Weare in the World

For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents

November 25, 2026

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Stark Student's Capstone Project Supports Veterans

By Diane T. Padilla

November holds two holidays that deal with gratitude: Thanksgiving, where we give thanks for all that we are as a country, and Veterans Day, where we honor all who serve and have served in our Armed Forces. Unfortunately, in recent years, there have been cuts and downsizing for too many of the services that are available to veterans.

This has put a strain on veterans who need counseling, personal, housing and medical needs addressed. Private sector alternatives are few and unaffordable, so some veterans are turning to local communities for help. In Weare, there is one student who is addressing this need: her name is Molly Heath, and she is a senior at John Stark Regional High School.

"I chose this project because when I was little, I was in Concord and saw a homeless man on the side of the road with a sign that said 'homeless veteran, anything helps'. "That stuck with me ever since," says Heath. "The men and women who have given their lives and bodies to fight for our country return from overseas and fall through the cracks of society, so I wanted to do something about it. When I found out about the senior Capstone (project), I knew what I wanted to do and now I get to make it a reality!"

Heath funds her Capstone project using her pottery skills. "I'm putting, and have already, put together, hygiene and care packages for homeless veterans and veterans in transition. I've put together 40 bags with the money I received from donating my homemade pottery projects that I have stockpiled since my freshman year and raised over $1,100 from it!"

"I've been working on this project, making the ceramics at least, since the first semester freshman year. I've taken all the ceramics classes my school offers since then, and am now taking my fourth as an ELO (Extended Learning Opportunity). But I've been logging hours for the project itself since the beginning of July this summer."

She started by setting up a table outside the Weare American Legion on Sundays and "only had to do it twice because I sold out the second day."

Her motivation also stems in part from her family's military service. Her grandfather served in the Army, along with two uncles, one in the Army, and one in the Navy. She says that she has "never genuinely considered going into the military myself, though."

Heath says this work will not stop when her Capstone project ends. "After donating the bags, I would like to keep donating to the Liberty House, even if it's just cash, because I will be going to college." Her dream is turning this into a state or even nationwide non-profit "who would make and donate bags like I've made to veterans and homeless shelters all around the country."

While Heath is the project's main contributor, she credits those who have helped her along the way. "My amazing Capstone mentor Lisa Bieler, a veteran herself, connected me with Liberty House (a Manchester veterans organization, providing transitional housing and

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VETERANS, continued from page 1

community support for homeless veterans) in the first place! My dad, sister, and (uncle) sat with me when I was selling my pottery, my mom and sister helped take pictures and went with me to buy all the items in our many shopping trips … (so) while my name is on it, I could never have done it all by myself and am so grateful for the people in my life."

When not concentrating on her Capstone project or focused on her schoolwork, Heath has other interests that keep her active and involved. "I love playing basketball and writing in my free time and dream of being a lawyer and going into politics when I'm older." For now, Heath wants the work to continue, but is unsure of the direction it will take.

"I would like it to be the same process, but maybe just people donating items and having a shopping list of some sort of needed items for shelters in certain areas so people are getting what they need, stocking the shelves of food pantries, and giving veterans and homeless people alike a better situation, because everyone deserves to live a happy and fulfilling life, no matter where they start.

"I would love to continue this project after I graduate but I don't know how I would evolve it, per se, it's all just talk at the moment."

For further information on Liberty House, go to: www.liberty housing.org

Weare Dems Clean up Crew

By Derek Winsor

Thanks to our dedicated crews, the Weare Democrats picked up 40 bags of road debris from April to November of this year. Great job keeping Weare clean on North Stark Highway (114)!



Photo, L-R: Suzanne Couhie, Lisa Johnson, Derek Winsor, Joe Stehno, Nancy Stehno. Dave Trumble, who was not present for the photo, also participated in the cleanup.

By Ellie Chapman – member American Legion Auxiliary Post 65 Weare NH

We hope the folks that attended the Turkey Raffle this month enjoyed themselves and many walked away with a turkey for the holidays. The Auxiliary would like to thank all of you that bought tickets for our Quilt Raffle….it certainly helped to boost our fundraising efforts.



The Auxiliary collected many food items during the last month, from all of you who come to enjoy the Legion Sunday breakfasts. Our Auxiliary donated many additional items, and our Thanksgiving food basket is ready to go to a local family for the Holidays. The Auxiliary's efforts don't just benefit our Veterans, local and across the country, but we also make efforts to support our local community – giving back to you who support our fundraising efforts throughout the year.

Coming up soon is our Christmas Bazaar on **December 5th…..10:00 AM-3:00PM**. Our past Bazaars have been a lot of fun. There will be vendors with many holiday gift ideas. Just a few examples: home decor, homemade dips, marinades, sourdough breads, dog treats, ornaments and more, to help with everyone's Christmas list - your own or for others! Santa will be there with gifts for the kids and there will also be a craft table for kids to enjoy while parents shop. The Auxiliary will have a bake sale table, along with free hot chocolate and water. Good news!!….we still have some vendor space available!! If you want another opportunity to share your talent and creativity with others, contact Linda Holbrook & reserve a space! lindaholbrook.lh@gmail.com

We'd like to share some great information from the American Legion Auxiliary Department. The Department has an Auxiliary Emergency Fund which is there to help eligible Veterans, their families and members that are facing a crisis. The American Legion also offers help to Veterans facing financial difficulties. You can contact the American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance to learn more about these programs and to see if you are eligible.

School News

WEARE MIDDLE SCHOOL • UNIFIED ARTS • NOVEMBER 2026

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

More Than a Class. A Community.

MUSIC • PHYSICAL EDUCATION • COMPUTERS • ART • HEALTH • WOODSHOP • LIBRARY



MUSIC

Full band practice during Advisory time for more than 100 students. They are practicing for their upcoming Holiday Concert. Music education enhances students fine motor skills, gross motor skills, executive functioning, reading and decoding skills and their ability to engage memory and listening habits.



COMPUTERS

A sixth-grade student learns how to code robots, incorporating geometry skills with angles and measurement. Students are learning how to break down problems into small manageable steps.



HEALTH

First day of Health Class where students learn about decision making, refusal skills, accessing valid and reliable information, analyzing information and advocacy.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students learning how to play Pickleball. This activity allows students to work on their teamwork, coordination, strength and physical confidence.



ART

An eighth-grade student mixing his grout in order to complete his mosaic project. Students are learning safety in glass cutting and using contrast to create a cohesive mosaic.



LIBRARY

Fourth graders during WIN working on their engineering skills by learning how to build a catapult and trying their hand at launching some marshmallows.



INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Students are building their wood caddy and working on their critical thinking and mathematical reasoning skills. They design the caddies from planning stages to a finished functional product.

AFTER THE BELL • UNIFIED ARTS IN ACTION

CREATIVE LEGACY

Eighth-grade mural • Baking Club

CLUBS & LEADERSHIP

• Yearbook • Student Council

MUSIC & ATHLETICS

- Beginning Band/Choir
- Middle School & High School Soccer & Basketball



COMING UP!

Unified Arts Night

This will be an evening in late January where we showcase what the students have made and how the different disciplines are helping shape your children. Look for more info after the holidays!

John Stark Fall Sports Calendar

https://arbiterlive.com/School/Calendar/120499

When to Celebrate and with Whom

By David Erikson

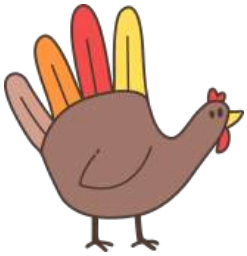


In my childhood, the tradition was that my parents and all four children would go to my mother's parents' home in Essex, MA. If my father resented never being with his side of the family, he didn't share that with me. In Essex, we would cut and stack firewood and be hungry for the afternoon meal where the children, including some of my 20 cousins on that side of the family, were at our own table in a different room. One turkey was not always enough despite all the yams, mashed potatoes and green vegetables. One year, my grandmother added a chicken which she told me seriously was a six-legged chicken. I was young enough to be taken in for a moment, and I suppose I remember the moment because I was embarrassed to have been so gullible.

I married a woman who had two children from her previous marriage. They had competing invitations from their dad, my parents, my wife's parents or siblings. It got even more complicated when we divorced and both remarried and I gained a second stepdaughter. The stress of arranging where to be on the official day detracted enough from the pleasure of the prospect of a day with any of the households that I decided that the specific day of the gathering with my two sons and stepdaughter didn't matter to me. Just today, I wrote to the son who isn't self-employed to ask what day would work for him and a partner. I'll go with any day from now until New Year's Day, as long as we do get together.

No one knows when the memorialized "Plimoth" Colony Thanksgiving was, though historians suggest it was likely in September. The present fourth Thursday in November wasn't set until 1941 when FDR thought that the tradition set in 1863 of the last Thursday in November didn't give merchants enough shopping days when there was a fifth Thursday. Sarah Hale had promoted the idea of a national day of thanksgiving for 20 years before Abraham Lincoln decided to make it official. There had been various official days in various states for years. It was Hale who pretty much made up the legend of the original New England Thanksgiving Day.

We should feel free to celebrate when we can. I encourage having a day (why not every day?) to give thanks with less commercial trappings than have crept into many other holidays. I hope more of us can ignore the frenzy of guilt-induced spending that has become expected in the weeks that follow and enjoy time with family and friends any day that we can.



Family Overflowing

By Brian Winkley

One of my favorite holidays. We celebrated with our children and try to carry on a tradition that as a child was very special to me. Everything centered around my grandmother and grandfather's house. My parents, me, my two sisters, all of our cousins, my aunts, and uncles would all squeeze into that tiny house and break bread together. At the peak of everything there were 30 people squeezed into a 24' x 24' one level house and we would have a table running down the entire length of the living room. When you were seated you would stay seated because you couldn't get out. You would literally have to walk sideways to your chair. The chair at the end was my grandparents' couch. You would have to sit on pillows to be up to the table.

My mother would make a turkey that was cooked in the preferred way that my family, the Winkley family, would enjoy the most, and my aunt would cook a turkey in her style that was satisfying my cousins and their side of the family, the Yeatons. Beautiful memories. When my grandmother died in 1991 everything started to fall apart. My grandfather, who was legally blind, didn't want to host at the house anymore. Everything moved to my parents' house. We kept going with him and our immediate family until he passed.

Then things turned in the other direction. My wife and I were now the hosts of Thanksgiving. When my grandfather died, my wife and I were able to purchase my grandfather's house. Thanksgiving had come back to the Winkley Homestead.

Thanks for the chance to reminisce about the old days. Once my parents passed away we then moved Thanksgiving to my daughter's house. Now we are the grandparents, now we are the guests. Thanksgiving feasts are now growing in the numbers of people who attend again. To everything turn, turn, turn. God bless.

Thanksgiving Coffee

By Sharon Czarnecki



When I tried to recall a specific Thanksgiving, I found they all tended to run together in my mind. Always about the smells of your favorite foods, the chaos of too many separate conversations in a small place, wondering if there would be snow, and also when the Sears Christmas catalog would arrive.

But then, there was the one in 2014. The night before, we had the fourth worst snowstorm in the history of NH in terms of downed trees and the resultant power outages (207,000 homes). One thing I remember from that day is the saga of the coffee.

My son and his wife loved their coffee, but they had no power. They were coffee deprived and on their way here to pick me up for our trip to Stoneham, MA. They noticed the Dunkins in Weare had 3 cars at the drive thru. Yay !! COFFEE !!! They pulled into the line, but the cars were not moving, so they wisely decided to go inside to get their coffee. Guess what? The place was closed. The first car in line at the drive thru had his window down, patiently waiting for someone to take his order. So, when my daughter in law yelled back to my son, "Why are all those cars waiting in line? It's closed !" The loyal customer at the drive thru got a sheepish grin on his face and pulled away, as did the cars behind him.

They arrived at my house with no coffee, but my son cheerfully went out to shovel while he waited his turn at the shower. But I had to interrupt my helpful son for a crisis in the kitchen. The 6-year-old big brother was shelling pistachio nuts and trying to keep up with the demands of his two younger sisters – ages 4 & 2. Somewhere after the first few nuts, the youngest got tired of waiting and decided to eat a shell. She started seriously wailing and her "big girl" sister calmly informed me, "She has a pistachio nut stuck in her teeth." OK …….for something like this… I definitely knew my place in the hierarchy. I was NOT, definitely NOT, front line troops anymore. Not if there was a parent around; that's for sure. Been there, done that. (Just ask me someday about the "*Spring in the nose incident*"). My son was summoned. He examined the little mouth, and said, "Do you have needle nose pliers?" *Are you serious* ??! ….."Yup"…… *Well at least let me pour alcohol on them first!* Within seconds, Daddy – the hero – had removed the awful nutshell and everyone was happy. Much time was spent explaining to the little one the difference between a nut and a shell. I'm not sure she got it, but there were no repeat episodes.

Coffee, *again* - (These people turned out to be serious McDonald's coffee snobs – I know, I know – an oxymoron.) We were back on the road looking for a gas station and I could see we were about to come to an area McDonalds, so I piped up and said "Hey, just so you know, you guys are soon going to go right by a McDonalds." In unison, they tell me, "Heck NO! No way are we going **by *it !*** We're going ***IN !"*** And so they did. Now well-armed with large coffee cups we moved on, still looking for gas. Finally, there was an open station with 5 cars waiting in line at every pump. While we waited our turns, my son went inside because there was a Dunkins there. McDonald's, it turned out, had not given them enough cream or sugar for those really large coffees. The supplies were near the register. What to do? My son had a McDonald's cup, after all. So he smoothly slipped the large coffee under his jacket and asked the cashier if he could get more creamer for his coffee. "Of, course, sir." The lady in line behind him had seen the jacket stealth maneuver and told him, "Nice move, well played." So now they had coffee, and gas, and off we went.

In truth, there is more I recall about that particular Thanksgiving, but the coffee was one of the things that stood out. Here's hoping all of you coffee drinkers find nothing standing in your way on Thanksgiving morning.



Whoopie Pies



By Yvonne Walton

Serves 18

INGREDIENTS FOR CAKE PORTION

4 eggs
(*for this part, you will use 4 egg yolks & 2 whites, save the remaining 2 whites for use in the filling – see below*)
2 cups of sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 teaspoons baking soda
4 cups flour
1 cup Hershey's baking cocoa
1.5 teaspoon salt
1 cup sour milk
(*To make sour milk, put 1 tablespoon of white vinegar OR lemon juice in a one cup measure. Fill to top with milk. Pour into a small bowl and whisk together*.)
1 cup Crisco
1 cup hot water

Mix all those together until smooth. Drop by the tablespoon onto an ungreased pan or tinfoil. Bake at 400 degrees for about 9 minutes (give or take... just keep an eye on them).

INGREDIENTS FOR FILLING

2 egg whites (from above)
2 teaspoons vanilla
4 teaspoons flour
4 tablespoons milk (or 1/4 cup)
2 tablespoons powder sugar
1.5 cups Crisco

Mix together and add about 4 cups of powdered sugar.

When your cakes are completely cool, you can assemble the whoopie pie. Flip half of the discs over and (*depending on the size of your cakes*) put one quarter cup of filling in the center of each one. Put their tops on and enjoy.

They freeze very well - just put them in zip lock baggies and toss them in the freezer.





Stone Fund Grant

The Joseph P. Stone Fund has granted financial help to low-income single women and widows in need since 1896. The application form is available from Mary-Ann Green, in the town welfare office, at 15 Flanders Memorial Road, Weare or by writing David Erikson, Stone Fund Committee, 246 Poor Farm Rd., Weare. The deadline to receive the applications is **Dec. 7th**.



Photo by Alyssa Small.

Artists in the Woods

Laurie MacKenzie was kind enough to share this information with our readers. It is important to note that the Piscataquog Land Trust was formed in Weare in 1970 to protect trails in our area. The name was changed in 2008, but still has the same lofty goals.

The beautiful lands and waterways that make up the region managed by the Piscataquog Land Conservancy are of great importance for recreation, scientific research, and creative endeavors. For the **month of November**, the Whipple Free Library in New Boston will be hosting an art exhibit by several local painters and photographers that have taken their inspiration from our part of New Hampshire. Exhibiting artists include Mike Thomas and Sandy Boyko (photography), Sharon Boisvert of Weare (pastel painting), Mike Boyko of Weare and Betsy Holmes (plein air oil painters).

There will also be a program by Betsy Holmes "Art and the Environment: Seeing is Believing" where we'll learn more about the impact that visual arts have made on American land conservation and how contemporary art is addressing environmental concerns. The exhibit will be on display **until November 30**. For more info: link



Mike Boyko painting at the Rice Preserve in Lyndeborough, NH





Weare Public Library

Thanksgiving Week Closings: Wednesday at 4:00, Thursday & Friday.

WEEKLY EVENTS

TUESDAYS
• 10:30 a.m.: Mother Goose Storytime (0-4). It's never too early for your child to hear good stories! Join Mr. Will for books, activities, and songs that will lay the foundations of literacy for your child.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
• 2-4 p.m.: Cards! (adults). Meet and play pinochle or cribbage with other card game enthusiasts.

WEDNESDAYS
• 10:30 a.m.: Snowy Stories and Singalongs (kids) (*starting December 2*). What's the best way to learn? Through song, of course! Join Children's Librarian Will for delightful stories and lively sing-alongs.
• 2:30-5:00 p.m.: Afterschool Gaming (ages 6+). Drop in to challenge your friends on the Nintendo Switch and other systems. Featuring collaborative games like Smash Bros, Mario Kart, and Minecraft.

FRIDAYS
• 10:30 a.m.-12.00 p.m.: Baby Playgroup (ages 0-3). An informal gathering of young children and moms with early literacy toys. Get out of the house; meet new friends!

SPECIAL EVENTS

• Nov. 30 at 3:30-5:00 p.m. (ages 6+). **Coloring Club**. Stop by the library after school for a snack, coloring pages, coloring materials, and chillaxing music. Bring good vibes and maybe a friend or two!
• Dec. 1, 3:30-6:00 p.m. (ages 5-11). **Ruff Readers**. Read to a certified therapy dog for 20-minute sessions. Get practice reading and make a new furry friend! Register online or by calling the library.
• Dec. 3, 3:30-6:00 p.m. (ages 6-11). **Kids Crafts Class**. This month, Ms. Amanda's teaching Painting & Yarn Weaving. Register by calling the library.
• Dec. 7, 3:30-5:00 p.m. (kids). **Pokemonday**. Drop in to meet, trade, and play with other Pokemon card enthusiasts.
• Dec. 8 at 6:00 p.m. (ages 10+). **Ornament Carving**. Discover the meditative calm of wood carving with Owl Eyes Wilderness as you use simple hand tools to learn how to transform raw wood into snowman ornaments that you can take home. Call the library to register.
• Dec 8 at 6:00 p.m. (ages 10+). **Ornament Carving**. Discover the meditative calm of wood carving with Owl Eyes Wilderness as you use simple hand tools to learn how to transform raw wood into snowman ornaments that you can take home. Call the library to register.
• Dec 12 at noon (ages 13+). **Fiber Arts Craft Group**. Join us for a fun afternoon with other knitters, crocheters, embroiderers, and hand stitchers of all kinds. Bring your own project.
• Dec. 14 at 3:30-5:00 p.m. (ages 6+). **Coloring Club**. Stop by the library after school for a snack, coloring pages, coloring materials, and chillaxing music. Bring good vibes and maybe a friend or two!
• Dec. 15, 3:30-6:00 p.m. (ages 5-11). **Ruff Readers**. Read to a certified therapy dog for 20-minute sessions. Get practice reading and make a new furry friend! Register online or by calling the library.
• Dec. 16 at 3:30 (ages 6-18). **Super Smash Bros Ultimate Tournament**. Fight for prizes and glory in this double-elimination tournament. There's no pre-registration, but you'll need to be on time.
• Dec 17 at 4:30 p.m. (all ages). **Family Watch Party: Elf**. Whether it be the first or fiftieth time, watch the seasonal favorite Will Ferrell comedy with hot chocolate, popcorn, and spaghetti & syrup!
• Dec 17. at 7:00 p.m. (adult). **Book Group: The Joy Luck Club**. This month we're reading and discussing Amy Tan's classic novel about four Chinese immigrant families in San Francisco. Call to reserve your copy.
• Dec 21, 3:30-5:00 p.m. (ages 6+). **Happy Animal & Character Drawing**. Love to doodle—or want to learn? Stop by the Sawyer Room after school for easy, step-by-step lessons in drawing fun, happy animals and characters packed with personality and emotion. You'll be drawn in!

For programs that require registration, call 603-529-2044.

Keep up to date with what's going on! Sign up for our newsletter at: bit.ly/wearenews

HAND IN HAND SENIOR CENTER & THRIFT SHOP

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
Thrift Shop - Wed, Fri, Sat, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
603-529-4263/ www.facebook.com/hihsc.org

NEW LOCATION NEWS - Painters here, painters there, painters everywhere! Suzanne Marcroft (Zany Paint Co) sprayed fire retardant paint on the required walls and finished painting the Thrift Shop and ADA-compliant bathrooms. Lynda Pierson, Eva Arsenault, Elayne Trudel and Donna McCarron tackled the kitchen, hall, great room extension and food pantry with fresh paint.



Lynda Pierson painting the bottom of the food pantry (photo by Heleen Kurk)



Eva Arsenault painting a wall in the hall (photo by Heleen Kurk)



Elayne Trudel doing some detailed work in the great room extension (photo by H. Kurk)



Donna McCarron painting a wall in the kitchen (photo by H. Kurk)

Thanks to Billie Lunderville, Gregg Elwood, Mike Pelletier and Joe McCarron, wallboard continues to go up, and mudding and taping the boards is moving at record speed. Ron Merrill continues to work on the kitchen counters and storage space.

After Thanksgiving we should be ready to lay the **laminate tile floor** in the Thrift Shop. **We need more help** to get that large room ready so that we can transition from our rented space to this new space. **Please, if you have experience laying a laminate tile floor and can give us a few hours, call 603-529-7253 or email hkurk@hihsc.org.**

Having completed making walkways, parking areas and a usable driveway (gravel donated by Mt William Inc), Floyd Colburn was ready to take his backhoe home.



Floyd Colburn ready to take his backhoe home for the winter (photo by H. Kurk)

PRESENT LOCATION NEWS - Three of our veterans sat together for lunch on Veteran's Day. It was a pleasure to serve them, and we're pleased that they join us for lunch and other activities.



Veterans Marvin Colburn, Paul Dewey and Barry Mortgage (photo by H. Kurk)



Do you play cribbage or know someone who does? Come and enjoy a night out, play the game right here in town, and laugh with friends new and old. Join us on the third Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. as Suzanne does.

Suzanne Merrill enjoying cribbage, win or lose (photo by Sharon LaBlanc)

Need a stocking stuffer or a homemade gift? Come to crafts on Monday, November 30, at noon, and make a pinwheel Christmas ornament using colorful materials. Materials provided; $5 donation appreciated.

All we have to say on this Thanksgiving Day, is ***thank you, thank you, thank you!***
We are so fortunate and appreciative to have such a supportive, giving, helpful and caring community.



All are welcome to lunch every Wednesday from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Dine in, take out, or free delivery (call 603-529-4263)
November 25: Breakfast! Biscuits and gravy
December 2: Franks and beans, salad
December 9: Chicken parm sandwiches
Coffee, tea, and various desserts are also available.
Donations are graciously accepted.
All are welcome to stay and socialize, play games, and work on crafts.



Church Corner



Weare Bible Baptist Church

82 N. Stark Hwy. Weare, NH

SUNDAY SCHOOL: at **10 a.m.**
WORSHIP: Sundays **11 a.m.**
Changing lives one verse at a time.
www.youtube.com/@wearebiblebaptist
FELLOWSHIP SERVICE: **12:30 p.m.**
WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING: **7:00 p.m.**
(No meeting on November 25)
THANKSGIVING POT LUCK: **November 22**, Afternoon Service)
PIE & PRAISE SERVICE: **November 24 at 7 p.m.)**
Also preparations for our Dec 24 Candlelight Service.
You are most welcome to join us.
YOUNG ADULTS – Next activity on **December 4** – Details to come). A very active group, come and meet other young people your age.
Contact: (603) 212-1600 or email: office@wearebiblebaptist.com
Website: www.wearebiblebaptist.com



Holy Cross Happenings

118 Center Road, Weare

Please join us on Sunday afternoons at **4:00 p.m.** for a contemplative worship service, beginning on **November 29, 2026**. The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld will be the celebrant at this service.



St. John the Evangelist

270 Stark Highway N.
Dunbarton

Thanksgiving Day Service of Holy Communion
Thursday, November 26 on Thanksgiving morning at **9:30 a.m.**
All are welcome to attend.



Deering Community Church

763 Deering Center Rd, Deering, NH

Do JUSTICE seek Peace build COMMUNITY
WORSHIP: Sundays **10 a.m.**
Join us in-person or via zoom using the link below
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81625213785?pwd=VlNiWUFQNzVmbkFvUE9MRVdhTUVPdz09
Free Community Breakfast: Every second Saturday (**Dec 12**) of the month from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. ALL WELCOME
Connect with Us: dccnhadmin@gmail.com

South Weare Union Church

Mt. Dearborn Rd. & Deering Center Road



South Weare Union Church – SEVEN TO SAVE UPDATE - We are continuing to make progress in saving the South Weare Union Church. The dilapidated front steps of the church were removed and replaced with new steps in November. The bell rope has been reattached and the mechanism oiled so the church's bell once again rings out in South Weare. The Trustees are grateful to Arthur Rogers who donated his time and his labor to replace the steps and fix the bell. Many thanks Arthur for your gift of time and expertise!



During the month of December, the first phase of electrical work will take place with the installation of several outlets (the church has three currently!), replacement of the light over the back door, and the installation of LED bulbs in the overhead fixtures. Stay tuned for more updates.

Were you married at the church? Were you or your children baptized there? Do you have a special memory of attending services? What does the church mean to you? We would love to hear from you. Please contact us with your story at the email address listed below.

It is the goal of the Trustees to attract a new congregation to the church when all projects have been completed. We are currently seeking donations of time, materials, and funds which will be needed for the numerous projects on our list. If you are interested in helping or for more information, please email us at southweareunionchurch@gmail.com

Be sure to follow our progress on our Facebook page at South Weare Union Church.



Weare / Henniker Quaker Meeting

529 Quaker St. Henniker historic district

Candlelight Carol Service
Sunday, **December 20th 6:30 pm**

Led by members of Weare/Henniker Quaker Meeting. Join us once again as we gather together on the longest night of the year with Light, Love, and Song.

Free -- all are invited, including children. If you wish, bring a candle, stick of firewood, or finger food to share. For information call 603-566-2409

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

354 Main Street, Hopkinton

Light in the Darkness

Christmas can be a difficult time for anyone experiencing loss, loss of any kind. Each year, on a Sunday evening close to Christmas, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Hopkinton, offers a quiet service of scripture readings, silence and candlelight. The service this year is on **December 13, at 5:00 p.m.** and open to anyone.

Poetry Corner

Open

There is an openness
in the landscape these days,
fullness of summer growth
gone,
fall's spectacular color,
gone,
forest floor growth
gone,
leaves of trees
gone,
world feels larger as
spaces appear once
full of colorful life,
now open revealing
sights unseen that were
always there just blocked
by seasons abundance.

- Marge Burke



Photo by Brian Sullivan

Leaf

Freed
Dispatched from the branch
Floating
Laid upon the surface
Fighting
Riding ripples toward shore
Sundown
Boat life draws quiet
Still
Water soddens familiar form
Sunk
Logged to the bottom
Fallen
Leaf in the lake

- By Brian Sullivan (Sully)



Chopfallen

"I'm not ready for this"
His newly dug potatoes, heaped in furrows, were cheek-to-jowl with stones. A hoe stood at attention by the fence.

"That's the way it looks from here."
The man had predicted an early frost from his mountain top station.

"I'm not ready for this"
Mable, his wife, pinched off the tender new crop of lettuce leaves growing in her raised bed. White shirts stiffened on the clothesline.

"Frost, you say"
His pickup, summer tires in place, still sported a truck camper in its bed. Fishing rods leaned against the bumper.

"I'm just not ready for this"
He tugged open the screen door to the kitchen. Julie, his daughter, held her child at the window from where the first soft snowflakes began to swirl and fall onto thirsty grass. His grandchild clapped her hands with newly learned skill and Jim's earth crusted hands came together in chopfallen awe.

- JeanLoretta Nov. 2026

Chop-fallen (also spelled chapfallen**)** is an adjective.
History: The spelling and concept date back at least to the late 16th century (with early recorded uses appearing around the 1590s to the early 1600s, including in the works of William Shakespeare).
Having the lower jaw hanging loosely: A literal physical description of a slack or dropped jaw, which serves as a traditional outward sign of shock or dejection.

Many Faces of the River

Today, in mid-autumn
the river called me,
come, sit in silence
at my shore's edge
let your body, mind, spirit
open wide, receive my gifts
I freely give you,
I am mostly still today,
leisurely current moves
just barely,
fallen leaves cluster on my
surface move in concert
with the current, as in
just barely,
it is almost as if the
world stopped spinning for a time,
some days my current runs fast
as if I am being chased by
forces beyond my control,
fast paced water rushing
downstream from storms,
but today, I called you
to come, sit in silence,
accept my gifts of life,
of water, to slow down,
gather wisdom, be at peace.

- Marge Burke

Mark Your Calendar

Tues., Nov. 24
6:30 p.m. – Finance Committee meeting

Mon., Nov. 30
6:30 p.m. – Board of Selectmen meeting

Wed., Dec. 2
6:30 p.m. – Finance Committee meeting

Thurs., Dec. 3
6:30 p.m. – Cemetery Advisory Committee
7 p.m. – Public Library Trustees meeting

Fri., Dec. 5
10:30 a.m. – Weare Area Writers Guild meeting

Mon., Dec. 7
6:30 p.m. - Board of Selectmen meeting

Tues., Dec. 8
6:30 p.m. – Finance Committee meeting

Wed., Dec. 9
6 p.m. – John Stark School Board meeting
7 p.m. – Conservation Commission meeting
7 p.m. – Weare Democrats meeting

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