# Weare in the World

For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents January 25, 2023



## Why We Love Living in New Hampshire

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



(Alyssa Small photo).



(Marge Burke photo).

## Selectmen Hear Public Input On 2023 Budget and Warrant

#### By Tom Clow

At a public hearing on Jan. 16, the Weare Board of Selectmen heard testimony on the town's 2023 proposed operating budget and the town warrant. The proposed budget of \$8,075,040 represents an increase of \$655,692, or 8.4%. However, it should be noted that the comparison is to the 2022 default budget. In fact, the last year that the town passed a proposed budget was 2019.

A page of justifications for the increases indicates that the largest are in the highway department and other public works departments, much of it driven by fuel prices and the cost of hauling and disposing of municipal trash. In addition, the justification page notes that in the last approved town budget the cost of road salt was \$53.33 per ton, and it is currently \$79.22 per ton. The town uses about 3,000 tons of salt annually.

Many of the other articles on the warrant will look familiar, such as road reconstruction and vehicle or equipment purchases for the three major departments: public works, police, and fire rescue.

Parks and Recreation (PARC) is proposing the establishment of a capital reserve fund for replacing the tennis courts, with \$20,000 to be placed in the fund in 2023. In addition, PARC is asking to establish a revolving fund so that proceeds from PARC facilities, such as Chase Park, can go back into improving those facilities.

One article that will not appear on the warrant is the adoption of the Hospitality Rental Ordinance. This has been tabled for 2023.

The BOS scheduled a meeting for Jan. 23 to review the comments and suggestions made by the public and to make possible changes to the budget or to other warrant articles before meeting with the Finance Committee on Jan. 25. See DELIBERATIVE, page 2



**"Talk" To Us Best Book Deadline-Feb 3** Weareintheworldnews @Gmail.com

#### DELIBERATIVE, continued from page 1

The Town Deliberative Session will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4 at 9 a.m., during which time the public will be able to debate and possibly amend articles on the warrant.

## Filing Period for Town and School District Offices Open Jan. 25 - Feb. 5

The filing period for candidates for town offices, the Weare School District and the John Stark School District opens on Jan. 25 and closes Feb. 3 at 5 p.m. Filings for the town are handled at the Town Clerk's Office; filings for the school districts are handled at SAU 24 offices in Henniker.

TOWN OF WEARE OPEN POSITIONS		
<b>Selectmen</b> (Two positions)	Three-year terms	
Supervisor of the Checklist (One position)	Six-year term	
Library Trustee (One position)	Three-year term	
Trustee of the Trust Funds (One position)	Three-year term	
<b>Board of Fire Wards</b> (Two positions: one member of the fire department, one non-member)	Three-year terms	
Ethics Committee (five positions)	1 one-year term 2 two-year terms 2 three-year terms	



#### WEARE SCHOOL DISTRICT OPEN POSITIONS

School Board Member (two positions)	Three-year terms	
School District Clerk (one position)	Three-year term	
<b>School District Treasurer</b> (one position)	Three-year term	
JOHN STARK SCHOOL DISTRICT OPEN POSITIONS		
School Board Member (two positions: one from Weare, one from Henniker)	Three-year terms	

UPCOMING SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETINGS		
Purpose	Date/Time	Location
Deliberative session, Weare School District	Wednesday, Feb. 8 7 p.m.	Weare Middle School
Deliberative session, John Stark School District	Friday, Feb. 10 7 p.m.	JSRHS cafeteria

VOTING DAY: March 14



## **Republicans Meeting**

By Tom Flaherty The Weare Republican Committee will be holding its annual meeting on

Saturday, Jan. 28 at 9 a.m. in the Weare Middle School Library. All Weare Registered Republicans are welcome to attend.







The **Leos Club** at John Stark Regional High School sponsored a Personal Care Drive in December and collected 150 items for the N.H. Veterans Home in Tilton. On Jan. 13, two officers of the club delivered the items they'd collected. *Photo L to R: Madison O'Donnell, Missy Robichaud from the N.H. Veterans Home in Tilton, and Natalie Smith (courtesy photo).* 



JSRHS student **Ben Lanier** was making pumpkin muffins, not ratatouille, in his last lab in his food and nutrition class, but he decided to have a little fun and bring a buddy to cook with. You may recognize "Remy" (also known as "Little Chef") on Ben's shoulder, the character from

the Disney Pixar movie "Ratatouille" who had a passion for food and dreams of becoming a chef (courtesy photo).

The 2023 Center Woods Elementary School Spelling

Bee winner was second-grader Joel Miller, who also won last year. The winning word during the Jan. 12 bee was "snooty." Emilyn Ryan was the runner-up. The next level for Joel will be a local semifinal round, which is administered online. The Scripps National Spelling Bee National finals are to be held this spring in Maryland.



#### Weare Public Library News

#### Upcoming Events

#### **FOR ADULTS**

**<u>Pinochle & Cribbage</u>**. Tuesdays at 2 p.m. Meet and play with other card game enthusiasts.

**<u>Craft Group</u>**. Thursdays at 1 p.m. We're doing diamond dots and space is limited. Call 603-529-2044 to sign up.

**Book Group: "Horse," by Geraldine Brooks:** Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m. Call the library at 603-529-2044 to reserve your copy.

**Friends of the Library Meeting.** Tuesday, Feb. 28, 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. Learn more at: wearepubliclibrary.com/friends.

#### **KIDS & TEENS**

**NEW! PokeMondays**. Mondays (starting Jan. 30), 2-5 p.m. Meet, play, and trade with other Pokemon card game enthusiasts.

**Gaming**. Tuesdays 2- 5 p.m. and Fridays 5-8 p.m. Challenge your friends with Smash Bros., Cuphead, Arms, or other video games OR play one of our board games. You can also check-out many of our games and take them home! Recommended for ages 7+. In the Sawyer Room.

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

**<u>Pre-K Storytime</u>**: Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Join Ms. Karen for stories and songs.

<u>Read with the Ruff Readers</u>. Wednesdays at 5 p.m. Read with friendly dogs! Call Ms. Karen at 603-529-2044 to sign up.

**Afterschool Gingerbread:** Thursday, Feb. 2 at 3:30 p.m. Join Ms Karen for stories about gingerbread including one about how gingerbread cookies helped win the American Revolution and decorate your own cookies to take home. Ages 5+.

Take Your Child to the Library Day! Saturday, Feb. 4, 10-11:30 a.m. For kids ages 5 and under with a caregiver. Older kids can try to solve the new scavenger hunt and earn a prize!

**Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Tourney IV**: Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 3:30 p.m. It's gonna be a Valentine's Day battle! Fight for prizes and glory in this double-elimination tournament. Recommended for ages 7+. There's no pre-registration, but you'll need to be on time.

<u>Afterschool Slime</u>: Thursday, Feb. 16 at 3:30 p.m. Who loves slime? We love slime! Come and make a batch of your own at the library. We'll provide all the materials. Ages 8+

## Pack 24 Scout News



By Alyssa Small

On Jan. 15, Pack 24 Cub Scouts raced their homemade cars in the Pinewood Derby at Weare Middle School. Some adults joined in on the fun and submitted cars for the Outlaw and Classics races. It was particularly heartwarming to see three generations of Scouts from the Burritt family (son, father, and grandfather) all participate. Everyone had a good time rooting for the cars and supporting the Pack by buying baked goods and hot dogs.

The next Pack activity will be the Blue and Gold Banquet on Feb. 19, which takes place each year near the anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910. The Scouts will receive badges of rank, learn about Camp Carpenter and enjoy a spaghetti dinner.

The Cub Scout program is open to all boys and girls in grades K-5, and the Pack welcomes new members year-round. 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 <u>usaairforceeod@yahoo.com</u>.

#### SENIOR NEWS

## HAND IN HAND SENIOR CENTER



33 North Stark Highway, Weare, NH 03281 Wednesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. 603-529-4263

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

Our thrift shop provides an opportunity for the community to shop for great bargains and help defray our financial obligations.

On Wednesdays from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., the Center offers free lunch (donations accepted). The meals are often followed by games and crafts. There is also a small food pantry available (no questions asked).

After lunch on Jan. 25, Lily Tang Williams will share Chinese New Year traditions.

We welcome volunteers in the shop to help sort, price and organize donations, and to help with sales. Call us or drop by.

### WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?



Jan. 25: Chicken lemon rice soup and turkey orzo soup; an assortment of egg, tuna and chicken salad sandwiches

Feb. 1: Split pea soup; ham and cheese sliders; fruit salad

Dine in or take out. Delivery is free for any senior who has no transportation. Call us to make arrangements.





**Feel the love all February long!** All clothing items are \$1 apiece. Coats, boots, and shoes are half price. Come in and stock up!



Donations can be placed in the orange bin out front, or you can drop off during business hours.



The Center celebrated Robert Clements' 99½ birthday on Jan. 18. He is Weare's oldest resident (courtesy photo).

## **Holy Cross Happenings**

#### By Marge Burke

Among the many community outreach opportunities

Holy Cross Episcopal Church offers to the residents of Weare is the yellow shed that sits in a corner of the church's parking lot.

For several years now, the church has partnered with St. Pauly Textile, Inc., located in Farmington, N.Y., providing these yellow sheds



in over 1,100 communities across the

country for recycling USEABLE clothing, (textiles only; please, no toys). The EPA reports that 85% of clothing in the U.S. is thrown away, leaving only 15% available to be reused by people in need throughout the world.

The church recently received a letter of thanks from the host company, that reads in part:

"Happy New Year! We're excited to share with you the impact your clothing shed made over the last year. 45,267 pounds of clothing were donated to your shed in 2022. This was enough to clothe an estimated 8,339 people all over the world. Thank you so much for everything you, your volunteers and your community did to support the **See SHED, page 6** 

#### SHED, continued from page 5

clothing shed program."

We, at Holy Cross, thank all of you in Weare who have donated bags of useable clothing to the yellow shed during this past year. Please keep up the good work and remember the thousands of people who will benefit from your donations.

POETRY CORNER

## Vision in Pink

She was about two feet tall, a vision in pink from the bouncy pompom on her hat, to snuggly tiny boots, her puffy jacket made the outfit complete, an image of cotton candy confection.

-Marge Burke

#### Sunset

Fiery yellow ball caught my eye from my desk, mesmerized, I moved to the window watching the sun set in the western sky, slow process of changing color hues, soft baby blue to robin's egg blue, with clouds of grey to budding lilac, the lower the sun went down, the more vivid the colors, until the sky was on fire, blazing reds mixed with hot pink to yellow horizon flames.

-Marge Burke

#### Wine Tasting at Country 3 Corners

Friday, Feb. 17 from 5 - 7 p.m. 833 S. Stark Highway 603-529-7539 X 4 <u>Ifiala@country3corners.com</u> or check out our Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/Country3Corners</u>



**Thursday, Jan. 26** 7 p.m. – Planning Board Meeting

Saturday, Jan. 28 9 a.m. - Weare Republicans meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 1 6 p.m. – Mildred Hall Advisory Committee meeting

**Thursday, Feb. 2** 7 p.m. – Library Trustees meeting

Friday, Feb. 3 10:30 a.m. – Weare Area Writers Guild meeting

Saturday, Feb. 4 9 a.m. - Town Deliberative Session

Monday, Feb. 6 6:30 p.m. – Board of Selectmen meeting

**Tuesday, Feb. 7** 5 p.m. – Cemetery Trustees meeting 7 p.m. – Parks & Recreation meeting 7:30 p.m. – Zoning Board meeting

#### Wednesday, Feb. 8

4:15 p.m. – Trustees of the Trust Fund meeting 6 p.m. – Weare School District Board meeting 7 p.m. – Weare School District Deliberative Session 7 p.m. – Conservation Commission meeting

Thursday, Feb. 9 7 p.m. – Weare Democrats meeting

Friday, Feb. 10 6:30 p.m. - John Stark School District Board meeting 7 p.m. - John Stark School District Deliberative Session

## **Contact Us**

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