

Gorham PD Delivers Gifts to “Be a Santa to a Senior” Program



The Gorham Police Department had the honor of delivering gifts for Home In-

stead’s “Be A Santa to A Senior” program. Many thanks to Buffy Houop of the Gor-

ham V.I.P.s & TRIAD. Merry Christmas Gorham!



Baxter Memorial Library Activities

Book Club -- Baxter Memorial Library’s book club will meet at 10 am on Thursday, January 20 to discuss *The Bone Fire* by SD Sykes. The book club will meet at 10 am on Thursday, February 3 to discuss *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown. We will meet indoors in the Schneider Room, please consider wearing a mask regardless of your vaccination status. Masks are available at the circulation desk.

Snow Pant Story Time (ages 2-5) -- Grab your snow pants and join Ms. Heidi and Mr. Jeff for a brrrrilliant outdoor story time that features stories, singing, dancing and playing! We encourage all participants to come prepared for our chilly Maine weather by layering, wearing hats, gloves or mittens, and maybe even a blanket to cover your laps. “Do you want to build a snowman.....” Story Time is held Tuesdays from 10-10:30 am.

Citizen Volunteers Needed for Town Boards & Committees

The Town Council Appointments Committee is still seeking citizen volunteers for various boards and committees.

Boards and Committees available are:

- Planning Board - 3
- Gorham Economic Development Cooperation- 3
- Conservation Commission - 3
- Board Of Appeals - 3
- Board Of Trustees-Baxter Memorial Library - 3
- Historic Preservation Commission - 2
- Fair Hearing Board - 1
- Board Of Assessment Review - 1
- Board Of Voter Registration Appeals - 2
- Revolving Loan Fund Committee - 2
- Board Of Health - 1

If you are interested in applying to serve on any of these town boards and committees, or for more information, please visit the Town Clerk’s office. To apply, complete and submit a Committee Volunteer Application available online. You may also contact the Town Clerk at 222-1670 or email her at Inordfors@gorham.me.us.

Applications will be accepted until January 21, 2022.

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Governor Mills: I'm Excited About the Potential that 2022 Holds for Our Great State

By Governor Janet Mills – December 31, 2021

This week, we bring 2021 to a close. Well, there's a lot to celebrate about the end of 2021. It's been a hard year in many ways, but Maine people are resilient, and we've achieved a lot this year actually despite the challenges.

Unemployment is down; our Gross Domestic Product is up; our tourism and hospitality industries reported some of their best summers ever. Real estate sales are up. People are moving here. We have one of the lowest crime rates in the country. People are coming here because we are one of the safest states in the nation.

And we're fighting to keep it that way. We're fighting this pandemic with all we've got to make sure Maine people are safe, including the many children who are still too young to get vaccinated.

In the last year, more than a million people have gotten fully vaccinated from COVID-19 here in Maine. And it's thanks to them that Maine has among the lowest death rates from COVID-19, despite having a much older population than other states.

At the same time that we've been fighting the pandemic, we also brought Republicans, Democrats and Independents together and passed a bipartisan budget that fully funded public education for the first time ever. We made historic investments in our health care system, helping the front-line heroes who cared for the rest of us. And that's why now we are able to raise reimbursements rates and give direct care workers at nursing homes and elsewhere a much-needed pay raise.

We also restored revenue sharing, which is how the state gives money back to towns and cities so they

don't have to raise your property taxes. And we worked together to give back money to Maine people who worked during the pandemic - direct hazard payments of \$285 a piece to more than half a million people - you may have gotten your check in the mail recently. And our state budget set aside millions of dollars in savings, bringing our Rainy Day Fund to its highest level ever.

And after President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law, allocating federal stimulus funds to the State, we worked with the Legislature to enact the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan. With those funds, we've already begun rolling out more than \$300 million to train people for new jobs; to make housing, health care, and child care more affordable, more available; to help small businesses; and to help keep our economy strong.

We also continued to fight climate change. We installed thousands of high-efficiency heat pumps and hundreds of electric vehicle charging stations, cutting energy costs for Maine families with weatherization and cutting dangerous carbon emissions. We have increased solar power by more than four-fold since 2019 and we've created new, good-paying clean energy jobs. And we funded the Land for Maine's Future for the first time in the budget, so we can protect our working woods and waterways.

And thanks to our good fiscal management and careful allocation of federal and state pandemic relief, we are expecting a surplus of about \$822 million over the next two years - that's an increase of almost 10 percent over projections.

Still, inflation driven by the pandemic and supply chain issues is hurting

us. The price of heating oil, gas, electricity and groceries is hitting people's pocketbooks right now at a particularly hard time of year. And that bothers me just like it bothers you.

I think we should give money back to people. That's why, in the New Year, I'll be proposing a supplemental budget to the Legislature that gives money back to you.

I'll be listening to Democrats, Republicans and Independents on the best way to do that, and we will get to work soon.

In 2022, I'm going to be focused on our economy, on our climate, on our kids, on keeping people safe and on the health and welfare of all Maine people.

We've always faced challenges together, with the grit and determination that has made us who we are - one community of hardworking people taking care of each other every

day, every year.

With that spirit, I'm excited about the potential that 2022 holds for our great state.

I am so proud of the people of Maine. And so proud to be your Governor. Happy New Year, Maine!

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Newsmakers, Names & Faces

Governor Mills Announces Maine Granted Intervenor Status in Lawsuit Challenging Federal Regulations Hurting Maine's Vital Lobster Industry

December 30, 2021 -- Governor Janet Mills announced today that the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) has been granted intervenor status in *Maine Lobstermen's Association v National Marine Fisheries Service*, a lawsuit before the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. that challenges Federal regulations hurting Maine's vital lobster industry. It is the Mills Administration's latest effort to stand up for the lobster industry and its hard-working men and women in the face of the Federal government's burdensome proposal.

"There's never been a known right whale mor-

tality associated with the Maine lobster fishery, and there have been zero known right whale entanglements associated with Maine lobster gear in almost two decades. Despite these facts and regardless of our lobster industry's proven commitment to conservation, the National Marine Fisheries Service has pushed forward with regulations that will be devastating to our lobster industry and to our way of life," said Governor Mills. "Maine cares about protecting the endangered right whale, but the Federal government's regulations must be based in sound science and should account for conservation measures

already taken by our fishery. I am glad my Administration has been granted intervenor status by the Court so we can make our case."

In *Maine Lobstermen's Association v National Marine Fisheries Service*, the Maine Lobstermen's Association asserts that the National Marine Fisheries Service's new Biological Opinion, released in May, is unlawful. The plaintiffs argue that NMFS acted arbitrarily by failing to rely on the best available scientific information and by failing to account for the positive impact of conservation measures already adopted by the Maine lobster fish-

ery.

"Over decades, the Maine lobster fishery has adopted strong conservation measures to protect right whales. The result of this longstanding commitment should not be ignored by federal regulators," said Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) Commissioner Patrick Keliher. "The Maine lobster fishery has proven its commitment to conservation, but these new standards threaten its future and jeopardize a cornerstone of our state's economy."

In September, under the Governor's direction, DMR also filed and was granted intervenor status in Center for Biological

Diversity v. Ross, a lawsuit also before the U.S. District Court, which, if decided in the plaintiff's favor, could close Maine's lobster fishery altogether.

The Governor has also opposed NOAA Fisheries' seasonal closure of a part of Maine's lobster fishery. She joined Maine's Congressional Delegation in urging Secretary Raimondo to use her authorities to immediately resolve the many shortcomings of NOAA's rule and also urged Secretary Raimondo to reduce the unnecessary economic harm to Maine fishermen.

Last year, she wrote to the Commerce Department urging it to deny a

petition by Pew Charitable Trusts that asks for three seasonal offshore closures in the Gulf of Maine and that would prohibit the use of vertical lines in the American lobster and Jonah crab fisheries in four areas of the New England coast. She also filed comments with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on the draft Biological Opinion for ten fishery management plans in the Greater Atlantic Region, focusing on the North Atlantic Right Whale, expressing "grave concern" and warning it will be economically devastating and will fundamentally change Maine's lobster fishery.

Rep. Kristen Cloutier Selected to Join NewDEAL



Maine State Representative Kristen Cloutier

Maine State Representative Kristen Cloutier (D-Lewiston) was announced as one of 20 leaders from across the country to join the NewD-

EAL (Developing Exceptional American Leaders), a selective national network of the most talented, forward-looking state and local elected officials

with Honorary Co-Chairs U.S. Senator Chris Coons, Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland, and Columbia, SC Mayor Steve Benjamin. Cloutier joins the group of the most innovative Democratic state and local officials working to solve America's largest challenges

Chosen from more than 1650 nominations over NewDEAL's decade-long history, members of the nearly 200-person network are working to enact pro-growth progressive solutions in a diverse array of communities. Cloutier joins the group at a time when state and local leaders are on the frontlines of responding to the pandemic and as they take on a critical role in implementing the American Rescue Plan Act, recently signed by President Biden, which is sending hundreds of billions of dollars to state and local governments.

NewDEALers are supporting each other in addressing the many challenges created and exacerbated by COVID-19 by innovat-

ing, convening virtually, and sharing good ideas. The NewDEAL is tracking how states, counties, and cities spend their pandemic recovery funds and helping provide leaders with policy recommendations for building back better from this crisis.

Cloutier and her peers in the new class of leaders were recognized for their unwavering commitment to expanding opportunity as they work to build back better in their communities and reject the idea that policymakers can or should want to turn the clock back to a prior era. These leaders' work will build on policy recommendations that NewDEAL Leaders help develop, including the release of reports on education and climate change, as well as recommendations from the NewDEAL Forum Renewing American Task Force, which has published guidance to address affordable housing, child care, entrepreneurship, mass transit, and the social safety net. In addition, the NewDEAL

Forum Broadband Task Force provides the opportunity for NewDEAL members to promote solutions to close the digital divide.

NewDEAL Leaders have found broad support for their work across red, blue, and purple states and cities, with more than 20 rising to higher office in the past few years. These leaders include members of Congress, such as Marilyn Strickland in Washington, Greg Stanton in Arizona, and Jennifer Wexton in Virginia, as well as new Mayors in cities from Dallas and Phoenix to Boise, Kansas City and Montgomery, AL. Additional leaders are on the ballot for Congress and other higher offices in 2022, including ten running for Governor, U.S. Senate, and Congress.

"We are in a unique moment for state and local leaders as we must find solutions for the urgent challenges created by COVID-19 while not losing focus on longer-term issues that will continue to affect the economic security of Lewiston and other communities for decades to come," said Cloutier. "I look forward to sharing lessons with and learning from other leaders who are setting the standard for effective governance, and I am excited to be part of NewDEAL's efforts to expand opportunities for Americans in communities nationwide."

Cloutier is in her second term as State Representative for House District 60 after serving as the Mayor

See NewDEAL, page 16

Gorham WEEKLY

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Purple Heart Reunited with soldier's family



State Treasurer Henry E.M. Beck announced that the Office of the State Treasurer (OST) was recently able to reunite the family of a deceased Army soldier with a purple heart and other military affects that came to the Office through an abandoned safe deposit box at a local bank in 2014. Private Benjamin E. Carter, who was from the Machias area, was awarded the purple heart in 1967 for wounds received in action in the Republic of Vietnam. His sister and only living relative, Candace Carter, has been working with the Office to retrieve the items belonging to her brother.

According to the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services (MBVS), Maine has a long-standing history of military service, and despite it being a very rural state, it is home to over 106,000 veterans, roughly 10% of the state's overall population. In honor of Veterans Day, the Maine OST and MBVS reminded Maine veterans about available resources and sharing information about recent veteran-related unclaimed property.

OST runs the state's unclaimed property program, which currently holds over \$289 million in 4 million accounts of unclaimed property that belong to Maine citizens. This includes money and other financial assets that are considered lost or abandoned when an owner cannot be located after a specified period of inactivity.

Treasurer Beck said, "With such a high population of veterans in our state, it's possible, even likely that we are holding assets that belong to a veteran." In addition to \$289 million, the Treasurer's Office also has several military medals, pins, dog tags, and bars. "We'd love to get these military items back into the hands of their rightful owners," Beck added.

In recognition of veterans, OST recently scanned its accounts and found over 20 veteran-related/veteran-supporting organizations that have unclaimed property, representing well over \$20,000. Beck said that outreach to these organizations has been productive. "We've begun reaching out to

these organizations to help reunite them with amounts as much as over \$6,000 and as little as \$25," he said and reported that three of those organizations, Franklin's Veterans Club, American Red Cross and Wounded Warrior Project, had already filed claims totaling over \$5,000. To see if you or your organization has unclaimed property, go to www.maineunclaimedproperty.gov.

Veterans Day puts the spotlight on veterans and their families, and the Bureau of Veterans Services' goal is to be a one-stop resource for all veteran information needs and to offer exceptional advocacy for Maine's veterans: "We strive to provide streamlined services to Maine's veterans, whether it is a request for filing a claim for a service-connected disability or a question about other state or federal benefits." Director David Richmond noted, "Our mission is to serve, and our staff is here to assist all of Maine's veterans."

MBVS serves as the state's advocates for veterans and their families.

The Bureau has seven field offices (Bangor, Caribou, Lewiston, Machias, Portland, Springvale and on the Togus Campus in Augusta) with specially trained Veterans Services Officers who can assist with connection to the VA and state benefits. MBVS also oversees the state's Veterans' Cemetery System and can assist with veterans' identification, connection to employment and education, and provides advocacy for homeless and justice-affected veterans. MBVS's field offices can be reached Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at 207-430-6035 or at mainebvs@maine.gov.

OST is established in Article V, Part Three of the Constitution of the State of Maine. The core duties of the Treasurer's Office are debt management, cash management, trust fund administration and unclaimed property administration. Other major tasks assigned to the Treasurer are directorships on many of Maine's quasi-governmental debt issuing agencies and distributions under the Municipal Revenue Sharing Program.

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Scam Alert: Beware of Medicare Cons During Enrollment Period

The coronavirus pandemic left many Americans unemployed and uninsured. To give people a chance to sign up for health care coverage, the U.S. federal government has opened Medicare.gov now through December 7, 2021. Healthcare.gov is open now through January 15, 2022. Unfortunately, scammers often see open enrollments as a chance to trick people out of money and personal information.

This is how the scam works. Anytime the government has an open enrollment, people understandably have questions and concerns. Scammers take advantage of this opportunity to confuse and mislead victims.

BBB.org/ScamTracker gets many reports about scammers claiming to be a government representative who can help you navigate your Medicare or Affordable Care Act options. Scammers claim to be a "health care benefits advocate" or a similar title. These scammers allege they can enroll you in a better program than what you currently have. This new plan is cheaper, and you can keep all the same services. To get started, all you need to do is provide some personal information, such as your Medicare ID number. Of course, the call is a scam, and sharing personal information will open you up to identity theft.

In another common

scam, callers try to frighten - rather than assist - victims with their health care plans. In this case, scammers claim that your Medicare will be discontinued if you didn't re-enroll. Fortunately, this "Medicare advisor" can fix the situation - if you share personal information with them.

Watch out for similar scams. Healthcare.gov does provide legitimate help with figuring out which plan is right for you. These people - sometimes called Navigators or Assistants - are not allowed to charge for their help. If someone asks you for payment, it's a scam. You will also need to contact them. They will not call you out-of-the-blue.

Selecting a health insurance plan can be challenging and complex. Be on the lookout for common red flags. Be wary of anyone who contacts you unsolicited. People representing Medicare or ACA plans don't contact you by phone, email, or in person unless you are already enrolled. Be especially cautious of threatening calls that require quick action or immediate payment.

Decline promotional gifts in exchange for personal information. Keep a healthy level of skepticism any time a broker offers you free gifts, health screenings, or other special deals. Never sign up with a broker who offers you an expensive "sign-up gift"

in exchange for providing your Medicare ID number or other personally identifiable information.

Beware of dishonest brokers who offer "free health screenings." Some brokers offer this to weed out people who are less healthy. This is called "cherry picking" and is against the Medicare rules.

Guard your government-issued numbers. Never offer your Medicare ID number, Social Security number, health plan info, or banking information to anyone you don't know.

Hang up and go to official websites. You can enroll or re-enroll in Medicare at Medicare.gov or in a marketplace health plan at Healthcare.gov.

If you are unsure whether a call or offer is from Medicare, or you gave your personal information to someone claiming to be with Medicare, call 1-800-MEDICARE to report it. If you suspect fraud when signing up for ACA coverage, go to HealthCare.gov or call the Health Insurance Marketplace call center at 800-318-2596.

For more tips from BBB on avoiding health care scams, check BBB.org/HealthCareScam. If you've been the victim of a scam, please report it to BBB.org/ScamTracker. By sharing your experience, you can help others avoid falling victim to similar scams.

Midcoast Symphony Orchestra to Perform "A New World"



Midcoast Symphony Orchestra will be performing "A New World" at the Gendron Franco Center on Saturday January 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM and Sunday January 16, 2022 at 2:30 PM. Rohan Smith will be conducting and

the program includes Nkeiru Okoye's Voices Shouting Out; Philip Carlsen's Rowing in Eden; Johannes Brahms' "I. Allegro non troppo" from Violin Concerto (which will feature Anne McKee, Violinist). Anne is the winner of MSO's

2020 Judith Elser Concerto Competition. The program will also feature Antonín Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 in E Minor, Op. 95, "From the New World." For more information and tickets, go to <https://www.midcoast-symphony.org/concerts/>

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Arts & Entertainment

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Who's ready for some ice skating? The Gorham Recreation Department announced that ice skating is open at Cherry Hill Farm Trail ice! LFRA and Narragansett rinks should also be open soon. If you need ice skate rentals, we have

them! Cost is \$5 per day or \$15 per weekend. See Gorhamrec.com for more information. Stay tuned for free skate Saturdays!

Report Reveals States Not Prepared for Climate Change

The Surfrider Foundation, a leading nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of the world's ocean, waves, and beaches, announced the release of its fifth annual State of the Beach Report. The report reveals that while nine states improved their grades in 2021, 67% of coastal and Great Lakes states, in addition to the territory of Puerto Rico, earned 'C, D, or F' grades and are therefore doing a 'mediocre to poor' job of protecting the nation's coasts. The assessment highlights states that are the most heavily impacted by extreme weather events and rising seas lack comprehensive policies and are the least prepared to handle climate change impacts.

Out of 30 states and the territory of Puerto Rico, only 11 states earned a grade of either an 'A' or 'B.' The remaining coastal states are performing at a 'C' level or less, including the majority of areas that have been impacted the most significantly by extreme weather events. While the Northeast and West Coast states earned a 'B' average, the Southeast, Island and Mid-Atlantic states collectively earned a 'C' grade overall and the Great Lakes and Gulf of Mexico states scored a 'D' average.

"After another year of devastating hurricanes, heat waves, fires and flooding, the climate crisis continues to rapidly grow," said the Surfrider Foundation's Coastal Preservation Manager, Stefanie Sekich-Quinn. "Stakes are high and elected officials must take bold actions to protect our ocean and coasts from the unbridled impacts of climate change. While our 2021 report found an increase in grades, states continue to build new development every year in coastal hazard areas, which is extremely shortsighted and problematic — especially with the uptick in extreme weather and sea level rise. We hope our report recommendations improve coastal management and empower citizens to work with decision-makers to safeguard coastal communities."

Compared to previous years, Surfrider's fifth annual State of the Beach Report also includes the most significant improvements across the nation as nine states increased their grades in 2021. While California was the only state to previously receive an 'A' grade, Maine and Maryland have also achieved the highest score this year. In addition, Delaware, Texas, Connecticut, New Jersey, Hawaii, North Carolina,

Georgia, Maine and Maryland have all elevated their grade average. This increase in grades means more states are prepared to better manage coastlines and adapt to sea level rise, which is essential as 40% of Americans live within the coastal zone and are vulnerable to climate change impacts.

Surfrider's State of the Beach Report evaluates the performance of 30 U.S. coastal and Great Lakes states, and the territory of Puerto Rico, against criteria for sediment management, development, coastal armoring, and sea level rise. States were evaluated on their current laws and policies, implementation of regulations, communication with coastal zone management agencies and on-the-ground monitoring through Surfrider's network.

Since Surfrider released its inaugural report in 2017, 11 states have made improvements to coastal policies, with advancements in sea level rise planning and coastal resiliency in light of climate change. To find out how to help advance your state to the next level to prepare for urgent climate change impacts, visit Surfrider's State of the Beach Report or find out more at Surfrider.org.

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Tips for Ready-ing Your Outdoor Power Gear for Storage

After your lawn gets its last cut before winter, it will be time to put away spring and summer outdoor power equipment, like lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and trimmers. What's next? Snow throwers, generators and other small engine equipment need to be readied for winter use. How and when you prepare your equipment for seasonal changes can save you time and money later, says the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI).

With record-breaking sales of outdoor power equipment, homeowners are spending more time during the COVID-19 pandemic working or renovating their family yards. This means more people are using outdoor power equipment, and OPEI reminds everyone the importance of proper outdoor power equipment storage, maintenance, and safe handling.

"During this very challenging pandemic, we've learned our outdoor spaces are more important than ever," says Kris Kiser, President and CEO of OPEI and the TurfMutt Foundation, which encourages outdoor learning experiences, stewardship of our green spaces, and care for all living landscapes. "Our yards, parks and schoolyards are our safe space for connecting with friends and family, acting as outdoor classrooms and offices. Green space also contributes to the health and wellbeing of people, pets and wildlife, and having the right outdoor power equipment to take care of it is key. But preparation is everything -- understanding how to store equipment

and get it serviced, how to operate it safely, and how to ready your space to use that equipment."

He adds, "Always follow your manufacturer's guidelines, and remember to keep kids and dogs away from operating equipment at all times."

Here are a few tips from OPEI to ensure your lawn mower and other spring equipment will be available for use when warmer temperatures return, and snow throwers and other winter equipment will be ready for use when the snow falls:

Review owner's manuals. Re-familiarize yourself with how to handle equipment safely. Lost manuals can be found online. Save a copy on your computer if possible, so it can be consulted when needed. Be familiar with your equipment, and all its features, including how to turn it off quickly and safely.

Service all equipment. Before storing spring and summer equipment, clean and service it or take it to a small engine repair shop. Drain and change engine oil and safely dispose of the old oil. Service the air filter, and do other maintenance as directed by the owner's manual. Check winter equipment and see if any maintenance and repairs are required.

Handle fuel properly. Unused fuel left in gas tanks over the winter can go stale and even damage equipment. Before storing equipment, add fuel stabilizer to the gas tank, then run the equipment to distribute it. Turn the engine off, allow the machine to

cool, then restart and run until the gas tank is empty. For winter equipment, buy the recommended type of fuel no more than 30 days before use. Use fuel with no more than 10% ethanol in outdoor power equipment. Use a fuel stabilizer if recommended by the manufacturer. Get more information on safe fueling for outdoor power equipment at LookBeforeYouPump.com.

Charge the battery. Remove and fully charge batteries before storing. Don't store batteries on metal shelves or allow them to touch metal objects. Store them on a plastic or wood shelf in a climate-controlled structure.

Shelter equipment from winter weather. Store spring and summer equipment in a clean and dry place such as a garage, barn or shed. Winter equipment should be kept away from the elements but be easily available for use.

Prepare, prepare, prepare. Make space in the garage or basement before the weather changes, so there is room to store larger yard items. Clean up the yard of sticks, debris, dog and kid's toys and other items that can damage or destroy equipment. Clear the paths used regularly in your yard, especially during the winter when snow can "hide" things.

Have the right weather appropriate extension cord for your generator. Keep heavy duty weather-proof extension cords on hand to use with it. Ensure the length of the cord is necessary to operate the



generator a safe distance from the house or building. Never operate a generator indoors, in a garage, breezeway or under an open window.

Are you the owner of outdoor power equipment? It might be time to prepare for winter storage of your supplies. OPEI offers several helpful tips to help save time and money.

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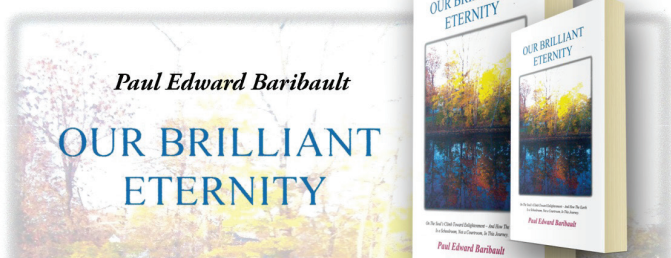
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Gorham Tree Festival Winners

The Gorham Tree Festival announced its 2021 winners. Overall Tree Festival

Winner for 2021 went to Blue Pig Diner. Best Theme went to Chalmers Insurance who

put donation tags on their tree; resident Donna at 65 New Portland Rd. was also awarded Best Theme.

Most Creative went to Chiropractic Clinic of Gorham.

Other participants

included Junction Bowl; Aroma Joes; Norway Savings Bank; Atlantic Dance Arts; The Bookworm;

and Casco Federal Credit Union. The Festival thanks all participants and looks forward to next year.



Overall Tree Festival Winner for 2021 went to Blue Pig Diner.



Best Theme went to Chalmers Insurance who put donation tags on their tree



Best Theme went to resident Donna at 65 New Portland Rd.



Most Creative went to Chiropractic Clinic of Gorham.

BML Thanks Community and Offers Tips for Staying Warm This Winter

The entire staff at Baxter Memorial Library would like to take this time to thank you for your continued support and patronage over the last year. You've been patient through the ups and downs, from the support we received for our programming to your kind adherence to the various restrictions we've had to implement in order to keep our staff and patrons safe. We have some of the best patrons around!

We wish you all the best during this holiday season and here's to 2022!

Keeping Your Family Warm While Outdoors in Winter is as Easy as 1, 2, 3!

Layering, layering, layering is the key for staying warm and dry in the winter. Layers allow pockets of air between clothing layers to help trap heat and keep you warm. Layering has the added advantage of allowing kids to remove a jacket or fleece when

they are too warm to avoid sweating.

Step 1 -Base Layer

This layer should be close to the skin and wicks away moisture. Base layers should never be in cotton as cotton traps moisture next to the skin and leaves kids wet and cold. Fabrics such as wool or high-tech poly retain warmth and wick moisture away from the skin.

Step 2- Mid-Layer

This layer serves as
See BML, page 14

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Guest Column: Future Story -- Sydney Haskell

By Megan Young, Class of '22, Originally published in the December 2021 Edition of Aspire Gorham Newsletter.

Ever watched the planes at the airport and wonder how they fly? Sydney Haskell found her fascination with planes at a young age thinking just this. Now, she debates between flight school, the Air Force, or an engineering degree to gain more knowledge on the subject.

The high school se-

nior has been in search of more hands-on experience. Sydney says that she wants to "do more rather than read more." With this in mind, Sydney enrolled in Aspire's Workplace Learning Experience at Gorham High School. Wanting to gain mechanical experience, she landed an internship at Carter's Auto Service in downtown Gorham.

While Sydney is the only woman working at Carter's, her personality and interest in mechanical

work make her a natural fit. Doug Carter, owner of Carter's Auto Services said, "I was lucky to get Sydney as a student...She is very willing to try any task I give her. I give her direction then let her perform the task on her own, allowing her to fail or succeed so she can experience both." Carter said, "Sydney has set the bar extremely high for the next student that may come along."

While working at
See Haskell, page 14

Feeling Festive



Gorham School Dining Services
Feeling Festive and Spreading Holiday Cheer



Cabin fever got you down?

Escape with Maine's most intriguing Hermit.

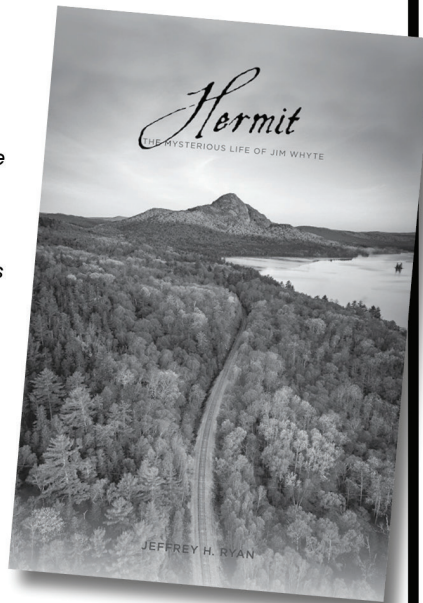
"Ryan is an excellent storyteller, and this tale is as good as any novel, especially since it's based on real people and real events."

— Bill Bushnell, Bushnell on Books

"I can tell you it will not take you many days to read, because you won't be able to put it down. I wasn't surprised when Hermit was named a top pick for 2019 on a December Maine Calling show on Maine Public Radio."

— George Smith, Bangor Daily News

Shop Local! Available at The Bookworm and other Maine bookstores or at JeffRyanAuthor.com.



GORHAM LITTLE LEAGUE Field Funding Campaign



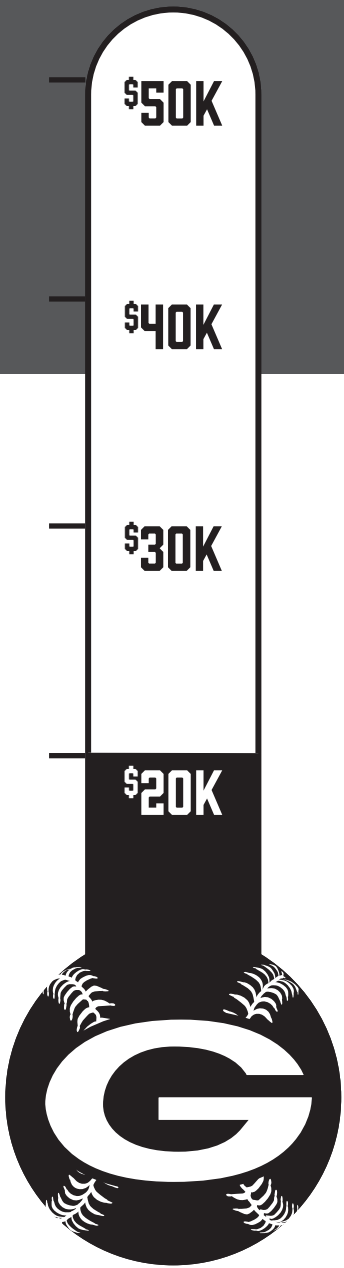
The Gorham Youth Baseball & Softball Association is making a large capital investment to provide updates and add fields to accommodate practice and game schedules:

- Develop 2 fields at White Rock
- Purchase seasonal fence for Shaw Park
- Repair dugouts and fencing, build storage centers
- Add infield mix and relevel current fields
- Acquire tarps and field maintenance equipment
- Add scoreboards

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Calendar

Send your submissions to the Editor. More online.

Jan. 11
GORHAM – 6:30pm
Joint Town Council & School Committee Workshop Conference Room A

Jan. 12
GORHAM – 7pm
School Committee Meeting Council Chambers

Jan. 17
GORHAM – Municipal Center, Administrative Offices & Library closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan. 18
GORHAM – 8am
Ordinance Committee Meeting Conference Room A

Jan. 18

GORHAM – 6:30pm
Tentative Recurring Town Council Workshop Council Chambers

Jan. 19
GORHAM – 8am
Gorham Economic Development Corporation Meeting Conference Room A

Jan. 20
GORHAM – 6:30pm
Tentative Recurring CIP Meeting TBD

Jan. 20
GORHAM – 6:30pm

Tentative Board of Appeals Meeting Council Chambers

Jan. 24
GORHAM – 5:30pm
Finance Committee Meeting Town Manager's Office

Feb. 1
GORHAM – 6:30pm
Regular Town Council Meeting Council Chambers

Feb. 7
GORHAM – 7pm

Planning Board Meeting Council Chambers

Feb. 9
GORHAM – 7pm
School Committee Meeting Council Chambers

Feb. 15
GORHAM – 8am
Ordinance Committee Meeting Conference Room A

Feb. 16
GORHAM – 8am
Gorham Economic Development Corporation Meeting Conference Room A

Feb. 17
GORHAM – 6:30pm
Tentative Recurring CIP Meeting TBD

Gorham Middle School Brings Back Annual Food Drive



Gorham Middle School Student Council was able to bring back their annual food drive in November this year. Students and staff contributed almost 1000 pounds of food to help feed 17 families here at GMS for both the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. 34 baskets went home and the remaining 593 pounds went to the Gorham Food Pantry. A huge thank you goes out to the Gorham community, GMS students and staff for their great efforts this year. We are truly a community that strives to support all in need. Thank you all for the generous food donations.

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Special Election

A Special Election will be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 to elect a candidate to serve the remainder of a two-year term for the Maine House District 27 legislative seat. On December 28, 2021 at the Baxter Memorial Library, candidates Jim Boyle, Tim

Thorson, and Suzanne Phillips discussed important topics in their platform.

Folks can learn more about the candidates via the Meet the Candidates video link on the Town of Gorham Facebook page, courtesy of Gorham Community Access Media.

BML

Continued from page 9

insulation between the base and outer layers. A loose fit allows pockets of air to help insulate. Fabrics such as fleece or wool are best. While both wool and fleece retain warmth, fleece has the added benefit of being a lightweight material.

Step 3- Outer Layer

This layer keeps the elements out and the warmth in. Look for snow coats and pants that say "insulated and waterproof". The outer layer helps protect kids from rain, snow, and wind. I'm looking at you Maine winter!

Don't forget your extremities. Your face, ears, and head all need protection

from the elements. Fleece or wool balaclavas are a great accessory to keep those warm. Hands get cold easily so a nice pair of waterproof and insulated mittens are a good choice. Hand warmers can be used but for safety use a liner glove and a waterproof outer glove and sandwich the hand warmer in between. Don't allow skin to touch the hand warmer directly. Feet we haven't forgot you! Wool or fleece socks are best and remember to avoid cotton! Finish up with a pair of waterproof insulated boots that aren't too snug. Too big is better than too small since the air pockets can help keep feet warm.

Haskell

Continued from page 11

Carter's, Sydney has gained a better understanding of how machines work through her work on cars. She knows this will serve her well if she pursues a career in aviation.

Sydney spends between 3-5 hours every week engaged in hands-on learning. This fall, she has performed oil changes, air filter and differential fluid changes, and she has replaced drum brakes, batteries, and water pumps by herself or with the help of other mechanics within the

workshop.

Sydney is also planning her next steps after graduation. She has applied to Virginia Tech's Engineering Program and Embry-Riddle's Aeronautical Program. The engineering program would allow her to dial in her technical skills and the aeronautical program would give her the platform to earn her pilot's license. Sydney is also considering joining the Air Force right out of high school as a way to explore her strengths and interests more before committing to a college major.

ATTENTION: THE MEMBERS OF WHITE ROCK GRANGE ARE NOT ONLY FARMERS

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The Grange located in Gorham at 33 Wilson Rd. (off rte 237) is inviting you to join us at any meeting the first Friday of the month at 7 PM.

Folks willing to put their generous hearts and open hands to raise all of their neighbors and community is the goal of the Grange since 1876. The Grange is an inclusive nonprofit organization. Local activities include but not be restricted to crafts, music, suppers, display at the Cumberland fair and quilts for veterans. Our agenda and focus is at the local level determined by the members themselves. The historical Grange Hall is the perfect building and location for doing any craft. Handicapped accessible, heat, hot water, and full kitchen.

Dues are \$26 per year.

Facebook /Gorham White Rock Grange #380 Web/ mainstategrange.org The White Rock is called Subordinate grange. Use right column to locate.

Ph/ 207-839-3946 leave a message.

Please Join Us!

Send all items for
Names & Faces to the editor.
Deadline is Friday by five pm.

OTTO Gorham is now open!



GORHAM – December 14, 2021 -- We are delighted to announce the opening of our new location in Gorham, ME!

Conveniently located at 109 Main Street next to Hannaford, only blocks from USM, OTTO Gorham serves by the slice

or whole pie, with on-site parking and indoor seating options.

This location will offer dine-in service, as well as delivery and mobile pickup (available through the OTTO Mobile App or online via ottoportland.com).

OTTO Gorham will

also be participating in our ongoing partnership with FEED Kids, an organization dedicated to ending child hunger in Maine. For every Seasonal Special pizza sold, \$1 will be donated to FEED Kids!

Owner-operator Greg Ingrao stated,

“We’re honored to be a part of the Gorham community. OTTO Gorham will take pleasure in providing jobs to the town, students at USM, and Gorham High School. We’re excited to offer a great product to Gorham and look forward to meeting new faces!”

NewDEAL Continued from page 3

and City Council President in Lewiston. She was selected to join NewDEAL because of her efforts in creating and passing one of the boldest budgets the state has ever seen, and for her work on new policies, like a pilot program to support family caregivers. One of her key economic initiatives has been to create a zero-interest loan program for expenses related to credentialing for New Mainers. That effort aims to remove barriers in the credentialing process for Maine’s immigrant population while also ensuring businesses will have on-the-job training and language programs to help them succeed.

Today’s announcement brings the total number of NewDEAL members – statewide officials, legislators, mayors, council members, and other local leaders – to 198 leaders from 48 states. Learn more about Cloutier and the NewDEAL at <http://www.newdealleaders.org/leaders>.

The NewDEAL brings together leaders focused on expanding opportunity, helping them develop and spread innovative ideas to spur economic growth that is broadly earned and sustainable. Most importantly, the organization facilitates the exchange of ideas among its members and connects them with other pro-growth progressive political, policy, and private sector leaders.

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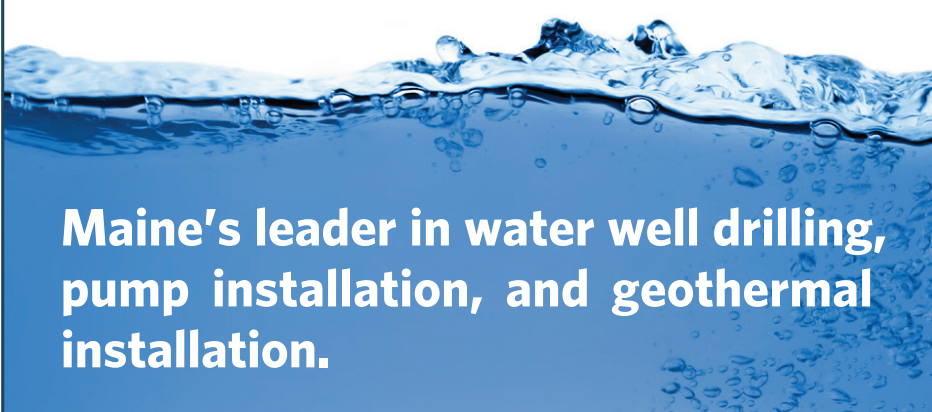
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