



Weare in the World

For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents

February 11, 2026

Inside the Issue

p.2: Town Clerk News; Candidates for Local Office
p.3: School News; Pink Ladies
p.4: Bird Survey; Legion
p.5: Top Dog Raffle; Tax Help; Yoga Classes
p.6: Snow Globe Making; Library
p.7.: Senior News; Cribbage Tournament
p.8.: Rug-Braiding Workshop; Poetry
p.9.: Church Corner; Calendar

Few Changes Made to Warrant At Town Deliberative Session

By Tom Clow

Fifty-seven registered voters attended the Town of Weare Deliberative Session on Saturday, January 31 to debate the articles on the 2026 town warrant. That number represents less than 1% of the 6,409 eligible voters on the town checklist. The deliberative session gave voters in attendance a chance to offer their opinions on articles and to propose amendments. Although the meeting started at 9:00 a.m. and extended well into the afternoon, when all was said and done, more was said than done, with few changes made to the warrant articles as presented by the Board of Selectmen. An article for \$10,000 to provide fireworks at the patriotic celebration caused much debate, but an attempt to amend the article to zero dollars failed.

Operating Budget; Non-Union Raises

Many of the articles, which will now appear on the ballot on March 10, will be familiar to voters, starting with a proposed operating budget of \$9,638,402. Two articles relate to pay increases including a 3% cost of living increase for all non-union town and library personnel except the town administrator. The Fire and Rescue Department is proposing an Annual Performance Evaluation Step Increase Policy. Chief Mark Roarick explained that step increases are common for fire rescue employees in most other towns and without it his department is losing employees to those towns.

CIP Requests

All articles that went through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) process will be moved to the ballot. These

include a ten-wheel plow truck and road reconstruction funds for the highway department; a Chevrolet Tahoe 4X4 police pursuit vehicle for the police department; a new scale weighing demo material for the transfer station, and two portable ventilators for fire rescue. In all cases these will be paid for in full or in part by alternate funding sources as spelled on the ballot.

Employment Changes

Two articles moved to the ballot would change part-time to full-time employees. One would make the assistant library director a full-time position and a second would change a highway department employee from part-time to full-time.

Special Funds

There are three articles that were moved from the warrant to the ballot, which change or establish special funds. The town will be asked to amend the Transfer Station Recyclable Special Revenue Fund; to establish a revolving fund for Fire and Rescue details; and to establish a Parks and Recreation Land Purchase and Development Fund. The details for each of these changes are included on the ballot.

Solar Grant

The town will be asked to raise and appropriate \$119,200 for the purpose of installing a solar array on the safety complex. This money has already been awarded to the town through a grant pursued by the Weare Energy Commission. This article is a formality to complete the process of accepting the money.

Voting on the town and school warrants will be on **March 10** at Weare Middle School from **7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**



News from the Town Clerk

By Pamela J. Moul - Town Clerk

Upcoming **closures** for the Town Clerk's office:

- Monday, February 16 - Presidents Day.
- Tuesday March 10 - Town Election

We are excited to report that in the month of January, we licensed over 585 dogs, which beat the January 2025 total of 253. We have had a great response to our Top Dog contest which gives all households that license their dogs before the April 30th deadline a raffle ticket to win one of three gift baskets sponsored by local businesses and non-profit organizations. Make sure to license your dog before April 30th to get your raffle ticket!

Once again we are partnering with the Weare Animal Hospital to offer a Rabies Clinic on **Thursday, March 19 from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** at the Old Town Hall, 16 N. Stark Hwy. Vaccinations are \$10 per animal. We will accept cash or checks payable to the Town of Weare.

Don't forget to vote on **March 10** at the Weare Middle School. Polls will be open from **7 a.m. - 7 p.m.** We are going to be using our new ballot tabulators. The new devices take an actual scan of each ballot and will indicate to voters that the ballot was cast via a display screen. It is estimated this may take about 20-25 seconds to cast a four-page ballot.

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting on Saturday, February 28 at 10 a.m. to make corrections to the checklist. Anyone wishing to register to vote may do so at this time. Please review our website (<https://www.weare.nh.gov/town-clerk/pages/voter-registration>) for required voter registration documents.



Retiring Town Administrator Naomi Bolton was presented with a plaque recognizing her for more than 30 years of service to the Town of Weare by BOS Chairman Benjamin Knapp at the Town Deliberative Session on January 31. Photo by Tom Clow

Candidates for Local Offices

Town of Weare

Board of Selectmen Two three-year terms	Benson H. Goodwin Frederick W. Hippler
One one-year term	Jack L. Dearborn Cortland James Manton
Moderator One two-year term	Daniel Wandell
Library Trustee One three-year term	Leighton Timmins
Trustee of Trust Funds One three-year term	Michael Pelletier
Ethics Committee Two three-year terms	Christina Cardwell
Supervisor of Checklist One six-year term	Karen Thoman

Weare School District

School Board Member Two three-year terms	Christine Heath Katie Lipp Ermelinda Timmins
School District Clerk One three-year term	Amanda Gunter
School District Treasurer One three-year term	Naomi Bolton

John Stark School District

School Board Member Weare One three-year term	Christine Heath
School Board Member Henniker One three-year term	James Newcomb
School District Moderator One one-year term	Raelyn Viti

Meet the Candidates Night

Mar. 3	6 p.m.	School board candidates	JSRHS - Room 144
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Voting: Tuesday, March 10 WMS



The Scholastic Art Awards of New Hampshire

John Stark Regional High School art students earned recognition for their work from the Scholastic Art Awards of New Hampshire. Their pieces were on display at the New Hampshire Scholastic Arts Exhibit at Pinkerton Academy.



R: Kylee Asinof (11), Ceramics & Glass, Silver Award



L: Kylee Asinof (11), Ceramics & Glass, Silver Award
R: Liliana Bolding (9), Drawing, Honorable Mention



L: Dylan Burke (11), Drawing, Silver Award
R: Savannah Chapman (12), Ceramics & Glass, Silver Award



L: Benjamin Damske (11), Mixed Media, Honorable Mention
R: Evan Furness (11), Ceramics & Glass, Silver Award



L: Sirius Holbrook (9), Ceramics & Glass, Silver Award
R: Chase Lansford (11), Photography, Gold Award



L: Chase Lansford (11), Photography, Honorable Mention
R: Chase Lansford (11), Photography, Honorable Mention



L: Chase Lansford (11), Photography, Silver Award
R: Carmela Martin (12), Painting, Honorable Mention



L: Lenny Provencher (10), Ceramics & Glass, Silver Award
R: Jenna Sinclair (12), Ceramics & Glass, Honorable Mention



Weare Pink Ladies Group February Meeting

By Lily Tang Williams

Our next month's Weare Pink Ladies' lunch will be on **Wednesday, February 25 at 12 p.m.** in Concord.

The location is TBD. Keep an eye on our Facebook page. Stay warm and healthy!

Please **let me know** if you are coming and would like a ride. You can join us on Facebook ([1](#)) [Weare Pink](#) | Facebook or use email lily4liberty@comcast.net

Backyard Winter Bird Survey



New Hampshire residents are invited to count backyard birds from **February 14-15**. This survey is hosted by NH Audubon Society. This beloved science project encourages participants of all ages and experience levels to count the birds (and squirrels) visiting their backyards and help track long-term trends in winter bird populations across the state.

Participation is simple and flexible. Participants can count birds for as little as 15 minutes or as long as they'd like over the two-day period. Counts can be done from a window or outdoors (coffee or hot chocolate optional).

What if I count the same bird twice? The count is based on the number of birds at any point in time. For instance if you see 2 cardinals at 8 a.m., but later at 4 p.m. you see 5, you would report that as 5 cardinals. Any bird seen in the backyard counts. Observations are submitted through an easy to use online survey form:

<https://backyardwinterbirds.nhaudubon.org/submit-your-data/> The same website provides species profiles including identification tips, look-alike species, and simple actions people can take to help birds through the winter.

Each year brings surprises, from first-time sightings of Carolina Wrens to rare winter visitors. In 2025, eight participants reported Baltimore Orioles, a species rarely seen in New Hampshire during winter. With rumors of an Evening Grosbeak irruption this season, survey organizers are eager to see what participants discover.

Last year, a record 1,953 people took part in the survey. That year, the most commonly reported bird was the Dark-eyed Junco, with 10,490 individuals counted statewide. With help from participants across the state, NH Audubon hopes to surpass that milestone again in 2026 and find out which species will top the list this year.

The Backyard Winter Bird Survey [relies on donations](#) to support data collection, analysis, and outreach. Participation is free; donations are appreciated but not required.

To learn more, view instructions, or participate, visit www.backyardwinterbirds.nhaudubon.org To donate visit, <https://nhaudubon.org/make-a-donation-to-bwbs/>.

For more information call 224-9909, or visit www.nhaudubon.org.



Dreams of Spring. Photo by Taylor Montigny



Legion Auxiliary - Junior Members



By Ellie Chapman –

Member Philbrick Clement Post 65

We continue to look forward at all of our upcoming activities in 2026, some of which have been a part of our community for years and some are fairly new. We will work towards improving them and hope to bring in more folks to participate and enjoy them.

While thinking along that line, we'd like to remind folks that we also have a few junior members, 17 or under, and would love to welcome more junior members to the Auxiliary. As a junior member you are welcome to attend our meetings and join in discussions and planning for upcoming events and meeting topics. There are lots of opportunities to volunteer at community events, bake sales, poppy drives, our annual quilt raffle, annual BBQ, Veteran-focused events, bake sales and more.

If you are needing to fulfill volunteer requirements, this may be a great opportunity. As a junior you can learn ways to raise awareness and support our veterans, their families and your community.

For more information, or to check if you are eligible to join, feel free to drop by a meeting, held on the **first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.** for more information or at www.ALAforVeterans.org. Our next meeting will be **March 4 at 6:30 p.m.** at the Legion Hall.

I'd like thank our community again for all of the support you have given us to help make our fundraising efforts a success.

Weare's First Annual Top Dog Raffle



The above photo shows 4-year-old cockapoo Holly Hatfield helping Grammy clean up after the storm. Her technique involves collecting snow in her fur. Holly is a proudly licensed Weare dog awaiting her chances in the Top Dog Raffle. Good luck, Holly. *Photo by Peggy Hatfield*

License your dog by **April 30th**, and enter our raffle to receive one of the 3 gift baskets filled with treats for humans and canines alike. Special thanks go to our local sponsors - **Balboni's Landscaping, Dunkin Donuts, Food Not Bombs of NH, Ilsley's Ice Cream, Marc Phillips Automotive, TandemKross and TMS Diesel.**

NH dog licenses are effective from May 1st to April 30th of the next year, regardless of when the initial license was issued. An owner whose dog is not licensed by June 1st will be subject to a \$25 civil forfeiture fee as well as a \$1 per month late fee.

Questions can be directed to the Town Clerk's office at 603-529-7527 or pmoul@wearenh.gov.

TAX HELP AT THE WEARE LIBRARY

Call AARP at
603-230-4121
to book your
FREE
in-person
appointment



Snow & Shadows. Photo by Jay Montigny

PEACEFUL ROOTS YOGA CLASSES

AT THE WEARE PUBLIC LIBRARY



MINDFUL, FUN AND
CREATIVE MOVEMENT
WITH AMANDA MARUSARZ

**3RD THURSDAY OF
EACH MONTH
@ 6:30 PM**



Weare Public Library

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

- 2:30-4:30 p.m.: Pokemondays (kids). Drop in to meet, trade, and play with other Pokemon card enthusiasts.

TUESDAYS

- 10:30 a.m.: Mother Goose Storytimes (ages 0-2). Rhymes, stories, and songs for babies and toddlers – followed by playtime.
- 2:15-4:30 p.m. (1st & 3rd of the month): Anime + D&D Club (ages 12-18). Like anime? Like D&D? Stop by after school to watch your favorite anime shows OR play D&D OR watch anime and play D&D AT THE SAME TIME!

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

- 10:30 a.m.: Pre-K Storytimes (ages 3-5). Enjoy longer stories, fingerplays, flannel, and songs followed by a craft or related activity.
- 2:15-5 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.

THURSDAYS

- 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: Tax Help (2nd & 4th of the month) (adults). Free and open to everyone from the AARP - schedule your appointment by calling 603-230-4121.

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

- Thursday, Feb. 19 at 6:30 p.m. (3rd of the month) (all ages). Peaceful Roots Yoga. Elevate community connection through mindful, fun, and creative movement with Yoga Master Amanda Marusarz! In this free workshop you'll learn simple, mindful flow that focuses on breathwork and deep stretches in those overworked places with easy-to-follow poses accompanied by light music and aromatherapy.
- Friday, Feb. 23 at 10:30 a.m. (age 5+). Crafty Creative Creations: Snow Globes. School's out! Make your own Snow Globe! Supplies provided. Call the library at 603-529-2044 to register.
- Friday, Feb. 23 at 2:00-4:00 p.m. (kids). Lego Club. Stop by and see what you can build with our huge supply of Legos!
- Thursday, Feb. 26 at 7:00 p.m. (adults). Book Group: Hannah Coulter. We're reading and discussing this historical fiction by Wendell Berry. An elderly woman reflects on her life in a fictional Kentucky from the 1920s to today. Call the library at 603-529-2044 to reserve your copy.

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

The WPL offers discounted passes:



Thanks to the
Friends of the Library
for making these possible!

**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 – Sat, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

603-529-4263/ www.facebook.com/hihsc.org

“People don’t notice whether it’s winter or summer when they’re happy.” Anton Chekhov

Join activities, programs, & lunches at **Hand in Hand Senior Center** and be part of a happy place. Bring us your ideas for things we can offer to provide what you want or need. Check out our new web site <https://www.hihsc.org/> to find out more.

Crafts this month included a chance to tie dye.



And next, on **Monday, February 23 at 12:00 p.m.**, learn something about rug making and walk away with a **braided coaster**.

Here is a review of what’s still going on this month:

Lunches every Wednesday. If parking in the front is full, please go around to the back of the building; there’s more parking there. See upcoming menus below.

This coming **Wednesday, February 11 at 1:00 p.m.** Nancy will provide a **voter registration review**. We go to the polls again in March. Nancy will make it seamless for you to have your voice heard.

Tuesday, February 17 is a packed day at the Center. Tai Chi at **8:45 a.m.** followed by snow shoeing locally at **10:00 a.m.**

We’re starting an afternoon **Book Club on February 17 at 12:00 p.m.** We’ll make this an “organizational and get to know each other” meeting. Our first book will be “Someone Else’s Shoes” by Jojo Moyes, and there will be copies for you to take home. Help us make this a regular event at the Center.

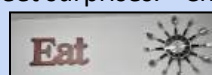
We’re not done yet. Sign up now for our first **cribbage tournament**. We’ve heard that cribbage enthusiasts are out there and would like some local activity. Here’s your chance on **Tuesday, February 17 at 5 p.m.**.. No matter your age, sign up and we’ll see if we can make this a regular happening. (See poster below)

The movie on **Tuesday, February 24 at 3:00 p.m.** is “**Princess Bride**”. It’s an American fantasy adventure romantic comedy with a great cast. Popcorn and hotdogs are always part of the experience.

And rounding off the month, **Wednesday at 12:45 p.m.** come and learn more about **Brain Health** presented by Kelli from Granite VNA.

You might ask “How is Hand in Hand coming up with these ideas?” Most are suggestions from people like you. So, if you have an idea, suggestion or thought of how we can grow and offer more, contact the Center by stopping in or emailing hkurk@hihsc.org. The more voices we have, the better we can serve the community.

The following observation is true at Hand in Hand Senior Center: “Though February is short, it is filled with lots of love and sweet surprises.” Charmaine J. Forde



Join us for lunch every **Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.** Dine in, take out, or free delivery (call 603-529-4263).

February 11: Turkey stew, crusty bread, salad

February 18: Meatloaf, garlic mashed potatoes, salad

February 25: Breakfast quiche, mixed fruit

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.

EVERYONE
AGED 18+
YEARS OLD
WELCOME!

CRIBBAGE

TOURNAMENT NIGHT!

February 17th

5:00 PM

Join us for an evening of skill, excitement,
strategy, and friendly competition!

★ CASH PRIZES! ★

Light Refreshments Served. Entry Fee: \$5 per
Person. Only 20 spots available.

SIGN UP NOW TO SECURE YOUR SPOT.
CALL OR STOP BY!

Hand in Hand Senior Center
33 N Stark Hwy, Weare 603-529-4263



**Hand in Hand
SENIOR CENTER
& THRIFT SHOP**

**Rug-Braiding
Workshop**
Make a Coaster!

Join us
**February 23
at noon**



All materials will be provided.
A \$5 dollar donation would be welcomed at the class.

Sign up in advance by Feb. 16.
dmccarronslp60@yahoo.com

 **33 N STARK HWY, WEARE 603-529-4263**

I WASN'T DONE TALKING TO YOU

I wasn't done talking to you.
Why did you leave when you knew we weren't
thru?

It was so easy to reach you - by email or text
So, to be honest, this has me vexed.

You were, who I turned to, for so many things.

We talked about writing – how best to proceed.
This piece isn't clear. What else does it need?

You were my go-to for brilliance to share.
Many an author I told you had flare.
Now, when I read, sometimes I just stare.

We talked some of empathy, holding your tongue.
Maybe I too was like that when so young.

You listened to problems from time to time.
Mentioned solutions that worked out just fine.

You thought I was brilliant, accomplished and grand
Without you around, I risk being bland.
I know you were biased, you have to admit
But you raised my spirits, so I didn't quit.

Now who do I turn to when I want to say
How did you cope with that - back in your day?

The bar was set high when you were around
Such a big loss could sure get me down.

What are you thinking that I should do now?
I guess carry on somehow.

Sharon Czarnecki
February 5, 2026



POETRY CORNER



New Boots

He was almost two years old
wearing his new boots,
his first pair of boots,
LL Bean kind with
laces, he liked their
feel and sound as he
stomped around the room
giggling showing
them to everyone,
he stopped often to
admire them, try
other antics, skip,
but, loud stomping was
his favorite thing.

-Marge Burke

The Snow Lay on the Ground

It fell from above,
covered ground below,
snow, snow and more snow
bleakness of winter
lessened with fluffy
snow, dressing trees in
white, sounds muffled,
cocooning us as if
we were part of a
Currier and Ives
painting, in our own world.

-Marge Burke



Dancing Sea Horses Keeping Warm. Photo by Sharon Czarnecki



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

GAME NIGHT: Young adults (college to age 30) will meet for a time of laughter and learning **March 6 from 7-10 p.m.**. Come out and join us!

TEEN ACTIVITY: Our teens will be going to the bowling alley on **February 28th**. Call for more information.

SPECIAL EVENT: Published author, speaker and researcher, "Dino" Dave Woetzel, www.dinodave.com will speak on **Sunday, March 22nd**.

For more information contact us: (603) 212-1600

email: office@wearebiblebaptist.com

Website: wearebiblebaptist.com

Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, Feb. 10

7 p.m. – Finance Committee meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 11

7 p.m. - Conservation Commission meeting

7 p.m. - Weare Democrats meeting

Thursday, Feb. 12

7 p.m. – Planning Board meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 17

3:45 p.m. – Trustees of the Trust Funds meeting

7 p.m. – Parks and Recreation Commission meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 18

6:30 p.m. – Energy Commission meeting

Thursday, Feb. 19

7 p.m. - Master Plan Subcommittee meeting

Friday, Feb. 20

11 a.m. – Weare Area Writers Guild meeting

Saturday, Feb. 21

9 a.m. – Weare Republicans meeting

Monday, Feb. 23

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

Wednesday, Feb. 25

6 p.m. – Ethics Committee meeting

Contact Us

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