Weare in the World

For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents

July 22, 2026

Inside the Issue

p.2: Bell Ringing; Legion
p.3: Band Concerts; Writers Guild
p.4: Golf Classic; Pink Ladies; WindowDressers
p.5: Touch-a-Truck; Campfire Stories; Plant-a-Seed; Library
p.6: Senior News
p.7: Poetry
p.8: Church Corner; Business Spotlight
p.9: School Custodian; Calendar

Fire Chief Sounds Alarm On Pending Staff Shortages

By Tom Clow

At the July 13 meeting of the Weare Board of Selectmen Fire Rescue Chief Mark Roarick sounded an alarm on staff shortages in his department as well as limited funds for vehicle maintenance. He said that the department, which employs eight full-time fire fighters/EMTs, will soon see that number drop to five. He said the department has been down by one member since mid-January, when the lieutenant left. Another will be leaving in August, moving out of fire service altogether, and a third is expected to leave as early as September 1.

Since the department needs two qualified people on duty 24/7 365 days a year, the shortage will result in significant overtime expenses. The problem is recruitment and retention, Roarick said. He explained the steps he has taken in an effort to recruit new people but explained that it is a system-wide problem, with shortages in other fire departments across the state. The town has contracted with Municipal Resources Inc. (MRI) to do a wage and benefit survey and to help with recruitment.

Board members asked questions about filling in with per-diem employees and on-call personnel. Roarick said that he only had two people on his per-diem list and since they were employed by other fire departments, their loyalty was first with their home departments. He said that on-call members had to be certified as both fire fighters and EMTs to fill a full-time shift, and most were only certified as fire fighters.

Vehicle Maintenance

Roarick also spoke about the shortage of funds for vehicle maintenance with a department budget of only $19,000 in that line. He listed the repair and maintenance issues that needed to be addressed, which included tires on several vehicles and brakes on at least one. There is also a tanker that is leaking water. Replacing the tank will be a major expense, estimated at $30,000.

Bell Ringing Was a Big Success

By Sharon Czarnecki

Neal Kurk, one of the event organizers, was kind enough to provide details on how the day unfolded. All told (pun intended) the two bells were rung 500 times. Everyone who participated was delighted. The town hall bell was rung 204 times and there were 202 certificates given out. In the spirit of the day, Kurk rang the bell another 46 times after the 2 p.m. closing so that it would match the 250th celebration.

There was unexpected excitement when the town hall bell rope broke during the session. However, Selectman Benson Goodwin was called, and, with the help of Selectman Rick Hippler, Weare Historical Society Vice President Tom Flaherty, and Karin Anderson, the rope was repaired and bell ringing re-commenced.

The schoolhouse bell was also rung 250 times and our younger Weare residents thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

(For a lament to a bygone era written by one of our readers see “The Final Toll” on the next page of this issue.)

The Final Toll

By Al Weatherbee

Toll the bell just one more time - just one more time for me; and even though I'm hundreds of miles away, I will hear it, as I have heard it so many times before - calling me to school. I will hear it as did my father before me, as did my children, and as did many adults living in town today.

So, toll the bell loud and long. Let it ring from the top of its hill to the end of the street where I lived; from the nearby cemetery to the edge of the lake and beyond. Let it ring in our minds from now to the days gone past when we were so young and answered its call. Let it ring one more time and then be forever still, for we must make way for progress.

Toll it at noon on a Sunday and perhaps, just perhaps, some will remember that dear old school and take a few moments to come and say "Goodbye". Just a minute to look at her once more, wave your hand and say farewell to another anchor from our past.

Toll it once for Ella Burr whose hands wore the rope smooth. Toll it once for Johnny Corro who cared for her and kept her clean. Toll it for each teacher who, through her dedication, taught us not only the 3 Rs; but also, right from wrong, respect, and helped to build the character of today's "town fathers". Toll it once for each of us who will shed a tear for her passing. And, yes, toll her one more time - for me.

(*written on the occasion of the sale of the town of Lincoln, Maine's old school bell- replaced by a "safer" electronic version.)*

Junior Auxiliary Member Makes a Big Difference

By Ellie Chapman, **Member– American Legion Post 65 Weare, NH**

BAKE SALE: Sunday July 26th…….goodies for all, baked by our members. There will also be tickets for sale for the quilt raffle. Proceeds benefit our community and NH Veterans.

As some of you may know, each year the Post 65 Auxiliary awards a scholarship to a senior at John Stark Regional High School. This year our scholarship was awarded to Sophie Gray, who will be attending the University of NH this fall. Along with her strong focus on academics, Sophie was also a member of the John Stark Varsity Ski Team, skiing for all 4 years on the varsity team.

Sophie became aware of the need for all team members to have adequate gear and winter clothing so they could perform at their best, and decided to use one of her other skills to raise money so all her teammates could have what they needed as part of the team.

Sophie learned quilting from her grandmother, Rose. Over her junior & senior years, Sophie made 2 quilts and sold raffle tickets at local craft fairs and other events. She sold enough to be able to supplement the skiing needs of her teammates during her junior year and raised enough her senior year to supply the team with new racing pinnies. (These are the brightly colored mesh vests worn over a skier's jacket for quick identification.)

Sophie & her Grandmother Rose Gilman

Sophie has also been a Junior Member of the Post 65 Auxiliary for a number of years. At our July 1st meeting our members held a small ceremony to graduate Sophie to a senior member. We are looking forward to her future contributions to our Auxiliary and the community.

VETERANS HOME NEEDS: Bring your items to our Sunday breakfast, please. Items needed are: basic hygiene items, sweatpants, lounge pants and socks. Specific sizes, types of each can be found on their website- https://bit.ly/4aH9ZVf. Staff at the Veterans Home expressed their thanks when they heard of our community's effort to support their residents. A copy of their wish list is also posted by the collection bins at the Legion entrance.

JUNIOR ARTISTS WANTED: Calling all Jr artists!!! The Kids Coloring Contest continues! Choose a coloring page or 2, take it home, color it the best you can and return it to the legion during a Sunday breakfast. Each month a winner will be chosen in each age group and the winner gets a prize of their choice from our prize bins.

Stay cool and enjoy all the summer you can!!

Contact Us

weareintheworldnews@gmail.com

Layout Editor – Evelien Schaafsma
Assistant Editor – Alyssa Small
Town News – Tom Clow
School News – Marge Burke
Community Outreach – Sharon Czarnecki

Area Band Concerts

Deering

763 Deering Center Rd. **at 6.30 p.m.**

Aug 1: Last Duo – Acoustic Rock & Folk

Email: dccnhadmin@gmail.com

Henniker

57 Main St. (If rain, we will use the community center) **at 6:00 pm**

July 28: Not Fade Away – Grateful Dead
Aug 4: Ferns Family Band – Folk, Pop, Blues
Aug 11: Kotoko Brass - Caribbean

www.facebook.com/hennikerconcert

Hopkinton **at 7:00 p.m.**

July 29: Concert by Hopkinton Town Band
Aug 5: Concert by Hopkinton Town Band

Milford

6 Mount Vernon St. (If rain, concerts are held at the town hall **at 7:00 p.m.**

July 29: The Belairs - 50's & 60's
Aug 5: Amherst Big Band – Show Tunes
Aug 12: True Diamond – Neil Diamond Songs

New Boston

2–6 River Rd. **at 6:00 p.m.**

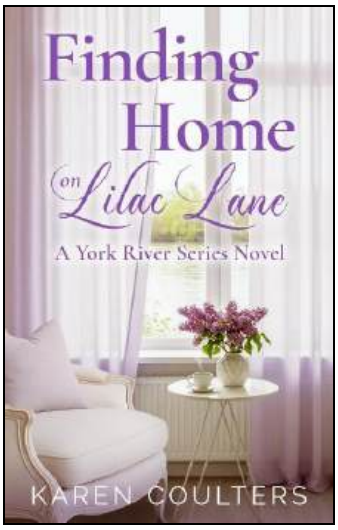
Aug 5: The Slakas – High Energy

The Weare Area Writers Guild

By Sharon Czarnecki

Our local writers group met to discuss projects they each have ongoing and to consider details of upcoming summer fairs they will be attending.

For those of you who may be following our author Karen Coulters, there is a new book available set in the beloved seacoast town of York, Maine. This is the second book in the York River series.



Madison Gable is determined to rebuild more than the weathered barn on her family property—she's trying to rebuild her life. Back in her childhood home, facing mounting expenses and limited funds, Madison focuses on one goal: bringing her beloved horses home where they belong. Love has never been part of the plan. After too many disappointments, she's convinced it's safer not to trust anyone with her heart. Then Ryan Murphy steps back into her life.

If you were thinking of taking a well crafted romance novel on vacation, this one will not disappoint. (*Listed on Amazon).*

For more information, please join us on the 1st & 3rd Friday of each month at the senior center at 33 North Stark Highway, Weare or visit our website. at: www.bit.ly/weareareawriters or email at czar5@comcast.net

To Learn More: Contact NH Lions Green Team
207-596-3073 or NHLionsGreenTeam@gmail.com
www.windowdressers.org

First Come/First Served – Cut Off 225 Inserts. Beyond that, there will be a wait list for next year. To keep our costs low and build community, all participants will also volunteer; training will be provided, and all abilities are welcome. This project helps people stay warmer, save money, build community, and protect the environment by reducing fuel usage! We are taking orders now!!

Weare Pink Ladies Group July Meeting

By Lily Tang Williams

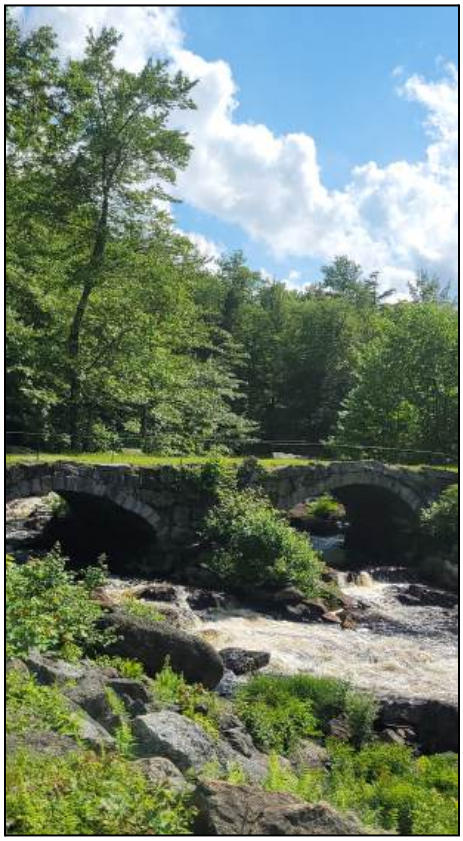
We are GROWING ! We had a record 14 ladies who gathered last month. Sometimes, life gets so hectic it seems like you can never get 15 minutes to take a break. We encourage you to set aside 2 hours for yourself. Come join us and be listened to, laughed with, and perhaps even solve a few small problems.

We will be meeting for dinner on Wednesday, **July 29th** from **5 to 7 p.m.** at **Daniels Restaurant 48 Main St., Henniker.**

We meet for dinner in the summer so that working ladies can join us for fun and make friends.

For more information, please contact me at:

lily4liberty@comcast.net or sign up to join our private group on Facebook. (1) Weare Pink | Facebook



Stone Arch Bridge in Stoddard (Photo by Alyssa Small)

Weare Public Library

SUMMER READING IS ON: Read for Prizes!

Kids & Teens: Log the minutes you read (along with other activities), and turn them in for prizes! Pick up your logs and event guides at the library or at https://bit.ly/wearesummer2026. Finish a row from your log and bring it to the library for a prize (books, bags, gift cards, and more). You'll also get an entry into our Grand Prize Drawing: A New Bike!

Adults: Each time you return your books, you get an entry for weekly prize drawings.

Deadline for Prizes: **August 22**.

Thank you to our Summer Reading Sponsors: ACE Goffstown, Country Three Corners, Dimitri's, Dunkin', Ilsley's Ice Cream, Masons Harmony Lodge #38F & AMs, Putman's and Sawyers Restaurant, Sully's Superette, The Sweet Spot, Zoomies, and the Friends of the Weare Library!

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS
• 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.: Cosmic Yoga (starting Aug 10) (ages 5-9) Drop in for stories, mindfulness, and fun yoga with Librarian Sandy! Stretch, breathe, and glow while building focus and imagination. Perfect for growing minds and bodies!
• 2 p.m.: Pokemondays (kids). Drop in to meet, trade, and play with other Pokemon card enthusiasts.
• 4:00 p.m.: Movie Matinees (family). Enjoy movies in the Sawyer Room with popcorn and lemonade. *7/27: Looney Tunes: The Day the Earth Blew Up *8/3: How to Train Your Dragon (2025) *8/10: Super Mario Galaxy

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

WEDNESDAYS
• 10:30 a.m. Stories at the Lake (ages 0-6). Join Sandy at Chase Park for stories and songs. No park pass? You can still attend and leave after. Raining? We'll meet in the library.

THURSDAYS
• 2:30 p.m. Lego Club (Aug 13 – Aug 27) (kids) Build it your way with self-directed fun! You and your fellow builders decide what to create and how to build it. Make awesome creations and new friends!

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

• July 22 at 1:30 p.m. (ages 6-18). **Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Tournament**. Fight for prizes and glory! There's no pre-registration, but you must be on time.
• July 23 at 6:00 p.m. (family). **Campfire Stories**. Join us for stories, songs, and s'mores by the campfire on the lawn.
• July 23 at 7:00 p.m. (adults). **Book Group**. Join us to discuss the true inspirational tale of Grandma Gatewood's Walk on the Appalachian Trail by Ben Montgomery. Call to reserve your copy.
• July 30 at 6:30 p.m. (family). **Touch-A-Truck**. Get up close and personal with Weare's most powerful vehicles! (at the Middle School parking lot).
• Aug 1 at 10:00 a.m. (family). **Lego Game Show**. An immersive program with challenges and prizes hosted by C3Brix, one of the nation's most celebrated LEGO artists!
• Aug 19 at 2:00 p.m. (all ages). **Squishy Share & Swap**. Get squishy with it! Make your own, swap with fellow fans, and chat with other squishy lovers at the library! Enjoy squishy snacks and fun books to read or check out. Space is limited. Call the library to register.

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

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

Have you ever been the recipient of a random act of kindness? If you have, you know it really makes your day. One example of such a random act happened a few days ago at 733 S Stark Hwy (the place of Hand in Hand's new home). One of our female volunteers was struggling to raise a stack of plywood boards in front of the building off the ground. Out of nowhere, two men appeared and asked if they could help. It turned out that Bill Hebert owns the building diagonally across the street and with his friend Jason saw the struggle going on and just stepped in. It certainly made a difference and made the volunteer's day.

Thanks to volunteer Brian Sullivan's dedication and hard work the grounds at our new location are beautifully kept: lawns cut, hedges trimmed and stone walls cleared.

Grounds view at our future home - 77 S. Stark Highway

Volunteers Greg Walthers, Richard Walthers, Joe McCarron, Gerry Morin, Mike Pelletier, Ron Merrill, Suzanne Marcroft and Elayne Trudel have all gone full speed ahead with removing walls, repairing walls and floors, dismantling bathrooms, painting, cabinet making, and helping Hand in Hand get things done.

Should you be interested in helping us get ready to open our new doors by September 1, 2026, please let us know (hkurk@hihsc.org). There is still a lot to do, and we can use your help.

CEO Ken Duchesne from Granite State Plumbing and Heating has arranged for work to begin on a new heating system for the Thrift Shop and 1890 section. We are so grateful for their involvement and generosity.

In the meantime, we are keeping things going at 33 N Stark Hwy. The Thrift Shop is open on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11-4. **A mega 50% off sale is going on until we move**. Regular Wednesday lunches and activities continue. There's a hike (Friday, August 14 at 9 a.m. to Arethusa Falls – Crawford Notch State Park – contact Donna- **dmccarronsip60@yahoo.com).**

Demolition in future Thrift Shop

Demolition as part of "Great Room"

Then there's Book Group on Tuesday, August 18 at noon. The book, "Pachinko" by Min Jin Lee, is a historical fiction novel. Come to the Center to pick up a book. The movie, also on Tuesday, August 18 @3:00, is "The Shawshank Redemption." Of course, there's yoga and Tai Chi, crafts and conversation every week. Come and join us.

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)

July 22: Cheese ravioli, bread, salad

July 29: Scrambled eggs, bacon, home fries

Coffee, tea, and various desserts are also available. Donations are graciously accepted. All are welcome to stay and socialize, play games, enjoy cribbage and work on crafts.

"Helping others is the secret sauce to a happy life."
Todd Stocker

Poetry Corner

Snake Root

Cathedral spires
rise in the garden,
tall stems with nettle
shaped leaves, bearing a
glorious display
fluffy white flowers,
regal persona
reigns supreme over
mid-summer garden,
in unexpected
places, wherever
birds might have dropped seeds,
after nectar feast,
hardy, determined to
please, one rose above
quince bush, a single
spire to delight,

in clusters they fill
a stage of dancers,
rhythmic motions
when caught by the wind,
feathery flowers float,
my body joins in
swaying, spreading my
own joy of being
alive, belonging
to something beyond
understanding, what bliss.

- Marge Burke

Butterfly Weed

It all began years ago
with one plant, butterfly weed,
brilliant orange flowers, attracting
birds as well as butterflies,
bushy plant became bushier
each year, and then abundance,
one plant became many plants,
spreading with abandon, to
unexpected places, kindness
of seeds dropped wherever
orange radiance was needed,
places far away in other
garden spaces, bringing
smiles, laughter at unforeseen
place a new plant chose to live,
a true whodunnit, what a thrill.

- Marge Burke

Church Corner

Weare Bible Baptist Church

82 N. Stark Hwy. Weare, NH

WORSHIP: **SUNDAYS 11 a.m.**
Changing lives one verse at a time.
Sunday School at **10 a.m**.
Fellowship Service **12:30 p.m.**
Wednesday prayer meeting **7:00 p.m.**
Live streaming on YouTube @wearebiblebaptist for most services

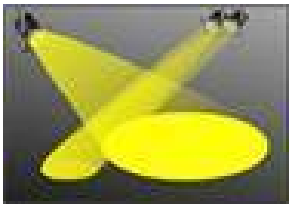
YOUNG ADULTS: are planning a night out to watch Fisher Cats baseball on **Friday, July 24**. Contact us for more information.

TEEN HIKING: The teens are excited to hike Clark Summit trail in Deering on **August 1**.

MISSIONARIES: Tim and Ruth Bixby, missionaries to Sarelles, France will be visiting **July 26**. www.emuinternational.org/give-now/tim-ruth/

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Summer is in full swing, August will be here before we know it and we can't wait for VBS! **August 3-7 Time: 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**. Ages 5–17 welcome This year's theme is **Emerald Crossing: An Irish Adventure.** It's easy to register online at wearebiblebaptist.com

For more information contact us: (603) 212-1600
email: office@wearebiblebaptist.com
Website: wearebiblebaptist.com



Spotlight

By Sharon Czarnecki

Jesse King explained that he loves the smell of wood and enjoys working with his hands. He attributes that to the fact that his grandfather had a small woodworking shop. He was a patient man who did not mind having a young boy hang out and ask a LOT of questions.

This interest (and family support) quickly turned into a small business making signs for friends and family. He expanded his available wares to include other small wood furniture items depending on what his grandfather had time to teach.

By the time he was a preteen, his parents noticed the little sign making hobby was becoming a very busy enterprise. As a result, they bought him his own CNC machine to improve the quality of his sign work. King mentions he is grateful they decided to teach overall business skills in addition to providing the gift. His parents explained that the cost of the machine was a loan needing to be paid back from ongoing sales.

By the time King was 13, he was aware that he wanted to spend his days working with wood in one way or another and he spent the summer apprenticed to his first mentor Seth Butler. Butler worked primarily repairing damage to lake houses which were often exposed to water damage and rot. The satisfaction of restoring a building to even better than its original condition made a lasting impression. Butler always stressed leaving the houses carefully wrapped in sealer and weatherproofing with double thick sill plates when needed so that future damage was averted.

Over the next 5 years, whenever he had time from school, King worked for others refining his skills in carpentry and framing. He mentioned being particularly

proud to work for Nathan Griffith General Contracting during the time when they won awards for Best Kitchen & Bath Remodels in NH.

King is now happy to be running his own business for the past 3 years and specializes in framing, decks, porches and interior finish work.

When asked where he sees his business in 5 years, he explained he would like to be able to take on a few regular employees. He also pointed out that he already brings on other experienced and insured folks to help, depending on the size of the job.

Some of his favorite projects in this area included helping with the Nook Diner in Hillsboro where he worked on the floor system and exterior walls. He also enjoys projects that substantially change the appearance of a house like wrap around Farmer's porches (for which he included a swing).

King also explained that he chose to own property in Weare that extends into Deering because (being one of 5 children himself) he wants to raise a family in a country setting and an environment that values being caring and honest with your neighbors.

CONTACT INFORMATION: 603-995-1115
kingtimberconstruction@gmail.com

Job Opportunities

Mark Your Calendar

Wed., July 22
6 p.m. – Ethics Committee meeting

Thurs., July 23
7 p.m. – Planning Board meeting

Mon., July 27
6:30 p.m. – Board of Selectmen meeting

Tues., August 4
7 p.m. – Zoning Board meeting

Wed., August 5
6:30 p.m. - American Legion Auxiliary meeting
7 p.m. – Master Plan Subcommittee meeting