paul & Mary, Nanci Griffith, Makem & Clancy, Grandpa Jones, Priscilla Herdman, and Jerry Jeff Walker.

Staines' radio and television appearances have included A Prairie Home Companion, Mountain Stage, and The Good Evening Show, and he has hosted local programs on PBS and network television. Even with 26 albums under his belt, Staines continues to release new material, while also performing the classic songs that have won him praise.

Other upcoming



Photograph by Larry Marcus

Bill Staines

winter concerts at the Chocolate Church Arts Center include a Valentine's Day Fundraiser Party featuring Island Beats Steel Drum Band on February 14, a comedy show with Johnny Ater and friends on February 15, and a production of Noel Coward's comic play Blithe Spirit, opening on February 28 and running through March 8.

Tickets for Bill Staines in the annex at the Chocolate Church Arts Center are \$15 advance or \$18 at the door. Tickets for this show, and all shows at the Chocolate Church Arts Center can be purchased at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

The Tri-Town Optimist Club



The Tri-Town Optimist Club (Poland, Minot, and Mechanic Falls) has adopted the promotion of literacy as a year-long theme. Reading is central to learning and the availability of books is important to reading success. During December and January, the Tri-Town Optimist Club sponsored

a book drive. They collected over 30 large boxes of gently used books. On January 21, during the RSU 16 staff workshop day, PreK-6 staff were able to shop for much needed books for their classroom libraries. Students will have an opportunity to shop to take books home.

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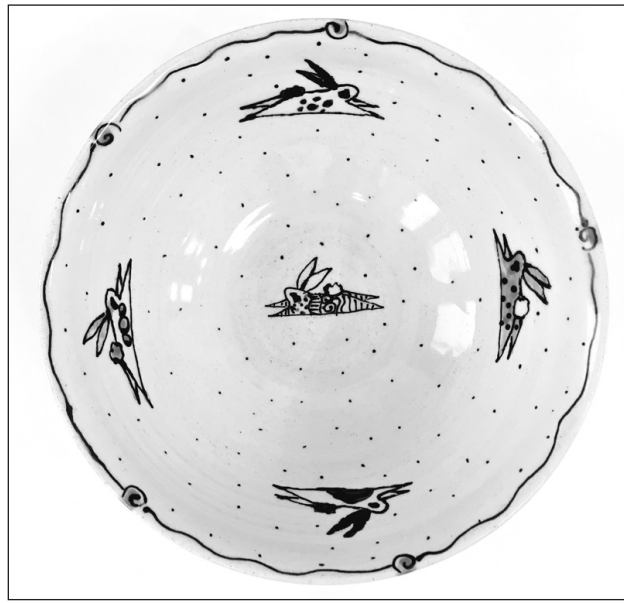


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Harlow's annual silent art auction



Ceramic rabbit serving bowl by Maple Lane Pottery

Pottery, Brookes Smith Knitting, and many more. Bidding is open February 12 through 22, Wednesday-Saturday 12 to 6 p.m. and closes Saturday, February 22 at 4 p.m. sharp. The Harlow is located at 100 Water street in Hallowell.

The Harlow is a membership based 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to connecting and celebrating art, artists and community in downtown historic Hallowell since 1963. For more information please visit harlowgallery.org or call 207-622-3813.

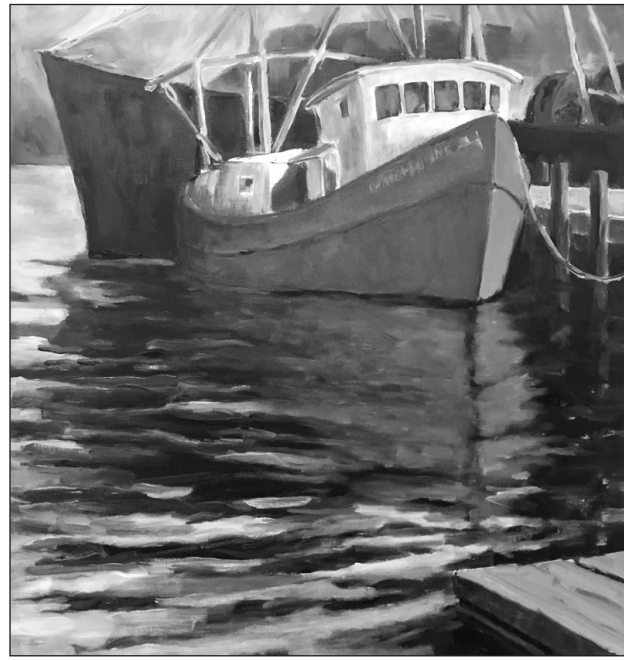
The Harlow's Annual Silent Art Auction returns February 12 through 22 with proceeds directly supporting 2020 programming at the Gallery.

Cultivate your collection and come bid on an exciting variety of

handmade fine art and craft that have been generously donated by local collectors, artists, and fine craftsmen. The items up for bids include work by local artists Barb Loken, Judith Schuppen, Kay Morris, Erin Seegers Jewelry, Maple Lane

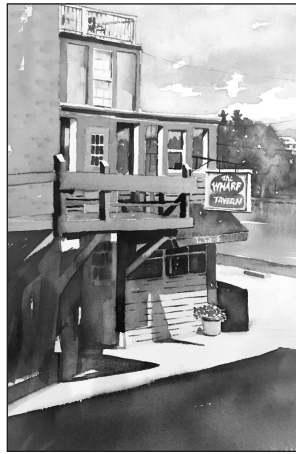


Enamel earrings by Erin Seegers Jewelry



"Gloucester Harbor", oil painting by Judith Schuppen

What's Going On



Untitled watercolor painting by Kay Morris



Woodcut block print by Barb Loken



Knit hat by Brookes Smith Knitting

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Arts & Entertainment

Gorham's Lakes Region Senior Center drop-in center

Did you know that Lakes Region Senior Center at 40 Acorn Street in Little Falls, Gorham, (Gorham Rec Activity Center) is a drop-in center for Seniors over 50? We have many activities going on and we would love

to have you join us. Following is list of February Activities:

Monday: 9:30 a.m., MahJong; The gym is open for exercise from 9 to 11 a.m. The second Monday of the month there is usually a special Lun-

cheon with Entertainment (members price is \$5 (unless it is expensive luncheon) and non-members are \$8. Note, we are closed on President's Day.

Tuesdays: 10:00 a.m. Poker goes live! There are card games in afternoon, then gather for needle works and crafts.

Wednesdays: On the first and third Wednesday of the month there is a board meeting at 10 a.m. (members may attend) and every Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m. is Water Colors Studio. On the last Wednesday of the month is a Memior group at 10 a.m. Anyone is welcome to listen or actively participate.

Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. Bingo Games

Fridays: To Be Announced.

Every day there is a cross word puzzle joint effort going on and coffee/tea/water along with a goodie or too available. Stop in and see us!

Membership is \$20 a year. Call Gerry Day at 839-3859 or Blanche Alexander at 892-5604 if you have questions. Our hours are from 9-2 daily.

Gorham medical closet open for residents

Were you aware that The Gorham Health Council maintains a Medical Loan Closet at 75 South Street? This Medical Loan Closet is open to Gorham Residents and is manned by Volunteers from the Gorham Health Council who are available by appointment. We have crutches, wheelchairs, transfer wheelchairs, commodes, rollators, walkers, shower chairs as well as other medical items. This Medical Loan Closet has been in exis-

tence for many years and has served Gorham Residents faithfully. What do we need? We need any clean and functional medical item listed above. Other items must be approved by a volunteer. We also need new members. Your commitment is three lunch meetings a year and the willingness to help serve Gorham residents.

If you have questions or are interested, call Gerry Day at 839-3859 or Lois MacDonald at 839-2484.

Gorham wine night



Friday of each month for complimentary wine and snacks while you shop! For February's wine night on Friday the 21, from 4 to 7 p.m. we will have cookies, popcorn and wine!

Be sure to mark your calendars and come visit us at our new location at 18 South Street in Gorham!

Come join us at Upcycle Maine Home Furnishings every third

Monthly networking in Gorham for USM graduate students

The Office of Graduate Studies is excited to be hosting monthly coffee hours for graduate students to network with each other and learn about the wide range of resources USM offers grad students.

This month, we will be hosting on the Gorham campus at the Welcome Center on the first floor of Bailey Hall.

Please join us, meet new students, learn more about Graduate Studies and grab a snack before

class! First meeting will be February 12, 2:30 to 4 p.m. For more information contact Eleanor Mair at 207-780-4877 or usmgradstudies@maine.edu.

At Your Table catering at Lakes Region Senior Center in Gorham

Monday, March 9 at 11:30, join us for a wonderful and tasty Boiled

Dinner which will be catered by Sharon owner of At Your Table from Gor-

ham. There will be potatoes, carrots, cabbage, corned beef from Pat's Meat Market in Portland, beets and turnip along with soda bread and ice cream with yummy cookies for dessert. In order to join us, you must sign up and give your money to Blanche, Gerry or Jan Foster by March 1. The sign up will be on the bulletin board soon. The charge for members will be \$8 and for non-members, \$10. Come support your Center by trying this new caterer.

Carmine at Grand Central in Gorham



Come to the coolest hang in Gorham as Carmine and the piano play all of your favorites - and a few you forgot

you liked! They'll be on 4th floor from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, February 7 at Grand Central Wine Bar in Gorham.

Send all items for **Names & Faces** to **Editor@GorhamWeekly.com**. Deadline is **Friday by five.**

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SUBWAY

Johnny Ater and Friends at Chocolate Church Arts Center



Johnny Ater

The Chocolate Church Arts Center, at 804 Washington Street in Bath, will present a comedy show featuring stand-up comic Johnny Ater and friends on Saturday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m. Ater, a life-long Mainer, offers up hilarious and honest stories about life, fami-

vulnerable performer who embraces his “un-cool” persona, Ater has become one of Maine’s favorite standup comics since he began performing in 2003.

Ater will be joined by fellow Maine comedians Colby Bradshaw of Yarmouth and Julie Poulin of Monmouth. Other upcoming winter shows at the Chocolate Church Arts Center include a production of Noel Coward’s classic comic play *Blithe Spirit*, opening on February 28 and running through March 8, and a St. Patrick’s Day themed improv comedy show with the *Doppelbloopers* on March 13.

Tickets for Johnny Ater and Friends in the annex at the Chocolate Church Arts Center are \$15 advance or \$17 at the door. Tickets for this show, and all shows at the Chocolate Church Arts Center can be purchased at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

ly, relationships, and his colorful local friends, whom he brings to life on stage for all to meet. The comedian also offers light-hearted swipes and himself and his fellow Mainers, and is known for his “rubber face,” which he is able to contort into hilarious and surprising ways. A

Scholarship available for agriculture education

Graduating seniors from Maine high schools who are National FFA (Future Farmers of America) Organization members and interested in pursuing a career in farming, agriculture, or natural resources are invited to apply for a Ronald P. Guerrette FFA Scholarship through the Maine Community Foundation.

The Guerrette FFA Scholarship Fund provides one \$1,000 scholarship per year. The application deadline is March 1. To learn

more, visit the statewide scholarships section of MaineCF’s website, www.mainecef.org.

The fund was created in 1998 by friends and family of Ronald P. Guerrette of Caribou to honor his life and work.

Headquartered in Ellsworth, with additional personnel in Portland, Dover-Foxcroft, and Mars Hill, the Maine Community Foundation works with donors and other partners to provide strong investments, personalized

service, local expertise, and strategic giving to improve the quality of life for all Maine people. To learn more about the foundation, visit www.mainecef.org.

Send all items for **What’s Going On** to **Editor**.
Deadline is **Friday by five**.

Arts & Entertainment

Food pantry donation needs

The High Street Food Pantry has on-going needs for the following items: Peanut Butter, canned vegetables, soup, canned pasta (spaghetti, ravioli, spaghetti-o’s, etc.) canned

meats, canned fruit, dry cereal, baking items (mixes, sugar, flour, etc.), toilet paper. Thank you for supporting this mission and helping local people meet

their most basic needs. Please drop off your donations at the Auburn United Methodist Church at 439 Park Avenue in Auburn or contact the Church Office at 782-3972.

Author Renee Decamillis to give reading at LPL

On Saturday, February 22 from 2 to 3:30 p.m., the Lewiston Public Library will host Maine author Renee Decamillis for a reading from her recent novella *The Bone Cutters*. This free, public program will take place in the Library’s Jeanne Couture Conference Room.

The *Bone Cutters*, published in 2019 through Eraserhead Press as part of their 2019 *New Bizarro Authors Series*, tells the story of Dory, a psychiatric patient who finds herself threatened by a group of fellow patients who harvest highly addictive bone dust from the living. Disbelieved and alone, Dory ends up on the run, fighting for her life, trying to avoid getting “dusted” by *The Bone Cutters*.

Renee Decamillis is a member of the Horror Writers Association, The New England Horror Writers, and the Horror Writers of Maine. She has her BA in psychology from the University of Southern Maine, earned her MFA in Popular Fiction Writing from

the Stonecoast Graduate Program, and attended Berklee College of Music as a music business major with guitar as her principle instrument. Renee is a former model, school rock band teacher, creative writing teacher, private guitar instructor, A&R rep for an indie record label, therapeutic mentor, psychological technician, and preschool teacher. She is also a former gravedigger; she

can get rid of a body fast without leaving a trace, and she is not afraid of getting her hands dirty. Renee lives in the woods of southern Maine with her husband, their son, and a house full of ghosts.

The event is free to the public and will conclude with book sales and signing. For more information, contact the library at lpreference@gmail.com or call Josh Gauthier at 513-3136.

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Dads and Daughters Braiding Day to benefit Gorham's Through These Doors



When Kiely was younger, she would ask me to french braid her hair. She would ask at night after a shower when her hair was wet. She would sleep with the braids in and take them out in the morning with "crinkly" hair. My

work was good enough to "crinkle" hair but not high quality enough for her to wear out in public. Regardless, the time we spent braiding her hair were very special moments for us (she still talks about it today).

If your braiding

skills need a little work; we created the perfect event with the perfect partner just for you!

Join us for another fun, Dads and Daughters event to learn how to French Braid your Daughter's hair. This event is sponsored by Bei Capelli

Salon. This event, on Sunday February 9 from 4 to 6 p.m. is open to all ages and all dad/daughter relationships are welcome. Tickets are very limited for this event, so make sure to order them early!

100% of the proceeds will be donated to Through These Doors Domestic Violence Resources & Advocacy in Gorham.

Bei Capelli, located at 300 Roundwood Drive, Scarborough, won Best Salon for Women this year. If you are looking for a new place to look your best, please try them out!

Always Remember: Nothing grows slower than a bad haircut!

Arts Iditarod coming to Gorham



The Arts Commission is hitting the road for the Arts Iditarod, a five-stop professional development series coming to USM Gorham Campus! This event will take place on Wednesday, February 19 from 12:30 to 4 p.m. on USM Gorham campus in Bailey Hall, Rm 215.

This winter's Arts

Iditarod will include informational updates about our grant offerings, programs and projects, as well as tips and tricks on marketing your organization and artwork, and more. Plus, we want to hear from you! Spend the afternoon networking with colleagues from all over Maine's arts and culture sector.

Agenda: 12:30 p.m. Doors open/ Registration; 1 p.m. Iditarod Opening, Introductions and Welcome; 1:05 p.m. Workshop 1: Maine Arts

Commission Grants & More—This workshop will provide participants with an in-depth overview of the Maine Arts Commission grants offerings as well as the tools to find and apply for grants for individuals and organizations; 1:50 p.m. Break; 2 p.m., Info Beat 1: Maine 2020—Maine's Bicentennial Celebration Grants and Cultural Sector Network—Arts EngageME; 2:05 p.m. Grant Breakouts: Get hands-on assistance with your grants from Arts Commission staff. Bring a sample grant to be critiqued or just come with your questions for the staff; 2:45 p.m. Info Beat 2: Arts Education Planning Project, State Cultural Planning, Maine International Conference on the Arts (September 28-29); 2:50 p.m. Break; 3 p.m. Workshop 2: Marketing Shop Talk—Learn about the key steps and elements needed to create an effective awareness campaign, as well as tips and tricks of storytelling using new media techniques; 3:55 p.m. Final Q & A; 4 p.m. Departure.

Veterans

Continued from page 3

Quilts of Valor Foundation is a grassroots group of quilters from all across the US. Since 2003 over 245,000 Quilts of Val-

or have been awarded here in the United States, and in Germany, Iraq and Afghanistan. Our mission is to honor our service members and veter-

ans who have been touched by war with Quilts of Valor. Our foundation represents one human being reaching out and touching another, without judgment, reaching out with acceptance and with an acknowledgment

of service to our nation. We as a foundation will go wherever those who have been touched by war go or are. We don't need high profile venues to find them. They are in plain sight.

We have several groups in Maine,

Friendly Village Quilters in Gorham, Lakeside Quilters in Standish, Cobblestone Quilters in Portland, and Calico Quilters in Yarmouth, are the local Quilt of Valor groups that we have. We have Sew Orchid in Norway, Annie's Teeny Tinny Quilt Shop in Limerick, and Village Quilt Shop in Berwick as local quilt shops that support Quilts of Val-

Some words from Veterans who have received quilts: "My quilt has been a life-saver for me", "I think of my comrades when I am wrapped in my quilt", "my quilt is better than any award I received while in the service."

We are always looking for people to help make quilts, quilt quilts, and give donations. If you or our organization, church, or business would like to know more please reach out to Donna Brookings at donna.brookings@QOVF.org or 207-523-9322.



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Shanna Cox, Nicole Lajoie, and Robin Robbins. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Sandy Buchanen, family and coworkers, Western Maine Transportation Systems. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



GingerSnap Photo Booth, Kait Gallagher with Community Credit Union Team. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine



Ken Albert and Dr. Frederick Duah of Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Steve Morin and Raymond DeBlois. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Shanna Cox, Nicole Lajoie and Mark Samson. Photos by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Cyndi Robbins of Cyndi's Dockside with Ben Rucker. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Misty Parker, Sandy Goss and Nicole Witherbee, Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



The VIP Team. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.

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Emerson performs junior oboe recital at CortHELL Hall, Gorham



The School of Music presents the junior recital of Aaron Emerson, oboe, student of Neil Boyer.

The recital will take place on Saturday, February 15 at 8 p.m. at

CortHELL Concert Hall at USM's Gorham campus. Student recitals are free and open to the public, and subject to change without notice.

Those needing special accommodations to

participate fully in this program, contact the Music Box Office, (207) 780-5555, usmmusic-boxoffice@maine.edu.

Hearing impaired: call USM's telex / TDD number (207) 780-5646.

College Financial Aid advice for Gorham high school students

Enrollment for College Planning Family Coaching program for High School seniors and their parents for the 20/21 school year is officially open!

If you want step by step college planning, ad-

mission and financial aid guidance to help get you through the senior year at an affordable rate then this coaching program is for you! Not only this, but you will learn how to maximize your financial aid awards in a number of

ways!

Spots are limited and they will fill fast so reserve yours now! Visit <https://the-fafsa-guru1.teachable.com/p/college-planning-family-coaching-program-for-19-20-high-school-seniors-and-their-parents>.

Tickets on sale in Gorham for Valentine's Day Concert



Ronald Lantz (l) pictured with Laura Kargul (r).

Violinist Ronald Lantz and pianist Laura Kargul will celebrate Valentine's Day with a concert entitled "To the Distant Beloved" on Sunday, February 9 at 2 p.m. at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford Avenue in Portland. As part of the Portland String Quartet Society's annual series, this event marks the eighth time the Lantz/Kargul Duo has celebrated the holiday of romance with a concert.

Sponsored by Dr. Newell and Tenney '79 Augur and Piper Shores. Co-presented with the Portland String Quartet Society.

Tickets are \$22 for general admission, \$20 for seniors. Students and people under 21 are free. To purchase tickets from USM School of Music visit www.usm.maine.edu/music/boxoffice or call 207-780-5555. To purchase tickets from Portland String Quartet Society, visit <https://lantz-kargulfeb9.brownpapertickets.com/> or call 207-761-1522.

Lantz and Kargul have drawn inspiration for this program not only from Valentine's Day, but also from the 250th anniversary of the birth of Beethoven, 1770-1827. To commemorate both they

will perform a violin/piano version of Beethoven's groundbreaking song cycle, *An die ferne Geliebte* [To the Distant Beloved].

"It appears that Beethoven never enjoyed much success in his romantic life. People readily acknowledged his genius, but his difficult personality made romantic relationships challenging," says Lantz. "The great depth of his romantic feelings, however, is made clear by the letter he wrote to the 'Immortal Beloved,' a woman who remains unidentified to this day. This song cycle, the first ever composed, is thought to have been inspired by his love and longing for her."

Several other works on the program are drawn from vocal literature, among them two songs by Liszt, *Oh! quand je dors* [Oh! when I sleep] and *O Lieb* [O Love]. "Both speak of deep love and the pain of separation," says Kargul. "Known for his sweeping romanticism, here Liszt chose poetry that inspired moments of quiet intimacy juxtaposed with soaring lyrical lines. These songs work beautifully on the violin."

Songs by Fauré and Debussy will also make an appearance, as will shorter works by Schumann and Dvorak. For a more modern, mys-

terious and sensuous take on the idea of love and loss, the duo will perform the tango *Soledad* [Solitude] by Astor Piazzolla.

The final work on the program is the *Poème* of Ernest Chausson. "This is one of the most impassioned works in all of violin literature, says Lantz. "It was originally titled *Le chant d'amour triomphant* [The Song of Triumphant Love] after Ivan Turgenev's novella of the same name. A theme of this story, too, is the torment of longing for one's beloved across a great distance."

Ronald Lantz has taught and concertized in over 30 countries as a founding member of the Portland String Quartet. He has also performed with numerous symphony orchestras both as soloist and as principal player, and has served on the faculties of the University of New Hampshire, Bates College, the University of Southern Maine, Bowdoin College and Colby College, where he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree. Mr. Lantz performs with a violin and bow made in Paris in the 1850's by the renowned instrument and bow maker, Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume.

Laura Kargul is the Director of Keyboard Studies at the University of Southern Maine
See Concert, page 16



**Invite a Loved One to Valentine's Day
Breakfast at Village Elementary!!
Friday, February 14th 8:30am-8:50am**

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By: Monday, February 10th



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Doug Forester and Richard Griffin. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Fermata Nowhere. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Joan Gamache and Robbin Robbins. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Heads or Tails finalists pictured l to r: Jessica Donovan, Nicole Lajoie, Kait Gallagher, Patti Gray, Mary LaFontaine, Chip Morrison. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Jolene Lovejoy, Tracy Taylor, Hon. Peggy Rotundo. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.



Pictured l to r: Shanna Cox, Ruby Beene, Nicole Lajoie. Photo by Nathan Tsukroff, PortraitEFX of Maine.

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Friday, February 7

LA Arts presents The Color of the Wild exhibition artist talk and reception, at 221 Lisbon Street in Lewiston, 5 to 7 p.m. Exhibition on view January 18 through March 1. LA Arts hours Gallery hours are 12 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 11 to 3 p.m. Saturdays. Free to attend.

Bill Staines to perform at The Chocolate Church Arts Center. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door and can be purchased at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

Saturday, Feb. 8

Androscoggin Historical Society presents Genealogy Program in the Androscoggin Community Room of the Auburn Public Library from 2 to 4 p.m. For more information, please contact the Society at 784-0586 or info@androhist.org.

Saturday, Feb. 8

Bean and casserole supper at Calvary United Methodist Church, 59, Sabattus Street, Lewiston. \$8 adults, \$4 children. Accessible and welcoming! Use the Bartlett St. entrance. Call for more information of if the weather is inclement, call 782-3221.

Swingin' Bears Square Dance Club monthly dance at Oxford Hills Middle School, 100 Pine Street, South Paris, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Non-dancers are invited to come at no charge. Dancer admission is \$8.00 per person. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 drawing. For more information call our presidents Joan and Dick Deans, 207-966-2327 or 890-2972 or visit swinginbears.squaredanceme.us.

Bean and casserole supper at Minot United Methodist Church Corner of Rte 121 and Empire Road, Minot. from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets at the door are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 7 to 12 years and under 7 is free. Please come and join us.

Sunday, Feb. 9

Danny Breau kicks off "Music for Mavis" 2020 Cabin Fever Coffee House Concert Series at 98 Mathew's Way, off Rt. 117, Turner Center, downstairs under the Turner Library in the Community Room. Suggested donation \$10. For more information call 207-754-0954.

Monday, Feb. 10

Three session

weaving workshop at the Auburn Public Library in the Community room, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$60 fee and includes your own handheld tapestry loom, yarn, and warp to complete one or two projects, as well as instruction and hands on assistance. Class is limited to 10 people. To register please contact Mamie Ney at the Auburn Public Library at 207.333.6640 x 2020 or director@auburnpubliclibrary.org. Registration closes on January 17.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Lisbon Historical Society meeting to feature Who, What, When, Where" quiz in the Society's meeting rooms at the MTM Center in Lisbon Falls at 7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m. Further information at LisbonHistSoc@gmail.com or 353-8510.

Friday, Feb. 14

Food for Thought speaker Gloria Varney presenting "The Perception and Reality of our Food" in room 170

of USM/LA college, at 11:30 a.m. If you have questions, please call (207) 753-6610.

Saturday, Feb. 15

Stanton Bird club learn to identify tracks of animals. Meet at Staples, Lewiston at 8 a.m. Walk last till 11 a.m. Call Steve Reed, trip leader, at 207-319-6630 for more information.

Johnny Ater and Friends at Chocolate Church Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 advance or \$17 at the door and can be purchased online at www.chocolatechurcharts.org or by calling 207-442-8455.

Thursday, Feb. 20

Great Falls forum with Frances Eanes at the Lewiston Public Library in Callahan Hall from 12 noon to 1 p.m. Admission is free. Bring your own bag lunch. Coffee, tea and bottled water available. For more information contact the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3135 or LPLReference@gmail.com.

Shana Youngdahl book signing at Portland Public Library at noon. Shana Youngdahl, University of Maine at Farmington assistant professor of English is author of "As Many Nows As I Can Get".

Friday, Feb. 22

Bean supper at Auburn United Methodist Church, 439 Park Avenue at 5 p.m. Entertainment provided by Park Avenue Pickers starting at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$8/ adults, children 6-12/\$4, children 5 and under free. For additional information, please call the church office at (207) 782-3972.

Saturday, Feb. 22

Author Renee Decamillis to give reading at Lewiston Public Library from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Jeanne Couture Conference Room. Event is free and open to the public and will conclude with book sales and signing. For more information, contact the library at lplreference@gmail.com or call Josh

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Gretel & Hansel (PG-13)	1:30	4:30	7:25	9:40
Bad Boys For Life (R)	12:50	3:50	6:45	9:50
Dolittle (PG)	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:25
1917 (R)	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:45
Jumanji: The Next Level (PG-13)	12:30	3:30	6:35	9:35
Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker (PG-13)	12:15	3:20	6:30	9:30
Birds Of Prey (R)	12:40	1:10	1:40	3:40
	4:10	6:40	7:10	7:30
	9:10	9:40		
The Rhythm Section (R)		4:15		9:55
Frozen 2 (PG)	1:20	4:20		
The Turning (PG-13)		7:20		9:50

Gauthier at 513-3136.

The Androscoggin County GOP invites you to 2020 Lincoln Day Dinner/Dance at Ramada by Wyndham Lewiston Hotel & Conference Center, 490 Pleasant Street, Lewiston from 5 to 11 p.m. RSVP on Eventbrite required.

Sunday, Feb. 23

Higher Forms of Art exhibition reception and meet artists at the Danforth Gallery, located at Jewett Hall, 46 University Drive in Augusta, 3 to 5 p.m. (Snow date Monday, February 24 from 4 to 6 p.m.).

Cabin Fever Concert series featuring Stan Keach & Julie Davenport at 98 Mathew's

Way, off Rt. 117, Turner Center, downstairs under the Turner Library in the Community Room, from 2 to 4 p.m. Suggested donation \$10. For more information call 207-754-0954.

Forum

Continued from page 4

Journal. The Lewiston Public Library is located downtown at 200 Lisbon Street at the corner of Pine Street. More information on Thursday's lecture is available by contacting the Lewiston Public Library at 513-3135 or LPLReference@gmail.com.

Word Search

Did you know that terriers were originally bred to hunt and fend off vermin? Over the years many different breeds have developed into the loyal companions we know today.

Terriers

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R	R	S	R	A	T	F	O	X	T	H	R	T	U
I	E	U	R	X	J	N	A	S	H	Y	O	E	L
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L	R	H	Y	I	R	I	S	H	S	R	N	H	K

- SKYE
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Azul

Continued from page 1

grilled vegies, corn, guacamole, salsa and

pico de gallo. Customers order right at the counter and can watch the orders being put together. We have to admit, we

crammed as much deliciousness as possible into our burrito during our visit. There was so much piled up we thought

it was going to be impossible to close. Not for these professionals! They rolled it up, closed it up tight – ready to go! After getting your order you can head on over to the salsa bar and have your choice of authentic homemade salsas. There are so many options it's difficult to choose. Get a big napkin, an authentic Mexican soda and get ready to dig in!

If you're an early bird get over there first thing in the morning for a breakfast burrito. Eggs, Bacon, all the good stuff you want on the go in the morning. It's an easy way to get a quick delicious breakfast on the go or sit down and enjoy.

The owners of Azul Tequila are in the restaurant every day. They are partners in the restaurant El Rodeo in Portland as well as the El Rodeo food truck. El Rodeo is not a franchise or chain. It is a family business. Each restaurant is owned by different family members, but the first family El Rodeo originated in Virginia.

Azul Tequila is located at 29 School Street, Gorham in the previous Blue Pig Restaurant location.

40 students at any given time.

The cafeteria is a particularly big problem, because it is too small to accommodate the students. Keep in mind, we have 3 lunch periods at Gorham High, and each is very overcrowded. In each lunch you will frequently see students eating on the floor outside the cafeteria because there is no room left in the actual cafeteria. I feel that we need to come up with something quickly, to avoid possible increases construction costs as more houses are built in the area and more families move in.

The three elementary schools in Gorham are also overcrowded. Most of those students will eventually move up to Gorham High School. Therefore, the overcrowding is not going to stop, and unless we do something within the next few years, the cost for a renovation could be much higher.

As a student who has to share a building with 855 other students plus 110 staff members, it can be very stressful to attend school. Classes frequently have to bring in extra chairs and desks because the number of students exceeds the normal capacity of the rooms.

We do not have enough teachers to accommodate the students, and as such this school year we've had to hire an extra Physical Education/Health teacher for the year because the current PE/Health staff have their hands full. Hiring one-year teachers to help with the growth

and to offer classes that should otherwise be offered has been happening for several years. Maybe we should focus more on academic space than athletic space in the next renovation? This will not affect me before I graduate in June, however for the students that are next in line to experience the GHS overcrowding, I hope that the town can come up with a suitable solution.

Concert

Continued from page 11

School of Music. She has appeared as a soloist and collaborative artist throughout Europe and the USA, as well as in Canada and the West Indies, in venues such as the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, the Liszt-Haus in Weimar, the Aspen Music Festival, the Evian Festival of Chamber Music and the Chamber Music Festival of Lucca in Italy. She holds a doctorate in piano performance from the University of Michigan, where she studied with pianists Leon Fleisher and Theodore Lettvin and conductor Gustav Meier.

Lantz and Kargul formed their duo after performing together for the first time at a Portland String Quartet concert in 2010. Over the years, they have appeared at venues from Maine to Jamaica.

Those needing special accommodations to participate fully in this program, contact the USM Music Box Office, (207) 780-5555, usmusicboxoffice@maine.edu. Hearing impaired: call USM's telex / TDD number (207) 780-5646.



Ubaldo Sanchez of Azul Tequila making up fresh burritos for hungry customers.

Gorham

Continued from page 1

students. We are 106 students overcrowded, which may not seem like that big of a problem but try being a student in these conditions. I frequently have to wait in a line to go upstairs because the stairs are crowded with around

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