



Weare in the World

For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents

May 10, 2023



School News



WMS Student Selected for National Soapbox Competition



Ava Montgomery, a seventh grade student at Weare Middle School, has been selected as one of 13 students to present her powerful speech about abortion laws in the Mikva Challenge Soapbox Nation at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., on May 21. Montgomery was selected for the national program following her speech presentation at the N.H. Mikva Project Soapbox Showcase held at the Franklin Opera House in March, according to a school release.

Montgomery will represent New Hampshire at this culminating event showcasing 13 outstanding youth speakers from across the country. The all-expense paid trip from May 20 to 22 for Montgomery and a parent will offer opportunities to connect with other youth advocates and explore the capitol. The weekend includes a midnight tour of the monuments and a special tour of Ford's Theatre.

"It is a joy to see Ava participating civically and standing up for what she believes in," said her social studies teacher, Jen Levesque. "As a teacher, these are the things we hope for students, to put their knowledge and ideas into action. I can't wait to see what Ava continues to accomplish and the impact she makes in the world."

Project Soapbox is Mikva Challenge's public speaking program that calls young people to speak out on issues that affect them and their communities. These powerful speeches have lasting, transformative impacts on classrooms, schools, and communities.

Mikva Challenge is a civic education organization that believes better decisions are made when all voices are heard. Their Mission is to develop youth to be empowered, informed, and active citizens who will promote a just and equitable society

For more school news, see page 3.

PD Awards and Commendations Follow Welcome of New Officer

By Tom Clow

The May 1 Weare Board of Selectmen's meeting was a memorable evening for the Weare Police Department. The whole department appeared to be present for the swearing-in of its newest member, Officer Justin Brophy. Brophy joins the department as a certified officer with five years' experience in the City of Concord. It was also an evening for awards and recognition.



Officer Andrew Vollaro was recognized with a Certificate of Appreciation by New Hampshire State Police Captain Vetter and Drug Recognition Expert Program Director David Martinnelli from the New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety. The certificate, which was presented by Vetter, was for Vollaro's outstanding efforts in DUI enforcement. Vetter explained that the award was not just for making arrests, but for professionally following through with the entire process.

Sgt. Brandon Montplaisir, Sgt. Ryan Frisbie, Officer Andrew Vollaro, Officer Chad Averill, and former WPD Officer Seth Guilmette all received commendation bars for lifesaving. Guilmette could not be present at the meeting. In a Facebook post, Police Chief Christopher Moore said that these officers used their training, intuition and dedication to save victims in peril. *Above: Officer Justin Brophy, left, is welcomed to the department by Police Chief Christopher Moore (Tom Clow photo). For more photos, see page 2.*



"Talk" To Us
Memorial Day
Deadline – May 19th
Weareintheworldnews
@Gmailcom

Police Department Commendations, continued



Officer Andrew Vollaro, right, is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by N.H. State Police Captain Vetter as Chief Moore looks on (Tom Clow photo).



Officer Chad Averill, right, receives Commendation Bar for Life Saving from Chief Moore (Tom Clow photo).



Chief Moore presents Sgt. Brandon Montplaisir with Commendation Bar for Life Saving (Tom Clow photo).



Officer Andrew Vollaro, left, and Sgt. Ryan Frisbie are presented with Commendation Bars for Life Saving by Chief Moore (Tom Clow photo).

Olsen Appointed Interim Chief of Weare Fire Rescue

By Tom Clow



Christopher J. Olsen was appointed Interim Chief of Weare Fire Rescue at the Weare Board of Selectmen’s Meeting on May 1. This will be a six-month appointment. Board of Fire Wards Chairman Steve Roberts said that Olsen spent his career with the Barnstable (Massachusetts) Fire Department, where he worked his way up

through the ranks to become chief. Upon his retirement, he took a job with Municipal Resources Inc. (MRI). Through MRI, Olsen has served as interim chief in several other communities, Roberts said.

The town initially contracted with MRI to find a part-time chief; however, decided to go with the interim option to give time to develop a strategic plan for the future of the department, Roberts said. Olsen will also

function as a mentor to Captain Mark Roarick, who was a candidate for the part-time position.

MRI has worked with the Town of Weare in the past to identify candidates for the chief of police position. Long-time department member Robert Richards has been serving as acting fire chief since the retirement of Chief Robert Vezina, Jr. in 2022. Photo: Newly appointed Interim Fire Rescue Chief Christopher Olsen, right, is shown with department Captain Mark Roarick at the May 1 Weare Board of Selectmen meeting (Tom Clow photo).

There are two ways to participate. Book your yard as a site. To get on the map, visit www.WeareHistoricalSociety.org. Or, buy a map from the Weare Historical Society and visit booked yards around town. Maps will be on sale beginning at 8 a.m. on the day of the sale at the Stone Memorial Building.

Items can also be donated to the Weare Historical Society, which will be sold to benefit the organization. If you are unable to store something until the sale on June 3, please contact either Sherry Burdick at wearesherry@hotmail.com or Tom Flaherty at thflahertynh@gmail.com regarding arrangements.

CHASE PARK HOURS 2023		
May 27 - May 29	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.	9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
June 3 - June 4	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.	9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
June 10 - 11	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.	9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
June 17 - June 18	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.	9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
June 24 - Aug. 27	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.	9 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

 *School News, Continued* 



For the first time, eighth-grade students from the Henniker Community School and Weare Middle School combined for a five-day **tour of Washington, D.C.** during the week of April 17. This was also the first time in three years that a trip to the capitol from SAU 24 schools has been possible due to the pandemic. The week allowed students to see many of D.C.'s historic sites, including the U.S. Holocaust Museum, the National Museum of African American History, the National Air and Space Museum the National Zoo, and the Lincoln, Vietnam, Korean Iwo Jima, Jefferson, FDR, Martin Luthor King Jr, and World War II Memorials. Nearly 150 students also attended the musical, "Les Miserables," at the Kennedy Center on the final evening of their trip. The students will be classmates in the fall as Henniker and Weare students attend John Stark Regional High School.



**WEARE MIDDLE SCHOOL
8TH ANNUAL 5K FUN RUN/WALK**

FRIDAY, MAY 12 @ 4 PM

**MUST BE 8 YEARS OLD TO PARTICPATE
NO STROLLERS OR DOGS ALLOWED**



Scan this code to register
for race

WMS 5K Fun Run/Walk
info@wms.com

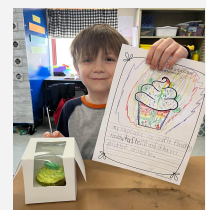
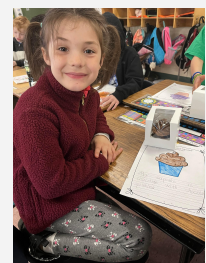
Superintendent Jacqueline Coe announced on May 5 the appointment of **Tom Weston** as Director of Facilities for all SAU 24 schools..



"Having one person dedicated to overseeing all of our building systems, special construction projects and upgrades, material purchasing for operations and district capital improvement plans is a new direction for SAU 24," Coe said in a school release. "Until this point, each building managed these items individually. We expect to see savings in both cost and time by implementing this SAU-wide facility director position."

Weston has been an employee of SAU 24 since 2018 as building facilities manager of the Henniker Community School and the Weare Middle School. Prior to coming to SAU 24, he worked for the town of Henniker for 14 years, finishing that career as the Road Agent.

Weston is a long-time resident of Henniker where he resides with his wife, Jaime. They have four children. He has served on the Henniker Rescue Squad and has been an active member of the Henniker Fire Department for over twenty years. In his free time, Tom enjoys camping with his granddaughter and spending time with his friends and family.



First-grade students in Ms. Zervos's class at Center Woods Elementary School recently studied Laura Numeroff, the author of "If You Give a Cat a Cupcake." After reading the story, students wrote about and designed their dream cupcakes. As a special surprise, Zervos collected their papers and brought them to The Sweet Spot Bakery in Weare and had their cupcakes come to life. "It was so special to see my students' reactions and remind them that adding detail to their writing can make a big impact," Zervos said in a school release. *Photos: Savannah Scott in pink from head to toe with her pink cupcake. Stella Snook with her chocolate frosted cupcake. Parker Martel has a thing for pickles. Here's his pickle-flavored cupcake with pickle sprinkles (courtesy photos).*

**ANNUAL MATT RILEY
MEMORIAL CAR & BIKE SHOW**

Benefiting The Matt Riley Memorial
Scholarship

Sunday June 4th, 2023
2 pm

Finn's Motorsports
636 N Mast Road
New Boston, NH
Cars \$20
Bikes \$10
Spectators FREE

Memorial Ride
Start and finish at
Finn's Motorsports
Registration 9am-11am
KSU 12pm
\$20/bike
\$10/passenger





ALL DONATIONS WELCOME VIA VENMO, CASH OR CHECK



Highway Cleanup

By Suzanne Couhie

On April 22, the Weare Democrats cleaned up their adopted section of highway, which is



from Duck Pond Road to Reservoir Drive on North Stark Highway/Rte 114. We collected 26 bags of trash. It feels wonderful to leave something

nicer than you found it and to be cleaning up a small section of the planet on Earth Day. We do this



highway cleanup activity four times per year and would love to have you join us for the next one. (You have to be over

15 years of age.) We will let you know the date as it gets closer. *Above left: Jim Curley helps clean up the road. Above right: Suzanne Merrill and Judy Foss (Suzanne Couhie photo).*



Weare Pink Ladies Group

By Lily Tang Williams

POTLUCK * MAY 23 * 4- 7 p.m *LILY TANG'S HOUSE

Come to meet local ladies, make friends and have fun. For directions, email Lily at lily4liberty@comcast.net or Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/285603816508112



It's Not Too Late!

By Connie Evans

Did you know around 60 families lived in East Weare before the Army Corps of Engineers removed all trace of their existence? How could this happen to such a prosperous village? Come find out by participating in the play *The Lost Village*. Take part on stage or behind it.

Every Thursday at 6 p.m. we have informal meetings upstairs at Generals Sports Bar and Grill. Be part of a fun group eager to share our town's rich history in preparation for Weare Old Home Day in August. For any questions, join Weare Community Theater on Facebook or call 347-325-2000.

BINGO

Osborne Hall
16 Deering Center Rd., Weare

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 7 p.m.

AGE 18+ ONLY

CARRY-OVER COVERALL / PULL-TABS / DAUBERS

Refreshments

The South Weare Improvement Society
Fundraiser for Osborne Hall

(If you wish to help the Weare Food Pantry, please bring a canned good to the collection box on Bingo night.)

**TO RENT THE HALL FOR YOUR EVENT
or for WEARE FLAGS FLY: 603-529-7282**



Weare Police News

By Sharon Czarnecki

SAFE ZONE. Our police department now provides a "Safe Exchange Zone"! Two parking spots in front of the building are reserved for

residents to make exchanges with people they do not know well or with whom they want a record of the exchange. These two spaces (and surrounding area) are under view of police surveillance cameras.

Some residents use the area for child custody exchange, while others use it for various online sales transactions. This can offer additional security for selling or accepting items purchased through sites like Facebook Marketplace or just local want ads.

While we are not currently 24/7, the police lobby entrance remains unlocked at all hours. Inside, there is a telephone that connects you to the dispatch center in the event of an emergency.

If you are traveling, be aware that many population centers now have these "Safe Exchange Zones."



ANIMAL CONTROL.

Due to the current budgetary shortfalls, there is a hiring freeze on the vacant Animal Control Officer position. As such, the following procedures are being adopted:

Officers will no longer respond to animals at large unless:

- The animal is menacing, vicious or injured
- The animal is on Routes 114, 149 or 77
- The animal is an immediate traffic safety concern.

When animals fall outside of the above, exemptions are reported to Goffstown police dispatch. Officers will be notified via radio as a "be on the lookout" (BOLO). If officers are in the area, they will respond.

STRAY ANIMALS. If a citizen assumes control of a stray animal (*and if staffing allows*), they may drop the animal off at Weare Police Department. However, you are urged to first call Goffstown dispatch at 603-497-4858 or the Weare Police Department at 603-529-7755 to determine whether an officer is available.

If staffing does not allow it, the animal will need to be dropped off at Pope Memorial SPCA (94 Silk Farm Road Concord) <https://www.popememorialsPCA.org/about-us>.

MISSING PETS. If your pet is lost, the Weare Police Department maintains its involvement in the database Dog Lookup Online to assist in identifying, contacting and



advising owners on the whereabouts of their licensed animals.

If you have a recent picture of your missing pet, please attach an electronic copy with the "Lost Pet" email or send a hard copy with the "Lost Pet" fax to : (603) 529-0606. Please also complete the lost pet form available at the police website

The Weare Police Department is committed to providing safety for all...our voiceless companions are no exception! Please call our Dispatch at (603) 497-4858 if you are in need of a police response for an animal control issue.

DANGEROUS ANIMAL. For dangerous animals, please complete the animal control complaint forms available online at the police website – see below.

For more from the police department you can call their business line at 603-529-7755, or go to their web site at www.weare.nh.gov/weare-police-department Don't forget the "Officer Feedback" tab to let the police know your thoughts on community interactions. Find more: <https://www.facebook.com/wearepolicedepartment>

Pack 24 Cub Scout News



By Alyssa Small

On Sunday, April 23, Pack 24 Cub Scouts braved the rain and worked together to clean up the grounds at Weare Middle School. The Scouts' efforts in this service project are much appreciated by the community using the playground, fields, and parking areas. Thank you, Scouts (and parents)!

Our next Pack activity will be a hike at Marjory Swope Park in Concord on May 21. The terrain is moderate and there are nice views.

The Cub Scout program is open to all boys and girls in grades K-5, and the Pack welcomes new members year-round. Regular den meetings take place every other week. If anyone is interested in joining, learning more about the program, or checking out an upcoming event, please reach out to Pack 24 Cubmaster Bill Theriault at usaairforceod@yahoo.com.

For more Scout news, see page 6.

Weare Public Library News

Growing up in Communist China
with Lilly Tang Williams
Thursday
May 25
at 6:30
A personal story of survival during
Mao Zedong's Cultural Revolution.
at the Weare Public Library

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR ADULTS

Friends of the Library Meeting: Tuesday, May 23, 6:30 p.m. Get involved! You, too, can volunteer and help raise funds for programs and events. Stop by to see what they're about.

Book Group: "All Quiet on the Western Front," by Erich Maria Remarque. Thursday, May 24 at 7 p.m. Call the library at 603-529-2044 to reserve your copy.

Growing up in Communist China with Lily Tang Williams: Thursday, May 25 at 6:30 p.m. In a riveting presentation, Lily Tang Williams shares her personal story of survival during Mao Zedong's brutal cultural revolution.

Library Expansion Townwide Meeting: Tuesday, June 13, Weare Middle School, 7 p.m. We want to hear from you! Learn the latest on our exciting expansion and renovation. Jason LaCombe of SMP Architecture will be on hand – with refreshments and kids activities (and a robotic arm!) - as we take this next step towards a greater community center.

Pinocle & Cribbage: Tuesdays at 2 p.m. Meet and play with other card game enthusiasts.

FOR KIDS & TEENS

Slime Time: Thursday, May 11, 4 p.m. Make slime, play with slime and then EAT slime! We'll provide the materials. Grades 4+.

Spring Storytime: Saturday, May 13, 10:30 a.m. Join Ms. Karen for spring-themed stories and songs. Decorate your own pot, plant a flower, and take it home!

Lego Club: Thursday, May 18, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Stop by to see what you can create and display with our huge pile of Legos.

PokeMondays: Mondays, 2 - 5: p.m. Stop by to meet, play, and trade with other Pokemon card game enthusiasts and win prizes.

Baby & Toddler Playgroup: Tuesdays, 10:30-Noon. An informal gathering for caregivers and young children. Get out of the house; meet new friends! Books, puzzles, early literacy toys and music.

After School Gaming: Tuesdays 2- 5 p.m. Challenge your friends with Smash Bros., Minecraft or other video games OR bring your own. You can also check out many of our games and take them home! Recommended for ages 6+. In the Sawyer Room.

Scholastic Chess: Tuesdays, 2 - 4 p.m. All kids are invited to jump in, learn logic and planning skills while they play. Upstairs, in the Paige Room.

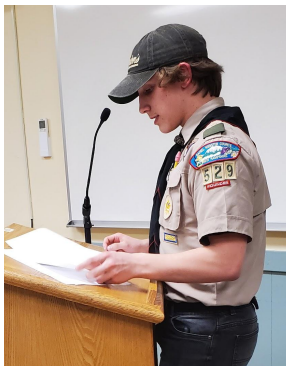
Read with the Ruff Readers: Wednesday timeslots at 5, 5:15 and 5:30 p.m. Read with friendly dogs! Call Ms. Karen at 603-529-2044 to sign-up.

Summer Reading 2023 "All Together Now:" Sign ups start on June 15. Outdoor kick-off night is June 22!

Eagle Scout Project Would Provide Seating at Chase Park

By Tom Clow

Jon Moul of Troop 529 presented his proposal for an Eagle Scout project to the Weare Board of Selectmen at its May 1 meeting. Moul's proposal is to build at least ten benches for Chase Park so people will have a place to sit. He told the board that he thought of the idea because it seemed that the only place to sit was at picnic tables.



His written proposal states that the benches will be built off site during the late spring and early summer and then delivered and placed around the park. He told the board that the project had been approved by the Weare Parks and Recreation Department, which requested that they be secured to the ground. He plans to do this with stakes and wire.

The benches will be made of pressure-treated lumber so they will not need to be painted. This will mean less maintenance for the town, he said. There will be no cost to the town, since the funding will be from car washes and raffles. The benches will be built by Scouts, friends, and volunteers, Moul said in his written proposal. *Jon Moul explains his proposal for an Eagle Scout project to the Weare Board of Selectmen on May 1 (Tom Clow photo).*

HAND IN HAND SENIOR CENTER



The Hand in Hand Senior Center is a gathering place for seniors to socialize and get involved in group activities.

33 North Stark Highway, Weare, NH 03281

Wednesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Fridays until 4 p.m.)

603-529-4263

Hand in Hand Senior Center continues to thrive because of the dedication of its volunteers and the joy and laughter of the people who join us for lunch and activities. We are growing as more people pass on the word that we are welcoming, fun and fulfilling a social and emotional need for the community.

Along with the hope for May flowers, the center will be offering an art class on painting flowers given by a John Stark High School student on **Saturday, May 13 from 2-4 p.m.** If you haven't already signed up, there are two more spaces available. Call the Center if you're interested.

Roland, our IT guru, is still offering tutoring to help with whatever is troubling you concerning your cell phone and computer. Call the center if you want to set up time to meet individually with him.

Mark your calendar to join us for a showing of the movie, "A Man Called Otto," on **Thursday, May 25 at 3 p.m.** The reviews are glowing. Tom Hanks is at his best. Popcorn, drinks and possibly hot dogs will be available. We'll have tissues available as well.



At lunch on April 26, we celebrated the 95th birthday of Weare resident Edie Chase (courtesy photo).

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?



Wednesdays from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Dine in, take out or free delivery.

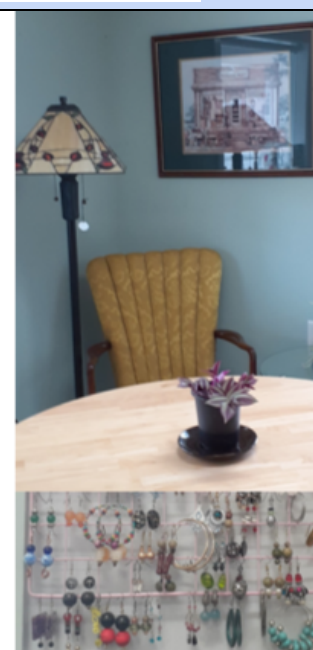
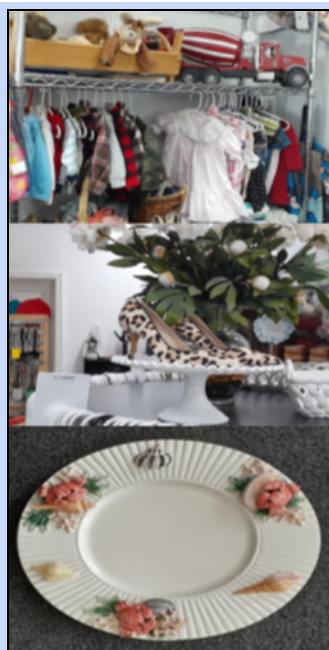
May 10: Spinach beef soup; sweet potato cornbread; fresh fruit salad

May 17: Hot dogs, baked beans and pasta salad

May 24: Tuna noodle bake; apple coleslaw

Coffee, tea and various desserts are also available.

WHAT'S IN THE SHOP?



Here are just a few examples of the fun items we have in the shop right now.

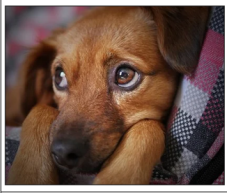


Get Your Copy!

Direct To Your Email Inbox

Local News Twice a Month – go to:

www.weareintheworldnews.com



Looking for Something to Do?

St. Paul's School

By Nicholas White

*Director of chapel music
and organist*

Composer William Byrd died exactly 400 years ago. Bill Barclay, creator and director of "Secret Byrd," an upcoming performance at St. Paul's School in Concord, said, "For Byrd's anniversary I wanted to highlight a part of his personality that is little understood: his courageous activism. Part art installation, part concert and part immersive theatre, "Secret Byrd" will tour Byrd's essential story, to highlight religious persecution still afflicting the world today, and perhaps most importantly – to encourage us all to let people believe what they wish. I fervently believe that once we stop trying to convince people they're wrong, we can move to the next stage of our evolution – working together to protect a world where we each get to choose our fate."

Singers are staged to manage the house, light the candles and gather to worship. They sing the Ordinary movements of the Mass for Five Voices that Byrd set, while the strings play the Proper movements (the sections that change in the liturgy week to week). At one moment, a rude interruption crashes into the serenity of the evening, and a sacrifice must be made. Bread is broken by the audience where communion occurs in the mass. What was a solemn reenactment turns to a celebration of life and the searing power of music.

Concert Theatre Works uses imaginative production techniques to bring music to life. Soup and bread cooked on site are passed to foster a sense of ritual and inclusivity. Candlelight is important to the performance. Audiences



rove freely among the costumed artists feeling the original hand-made part-books and sacred objects. A gallery of the history of Catholic recusancy is included for audiences

to learn about Byrd's incredible faith and advocacy. Audiences leave with a packet of information on the acute threats of religious persecution persisting today.

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Thursday, May 11, 7 p.m.

The Old Chapel, next door to the big chapel
46 Rectory Road, Concord

Lookin' for Love

By Cathy Bailey

If you'd like to adopt any of the pets pictured here, please complete an adoption application at <https://www.heartsandtails.org/adoption-application>

Meet Caleb! Male, Plott Hound/Terrier mix. Friendly, affectionate, playful, smart, athletic, confident, and house trained. Vaccinations are up to date. He is neutered. Good with other dogs, cats and children. Caleb is one year old and is at his adult weight of 56 pounds. He loves hikes and walks and is hoping for an active family – even better if they have another dog. He is eager to go anywhere in the car with you, plays with other dogs every chance he gets and likes cats too. He leans into his people whenever he gets the chance.



For more information on this wonderful dog and others as they arrive, visit the adoption website at: <https://www.heartsandtails.org/petfinder-list/>



What Is Memorial Day?

By Margie Arwine

What is Memorial Day? For many Americans, it is a day off work, the unofficial beginning of summer, a day for family gatherings, picnics, parties, BBQs, hiking, camping, the Indy 500 and good deals on commercial sales events. These ideas and activities have contributed to the general public's nonchalant lack of observance of this day.

Memorial Day is a solemn American holiday intended to remember and honor the ultimate sacrifice military men and women made to defend our nation.

I recently asked someone what they thought Memorial Day was; they replied, "It's a day when flags are placed on graves."

She was correct, but Memorial Day is so much more.

I decided to research the holiday; this is what I learned.

Memorial Day was originally known as "Decoration Day." Research has revealed the earliest Decoration Day was arranged by recently freed African Americans in South Carolina. On May 1, 1865, more than 1,000 freed slaves, along with regiments from the U.S. Colored Troops to include the Massachusetts 54th Infantry, along with a few white Charlestonians, gathered at a burial site for Union

See MEMORIAL, page 9

MEMORIAL, continued from page 8

soldiers who died while imprisoned. They distributed flowers, sang hymns and gave readings dedicated to the fallen.

The first national observance of Decoration Day occurred on May 30, 1868. It was proclaimed by the Commander in Chief General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) to honor Union soldiers who died in the Civil War. More than 620,000 soldiers were killed in the bloodiest chapter of our history.

He requested the nation celebrate Decoration Day each year on May 30 to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers. Legend states Logan chose May 30 not because it was an anniversary of a battle, but because he felt it was a date that would ensure flowers across the nation would be in full bloom.

Before the national observance was declared in 1868, many local communities had memorial observances. By 1890, every Union state joined in and adopted the annual and nationwide observance.

However, southern states honored their dead soldiers with a separate Confederate Memorial Day. Nine southern states chose either the birthday of President Jefferson Davis, or the day General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson was killed. Some southern states chose other significant dates.

Soldiers’ graves were decorated in the U.S. before and during the Civil War. Flowers and ribbons were strewn on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers.

It is difficult to pinpoint who may be attributed with the original decorating of soldiers’ graves. Research indicates many women were moved to lay flowers on the graves out of respect for the soldiers’ ultimate sacrifice and to acknowledge the grief of their families for such a great loss.

The first official Decoration Day was held at Arlington National Cemetery on May 30, 1868. More than 5,000 volunteers, mourners, war widows and orphans placed flowers and ribbons on 20,000 Union and Confederate graves.

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, General Ulysses S. Grant presided over the solemn event. He would be elected president of the U.S. later that year. James Garfield, then Ohio congressman and future president of the U.S., addressed the attendees. Both men were Union veterans. Ceremonies were also held at Gettysburg and Antietam, along with 27 states.

With over 130,000 American soldiers killed in World War I, that war became a shared experience for our country that finally bonded the north and the south. Memorial Day became a day to honor ALL American soldiers who died in battle as far back as the Revolutionary War.

In 1915, a poem was written by a physician in the Canadian Expeditionary Force,



Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae. In his poem, “In Flanders Fields,” the opening lines reference fields of poppies growing among the soldiers’ graves in Flanders.

In 1918, a YWCA worker, Monica Michael, while attending a YWCA overseas war secretaries’ conference, pinned a silk poppy to her coat and distributed over two dozen to other attendees.

In 1920, the National American Legion adopted the red poppy as its official symbol of remembrance.

Waterloo, N.Y. was declared the official birthplace of “Memorial Day” on May 5, 1866. The town was credited with starting the holiday by closing all shops and businesses so they could decorate the graves of the men killed in the war.

To this day, there is a rivalry regarding who celebrated Memorial Day first. In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed the official seal of approval making Waterloo the “official” birthplace of Memorial Day.

The federal government adopted the name “Memorial Day” in 1967 as a day of remembrance for those who died in service to our country.

In 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, establishing Memorial Day on the last Monday of May. This change became effective in 1971. The law also announced Memorial Day would be a federal holiday.

AMERICAN FLAGS ON GRAVES. It’s customary to display the American flag from sunrise to sunset. American flags are placed on Veterans’ graves during the “flags-in” flag placement ceremony the weekend before Memorial Day and are removed shortly after the holiday. Flags should never touch the ground, should be in excellent condition – not faded, torn or tattered. You can display the flag at night if you illuminate it using an exterior spotlight, electric or solar powered, which should directly face the flag. When flags are placed on graves for military holidays, they do not need to be illuminated, which is a deviation from the flag code.

FLAGPOLE PROTOCOL. There is an American flag protocol for Memorial Day. At reveille, the U.S. flag is raised briskly to the top of the staff and then solemnly lowered to the half-staff position where it remains until noon – then raised to full-staff for the remainder of the day.

MOMENT OF SILENCE. Each Memorial Day, a National Moment of Remembrance takes place at 3 p.m. local time. The purpose is to pause for one minute to remember and honor those who died in service to our country.

MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS. The National Memorial Day concert takes place on the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol and is broadcasted on PBS and NPR. The U.S. President or Vice President participates in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery.

Town parades are held with bands displaying an overall military theme. Memorial services are held at local

See EVENTS, page 10

EVENTS, continued from page 9

monuments with participating veterans, gun salutes, speeches, music and prayers. (See the next issue of *Weare in the World* for detailed local events.)

A WORD ABOUT VETERAN CEMETERIES. All veteran cemeteries are considered national shrines and are maintained according to a high set of standards. Within the 177 national cemeteries in our nation, it is sad to say the identities of almost half of those comrades who died in service to our country are unknown.

A WORD ABOUT WEARE CEMETERIES. In October 1997, Weare Eagle Scout Peter B. Green completed a project "Weare Cemeteries." His report provided the names, cemetery and plot location of Veterans' graves. From the 1997 report, here are some very interesting facts:

- 333 veterans are buried in 23 Weare cemeteries
- Oldest veteran date of birth: 1734
- Last burial date: 1997
- Number of veterans buried from 1700-1899: 119
- Number of veterans buried from 1900-1997: 214

These veterans participated in the following wars: Revolutionary War (1775-1783; Civil War (1861-1865); Spanish-American War (1898); WWI (1914-1918); WWII (1939-1945); Korean War (1950-1953); Vietnam War (1955-1975)

This year, Memorial Day is Monday, May 29. Remember to take a minute at 3 p.m. local time to pause, reflect and honor those who died in service to our great country. Attend a town event or turn on PBS or NPR. And, if you happen to drive by a Weare cemetery or any cemetery and see an American flag in front of a gravestone, pull over and walk up to the grave. Pay a tribute to the fallen hero ... maybe give them a salute.

And then...let your summertime begin.



Asked and Answered: Wildflowers

May Day

By Sharon Czarnecki



When I was under 10, we lived in a small rural community where May baskets were a "thing." I recall that we made our baskets out of construction paper woven together and wrapped around small cardboard boxes. Then they were decorated with ribbons, paper lace and handmade

flowers. Once they were properly festooned, they were filled with little treats and any spring flowers you could round up.

It was most important that they have a good strong ribbon handle on them because they got hung onto the doorknobs of a few of your friends. The most exciting part was ringing the doorbell and then running to a spot where you could hide and watch your friend open the door to enjoy his or her gift. In fact, if the recipient was of the opposite sex, you could be caught and kissed – the horror – LOL.

A few years later, we moved to a more sophisticated community and ran excitedly to our friends' homes on May 1. We were instantly deflated because our new friends considered the custom "weird" and were unfamiliar with it. They had never *heard* of May Day. It was our last such foray, and a tiny piece of happy exuberance left us, and left the month of May demoted to the status of – just another spring month.

Being Present with the Past: Mayflowering

By Jeanloretta

Trailing Arbutus Epigaea ripens from the Heath Family. Leaves oval, leathery, evergreen. Stems woody, trailing,



hairy. Flowers pink and white, clustered, tubular, flaring into five lobes. Found in woods. Canada, n. U.S.; south in Mts. March-May from "A Field Guide to Wildflowers of

Northeastern and North-Central North America," by Roger Tory Peterson and Margaret McKenny.

The above definition does little to describe the heartbreaking fragrance or the evocative memories that arise when one finds these little flowers here in southern New Hampshire..

A few years ago, I was shopping in a small grocery store in Hillsborough when the manager spoke from behind the counter.

"Do you want to go Mayflowering?"

The day was clear, a little chilly but with the sun now higher in the sky, there was promise on this fine morning. The Contoocook River was boiling under the bridge, thrashing with springtime madness. Of course, I with my long list of errands and he with his duties in the

See WILDFLOWER, page 11

WILDFLOWER, continued from page 10

store knew that it was impossible to embark on such an adventure at that moment. The common name for Arbutus is Mayflower, and his invitation, accompanied by a big grin, brought me to mindfulness. Each of us had our own recollections of places to “Mayflower.” I drove home, smiling and warmed by those memories.

My sister, 11 years my senior, had a place along a brook which she called the Arbutus trail. She searched under fallen tree limbs for those leathery leaves sometimes intermingled with brown, uninviting leaves. There would be several visits to secret spots to gently lift the leaves in the hope of finding those shy, sweet blossoms, so often hidden from the unknowing eye. There was always a certain amount of competition at school. Who would be the first to bring these flowers to the teacher? Men cutting wood or grading the dirt roads might put down their saws or climb off their tractors to cut a few stems, and with a great gentleness, tuck them in their breast pocket to bring home.

I remember my sister’s letter, after she had grown and left for the city, begging my mother to send her some Mayflower buds. We would pack them in damp moss, in a box and mail them to her, hoping that this time, they might open on her windowsill.

Yes, I have my own special spot and must leave now to search for this elusive, springtime treasure. “You come too.”

Where’s the Fragrance?

By Sharon Czarnecki



When I was growing up, my dad grew roses – bush roses, climbing roses, tea roses, yellow, red, pink, variegated. The house and yard always smelled wonderful. He wore a rose bud in his lapel for

work every day and it was my job to select the perfect bud before he rushed out the door.

He was aware of just what it took to produce such bounty – the soil, the fertilizer (usually diluted manure), and the pesticides and when to use them. (*This was all in conjunction with a bountiful vegetable garden he and my mother maintained as well.*) Needless to say, he made it look easy.

When I grew up, I decided to try to grow some of those beautiful flowers myself. Somehow, they always under produced with only a few withered flowers and then gave up altogether. I learned that all that spectacular beauty was a LOT of work. I might even have kept at it until I got it right, BUT....

My roses didn’t smell good, even the few that were gorgeous. Furthermore, I noticed that the roses in the supermarket and floral shops had no significant smell either. So, what’s the point? I gave up on roses.

But since this issue of the paper is about flowers, I decided to finally see what’s up with why roses don’t smell any more.

I learned that it is because the process of fostering genes that produce hardiness and disease resistance leads to dampening or eliminating the ones that produce smell. There is a good article on this in “Fine Gardening” that you can find at: <https://www.finegardening.com/article/will-roses-ever-be-fragrant-again#:~:text=The%20problem%20is%20the%20gene,to%20take%20a%20back%20seat>.

But I will end on a positive note. It seems a great effort is being made to re-establish the fragrance and such plants should be coming to stores, nurseries, and floral shops near you in about ten years. *Maybe I’ll try again.* 😊

**POETRY CORNER****Leafing Out**

Slowly they open
Tiny red buds then green ones
Weeping willow first.

-Marge Burke

Trillium

There are three trilliums
nestled in a corner
of my garden, away
from danger, wonderful
wild flowers that just appeared
one year, I did not plant them,
flowers are three petaled,
tales of yore suggest they
imply the Trinity,
two are well-dressed white,
the other, full-bodied
burgundy, elegance
in my garden corner.

-Marge Burke

Adjustments

It is mid-winter,
 I'm in the sixth grade,
 at the Philips School
 on Common Street, and
 something doesn't feel
 right anymore,
 my knees bump against
 bottom of my desk,
 in September when
 I was ten, everyone's
 desk was adjusted
 by the janitor,
 he came with his wrench,
 moved desks up and down,
 that were bolted to
 the floor with the chairs,
 now I am eleven
 and something happened,
 a growth spurt I guess,
 my legs grew longer,
 don't fit under the
 desk anymore, need the
 janitor to come
 with his wrench and move
 my desk up, you see
 I'm now the tallest
 person in my class,
 even just a bit
 taller than my teacher,
 I am the last one
 when lined up by height,
 or in the back row
 for picture taking.

-Marge Burke



This was the chalk greeting at Center Woods as students arrived on the last day of school before spring break (courtesy photo).



Why We Love Living in New Hampshire

An occasional column featuring readers' reverent observations of our natural surroundings



Turkey spotted by the side of the road in Hopkinton. This most certainly is NOT a wild turkey and is not native to New Hampshire. The Bourbon Red is an American breed of domestic turkey. It is named for its reddish-brown plumage with white in the flight and tail feathers. The breed was developed in Bourbon County, Kentucky in the last years of the nineteenth century. Let's hope he found his way home quickly.

(Nicole Czarnecki photo).



Tulips from the front yard (Sharon Czarnecki photo).



The Challenge is on! (Marlayna Keane photo).



Hyacinths (Alyssa Small photo).



Daffodils (Alyssa Small photo).

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, May 9

- 7 p.m. – Cable Committee meeting
- 7 p.m. – Parks and Recreation Committee meeting

Wednesday, May 10

- 3:45 p.m.- Trustees of the Trust Funds meeting
- 6:30 p.m. – John Stark School Board meeting
- 7 p.m. – Conservation Commission meeting
- 7 p.m. – Weare Democrats meeting (Sawyer Room, Weare Public Library)

Thursday, May 11

- 7 p.m. – Planning Board Meeting

Monday, May 15

- 6:30 p.m. – Board of Selectmen meeting

Tuesday, May 16

- 6 p.m. – Weare School Board meeting

Friday, May 19

- 10:30 a.m. – Weare Area Writers Guild meeting (via Zoom, email czar5@comcast.net for link)

Monday May 22

- 6:30 p.m. – Board of Selectmen meeting

Contact Us

weareintheworldnews@gmail.com

Editor – Karen Lovett

Assistant Editor – Alyssa Small

Town News – Tom Clow

School News – Marge Burke

Community Outreach – Sharon Czarnecki