



Weare in the World

For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents

March 22, 2023



“Music in Our Schools” Month

Musicians from John Stark Regional High School and the Weare Middle School chorus were two of ten groups invited to perform at the New Hampshire State House Lawn on March 8 to celebrate “Music in Our Schools Month,” an event organized by the New Hampshire Music Educators Association. *Above: The Weare Middle School choir, 73 members strong, at the state house. Below: JSRHS select chorus and wind instrument musicians. Front row L to R: Lydia Richman, Rose Kosciuszek, Sophia McGinty, Annileah Coubrough, Giana Farren. Middle row: Ella Smith, Jenna Jezierski, Hailey Michaud, Kayleigh Megowen, Rebecca Scoledge. Back row: Jackson Barnes, Braden Schou, Alexx Wilber, Charlotte Matzke.*



Weather Meant Low Voter Turnout; 2019 Law Gave Moderators Options

By Tom Clow

The nor'easter has long since headed out to sea, leaving behind as much as 25 inches of snow in some parts of Weare, tired shovelers and plow drivers, and what was probably a record low voter turnout with only 799 ballots cast – including absentee ballots. That number represents almost 1,000 less than in 2022, when 1,734 ballots were cast in the town election.

According to Town Clerk Maureen Billodeau, there are 6,038 registered voters in the Town of Weare, which means that slightly more than 13% of those eligible voted in the March 14, 2023 town and school elections. In fairness, the percentages are never high for town elections in Weare. Last year's turnout represented about 29% of eligible voters. That said, it still means that a small percentage of the town's population made the decisions of choosing town and school officials and approving the level of funding for the town and schools.

Senate Bill 104, passed in 2019, gave town moderators the authority to postpone elections or town meetings in the event of severe weather such as Weare experienced on Election Day. Many moderators would probably agree that it also placed them between a rock and a hard place. According to an article by the New Hampshire Public Radio staff, Secretary of State David Scanlan confirmed that as of 8:00 p.m. on Monday, March 13, elections had been postponed in more than 70 municipalities.

A similar weather event in 2017 left town officials scrambling for answers, since there were no clear guidelines in place at that time for postponing elections. The decision was made to hold the Weare elections as scheduled. The town report for 2017 does not give a total number for votes cast; however, reviewing the vote count for individual warrant articles, the

See ELECTION, page 2



“Talk” To Us

Poetry

April is Poetry month,
so bring it on!

Deadline: April 7

Weareintheworldnews

@Gmailcom

ELECTION, continued from page 1

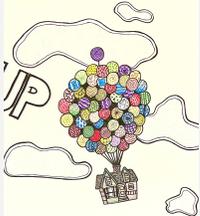
turnout seems to have been similar to this year's. For example, a total of 812 people voted on the town's operating budget in 2017. One major difference was that officials did not have to also contend with a power outage at the middle school in 2017.

When asked about the decision not to postpone, Town Moderator Jon Morton said that it is the expectation that we move forward with the election. The moderator has the option to postpone if certain criteria are met, and after consulting with local officials, he said. In Weare, we also had to coordinate with Henniker, since we share a school district, he said.



School News



<p>In celebration of "Youth Art Month," students in Tracy Travers's 2D and Creative Arts at JSRHS classes share some of their work.</p>	 <p>"Cat Collage" by Charlotte Furness</p>
 <p>"Dog Gone Cool" by McKenna Whittier</p>	 <p>"Up House" by Savannah Chapman</p>
 <p>"Beautiful Butterfly" by Emma Fifield</p>	 <p>"Untitled" by Ava Newell</p>
 <p>"Bunny Collage" by Parker Greenhalge</p>	 <p>"Bass Fishing" by Matt Antognoni</p>

Congratulations to Weare Middle School seventh grader



Piper Higgins for drawing this winning design for the 2023 WMS 5K Fun Run/Walk, scheduled for May 12. Elizabeth Elliot (seventh) and Gracie Barton (eighth) were runners-up for their

designs. Runners and walkers can register by April 21 to qualify for a race t-shirt with this design! Click the following link to sign up. Participants must be at least eight years old. No strollers or dogs.

<https://runsignup.com/race/nh/weare/wms5Kfunrunwalk>.



Members of the **1993 JSRHS boys basketball state championship** team recently celebrated their 30-year

anniversary of winning the title. Team members got together in Weare to take a walk down memory lane and reminisce about their run. *L to R: Mike Stafford '93, Charlie Chungu '93, Ryan Pinkham '93, Gerry Healy '94, and Mark Morrison '93.*

Weare PTO Seeks Volunteers



The Weare PTO is looking for volunteers to join its board (a one-year commitment, with possible extension to two years) and to join subcommittees that will organize specific events for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. The following positions for the upcoming

year are as follows:

President: Serves as the official representative of the PTO and retains all official records. We are looking for a creative problem-solver who is comfortable delegating, staying on task during meetings and able to support the team in a substantial role.

Vice President: Oversees the committee system of the PTO and assists with chairing the meetings when needed. Will be involved in the decision-making process, brainstorming and all things happening behind the scenes in order to run a successful PTO.

See PTO, page 3

PTO, continued from page 2

Secretary: Records and distributes minutes of all the meetings, prepares agendas and ensures that historical records are kept up to date and available in the PTO closet at CWES. This role can be split between two people: Records Secretary and Communications Secretary, who would manage marketing for the PTO.

Treasurer: The custodian of the group's funds helps develop the budget, collects fundraising money, writes checks for purchases and reimbursements, tracks income and spending, makes financial reports and organizes the books for annual audit.

The PTO also hopes to attract people to help organize two final events for this school year: Teacher Appreciation Week from May 8-12 and Field Days at Center Woods and WMS in June. **Subcommittees** will be formed to handle these last events. Anyone who is interested in a board role or joining a subcommittee should contact wearepto2023@gmail.com or message on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SAU24PTO>. The next meeting is at the Weare Public Library on April 13 at 7 p.m. Elections will be held in May.

PTO accomplishments of the past school year include a community Trunk or Treat event in October, the "Big and Little" dance at Center Woods in February and various support efforts for staff at Center Woods and Weare Middle School. It is also supplying snacks for students who are undergoing state testing next month and readying welcome packets for incoming first and fourth graders.



The Lost Village Auditions

By Connie Evans

We're hoping to have a really great turnout for "The Lost Village" auditions, which are tentatively set for **Sunday, April 2**. We are looking at having both a morning and an evening audition so everyone who wants to audition has a chance. There will be an official announcement soon indicating location and specific times. It will be posted on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/429508047574533> and the Weare Community Theater Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/376284660928080/>

Weare Public Library News

FOR ALL AGES

Art Exhibit: "The Road Not Taken:" March 13-31. A fine art exhibit inspired by the poetry of Robert Frost and designed by N.H. artists Ingeborg V. Seaboyer, Judy Krassowski and Corinne Dodge. It features approximately 30 works that reflect a variety of personal interpretations of Frost's poetry.

Seedbrary: Starting April 3. Spring is here! Get a start on the planting season. Choose from our collection of fruits and other flowering seeds – sure to get the bees buzzing. Funding from Ben Hallee of Boy Scout Troop 24.

FOR ADULTS

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

Friends of the Library Meeting: March 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.

Book Group: "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan" by Lisa See. Wednesday April 26 at 7 p.m. Call the library at 603-529-2044 to reserve your copy.

FOR KIDS & TEENS

PokeMondays: Mondays, 2-5:30 p.m. Meet, play, and trade with other Pokemon card game enthusiasts and (maybe) win a prize.

Tuesday After School Gaming: Tuesdays 2- 5 p.m. Challenge your friends with Smash Bros., Minecraft, Arms, or other video games OR bring your own. You can also check out many of our games and take them home! Recommended for ages 7+. 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 "The Royal Game." Local USCF player, 'Gambit' Greg will be on hand to coach beginners and accept challenges. Upstairs, in the Paige Room.

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.

Pre-K Storytime: Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. Join Ms. Karen for stories and songs.

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

Dog Man Party: Thursday, March 30, 4 p.m. Celebrate the release of the latest in Dav Pilkey's bestselling series, and the first in two years, *Dog Man: Twenty Thousand Fleas Under the Sea* with crafts, games, and prizes.

Slime Time: Thursday, April 13, 4 p.m. Who loves slime? We do! Come and make a batch of your own at the library. We'll provide the materials. Grades 4+.

**HAND IN HAND
SENIOR CENTER**



33 North Stark Highway, Weare, NH 03281
Wednesday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Fridays until 4 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.

Spring has sprung at the Hand in Hand Senior Center and Thrift Shop. Clothes and apparel reflect the change in the season. Come in to see what's new.

We're excited to begin offering some programs and activities at the Senior Center.

Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.: Roland Beaugard will offer a two-hour cell phone session on the use and types of cell phones. Bring your cell phone and your worries and concerns and Roland will address the most common questions.

Starting Saturday April 22, Roland will offer three 45-minute **individual** sessions from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. that you can sign up for. The sessions are \$5 due at signup. This fee goes to support the center. In these sessions, you can ask questions about cell phones, tablets and computers. Starting in May, these sessions will be offered on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Roland spent 40 years in the tech industry working with computers, tablets, and cell phones. He is currently sharing his expertise and knowledge of these devices with seniors in Weare and Concord.

Friday, April 14, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. has been set aside for a games afternoon. See what games we have, bring your own games, bring some friends, make some new friends and just have a jolly good time. Good cheer and refreshments will greet you.

Let us know what programs you are interested in, and we'll try to make them happen.



What's for Lunch?

Dine in, take out, or free delivery

March 22: New England clam chowder/baked potato soup, tuna and egg salad sandwiches

March 29: Stuffed shells, peas and ham

April 5: To be determined



What's in the Shop?

Are you ready for Easter and spring?

We are! Come on in to update your spring wardrobe and decor. **We are now open until 4 p.m. on Fridays.**



Donations needed! We are especially in need of clip hangers (for pants and skirts). Donations may be placed in the orange bin out front (*located by the thrift shop door, NOT on the porch section*) or dropped off during business hours. We

accept gently used clothing, kitchen and housewares, games, books and movies. Unsure? Just ask us.



Asked and Answered:

Spring

What I Like about Spring

By Marge Burke

One of the things I like best about spring is the return of color. During the long winter months, our landscape is mostly black or white. Now, don't misunderstand me; I delight in the winter white of new fallen snow, especially if the sun is dazzling and the sky is sapphire blue. All too soon though, the snow turns black when car emissions spew out their venom. Then the snow falls from tree branches revealing just a bare vista, no color at all. When the snow melts, we are left with dull, brown sleeping grass.

See **SPRING**, page 5

SPRING, continued from page 4

Spring brings more daylight, the sun rises higher in the sky sending warmth to the earth, sending signals to what lies beneath, that it is time to wake up. Green shoots spring forth, and with that come crocus, daffodils, tulips. Tree branches begin to show forth tiny buds, and the world has a light red hue, soon followed by green leaves. The air is filled with song as the migrating birds return to our little corner of the world. They wake us in the morning with hymns of praise and lull us into a calming evening with their night songs.

Is Spring Always Like This?

By Jeanloretta

Is spring always like this? Each day, some wonderful happening takes place calling me from my desk, housework, my verses, to poke under leaves, to visit emerging perennials—old friends by now. Miniature irises peer out from their bed close to the earth. Their blue eyes strike me to the bone, beseeching, looking out from under green hooded lids.

How abruptly the crab apple tree thrust its pale pinkness out from darker tight buds, how did it surprise me, determined as I was to watch, to witness each movement day by day? Yet I stand, suddenly it seems, under this rosy parasol. A thousand voices hum an old hymn, “Work for the night is coming.” Bees are gathering pollen and nectar; their queen is waiting somewhere.

Old one-eyed Goldfinger, tiger cat, blinks in the sun and tips his head to watch the ant hill forming on the walk between the bricks. He looks off remembering, perhaps, the spring nights that kept him ready for the scent of a female, urgent in her heat. So lost in thought is he that he hardly turns his head toward the chipmunk scolding from the stonewall.

Raspberry shoots have stalked into the asparagus’s bed where those first tender phallic tips have thrust through the earth’s crust. Their flavor is clear and innocent between my teeth.

Now each day lengthens, extra light for an evening walk. Tonight, darkness falls behind me, envelops me, as I stop beside the pond, attentive to a melody of frog tunes, all new this spring. Meg’s white-tipped tail guides me home along a forest path, her Border Collie nose dusted with damp soil. That’s what comes of sticking your nose into secret, earth homes.

I think of old Buson’s haiku:

Standing still

The voices of frogs

heard in the distance.

And Edna Saint Vincent Millay’s:

I am waylaid by beauty.

*Who will walk between me and
the crying of frogs?*



POETRY CORNER

A Fish Can Laugh

The air has warmed a tiny bit
Spring knocks upon my door
The brook is finally clear of ice
It’s trout season once more!

The corner store has the worms
I... a fishing pole in hand
With a camera to record my prize
By the brook I make my stand

A reluctant worm upon a hook
Carefully cast into the stream
Chilly air will not dissuade me
From catching the trout of my dream

The line is quickly downstream
The current is quite strong!
With a gentle back and forth tug
I play that worm along

What fish could ever resist
That tasty little delight
I know I’ll be eating trout
For my supper tonight!

Soon my hands are frozen
Damn this early spring air!
My gaze is locked **downstream**
Hoping to see a fish jump there

A flash in the water before me
Suddenly catches my eye
Barely two feet away
Three beauteous trout I spy!

I swear they were laughing
Ha, ha! So close and yet so far!
I know why fish is good for your brain
They’re smarter than we are!

-Carolyn S. Beaulieu

My Sister Knows

My sister looks.
 She looks away,
 Away from me and from the other children,
 Away from the dragon's open mouth.

My sister sees.
 She sees the wicked spirits smother hope.
 She is older, not protected,
 Captured by the furious wolf.

My sister feels.
 She feels grim leopard paws weigh
 Down upon her shoulders,
 Propelling her towards exile and extinction.

My sister knows.
 She knows that soon, too soon,
 We will see the dragon and the furious wolf,
 And the grim leopard that carries off the young.
 -Douglas Gilbert

**On March 17, the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Russian President Vladimir Putin and Russian official Maria Lvova-Bulova for an alleged scheme to deport Ukrainian children to Russia. This work is dedicated to child refugees across the globe.*

The View

Flawless,
 cloudless,
 breathless,
 view of mountains,
 Presidential Range
 in White Mountains,
 wonderful sight on
 late winter day,
 peaks and valleys
 testament to
 lasting beauty
 mystical feel,
 endurance
 of the ages.

-Marge Burke

Next Day View

Gone the beauty of
 yesterday,
 flawed, clouded sky,
 nothing to see
 except graying sky,
 lower and lower
 dense white to dark gray.
 storm pending,
 mountains still there,
 but obscured, waiting
 for new coating of snow,
 while we wait for that
 new mystical view.

-Marge Burke



Why We Love Living in New Hampshire

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



"Snow Bird"
 (Val Bartholomew photo)



"Deck Snow Person"
 (Sharon Czarniecki photo)



"Tank" and his construction crew Cailynn and Nicole Czarniecki, and Victoria Keane.



Metal roof tunnel (Joe Czarnecki photo).



Snow tunnel (Alyssa Small photo).

Mark Your Calendar

Thursday, March 23

7 p.m. – Planning Board meeting

Saturday, March 25

9:30 a.m. – Weare Republicans meeting

Tuesday, March 28

6 p.m. – Weare School Board meeting

Monday, April 3

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

Tuesday, April 4

7 p.m. – Garden Club meeting

7:30 p.m. – Zoning Board meeting

Wednesday, April 5

6 p.m. – Mildred Hall Advisory Committee meeting

Thursday, April 6

7 p.m. – Public Library Trustees meeting

Friday, April 7

10:30 a.m. – Weare Area Writers Guild meeting

Monday, April 10

6 p.m. – Board of Fire Wards meeting

Tuesday, April 11

7 p.m. – Parks and Recreation meeting

Wednesday, April 12

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

Contact Us

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