

Weare in the World

For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents
April 13, 2022

Commemoration of the Pine Tree Riot



The Weare Historical Society hosted a series of special events commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Pine Tree Riot on Saturday, April 9. Among them was a dramatization based on Connie Evans' book, "Ebenezer Mudgett and the Pine Tree Riot." Above, local community members — who auditioned in February and rehearsed vigilantly for weeks — took to the old Weare Town Hall stage in two separate performances of the historical events. Left to right: Alyssa Small, Loren Clement, Tony DiFranco, John Merva, Michael King and Josh Merva (Karen Lovett photo).

Did you attend? We want your photos!

Weare in the World would like to feature a gallery of images from the Pine Tree Riot commemoration in a future issue and/or on our website:



<u>www.weareintheworldnews.com</u>. If you have a photo you'd like to be considered for publication, please send it to <u>weareintheworldnews@gmail.com</u>, along with

caption information and permission from subjects in the photo.

River Road Bridge Restricted; Posted for Six-Ton Weight Limit

By Tom Clow

The bridge on River Road that spans the **Piscataquog** River between that road's intersections with Rockland Road and Buzzell Hill Road has been posted with a weight limit six tons, after inspection bv state officials. River Road is one of the major through roads in the town of Weare. connecting Stage Road Concord (Route 77) in the north to Route 114 outside of



The River Road Bridge in North Weare has been posted with a weight limit of six tons after state inspection (Tom Clow photo).

Goffstown to the south. Several businesses on the road, as well as the Weare Department of Public Works, rely on it as a trucking route. Previously the bridge was unrated, meaning there were no weight restrictions.

This is the second time the bridge has been posted with weight limits. In 2016, it was given a "Critical Deficiency Status" by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation when an inspection showed heavy rust and scale on the bridge stringers and springer supports. At that

See BRIDGE, page 2



"Talk" To Us

Poetry — Share with us
A favorite poem you've written
Deadline-April 22
Weareintheworldnews@
Gmail.com

BRIDGE, continued from page 1

time, the town hired an engineer to design a repair that included sandblasting and welding to extend the life of the structure. After that repair, the weight restriction was removed until recently.

Weare is on the waitlist for funding for bridge replacement. The State of New Hampshire pays 80% of the cost for bridge replacement with the town responsible for the remaining 20%. In 2017, voters approved the establishment of a capital reserve fund for bridge reconstruction. For four consecutive years, \$105,000 per year was approved for that fund so money would be available for the town's 20% share when state funds became available. In 2021, a warrant article to add an additional \$20,000 to the fund to account for inflation was defeated. In addition to the River Road Bridge, there are two other bridges in town that need replacement – one on Lull Road and another on Old Francestown Road. At the end of 2021, there was \$422,608.22 in the Bridge Reconstruction Fund, including earnings on the town's investment.

Weare bridge projects have not yet moved to the top of the state's funding list.

Selectmen Elect New Officers Choose Ex Officio Assignments

By Tom Clow

At its March 21 meeting, the first following the March 8 election, the Weare Board of Selectmen welcomed newly elected member Kevin Cahill and elected board officers for the coming year. Frederick (Rick) Hippler was re-elected as board chairman and Jonathan Osborne was chosen as vice chair.

Board members were also assigned as ex officio members of other town committees. Sherry Burdick will serve in that capacity on the Planning Board; John Van Loendersloot on Parks and Recreation; Jonathan Osborne on the CIP Committee; and Rick Hippler on the Stone Fund Committee.

Radio Communication Discussion

Much of this meeting was spent on presentations by Weare resident Jack Dearborn and Scott Cruikshank from Motorola Solutions. Dearborn chairs the local CIP committee and well as the Zoning Board and has been coordinating this project to improve radio communication for safety services in the town. Selectmen heard presentations by Motorola as well as Two-Way Communication in the fall. The point of the March presentations was to spell out what could be done if the town used the funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA Funds) to finance the project. Weare is receiving approximately \$950,000 in ARPA funds over a two-year period.

A warrant article that was proposed, but then withdrawn in January, called for a \$1.5 million plan, with much of the money coming from ARPA. The BOS withdrew the warrant article feeling that more planning was needed. Once the board decides on how it will move forward with the project, *Weare in the World* will provide details in a future issue. The March 21 presentation can be seen in the minutes from that meeting which are on the town website, www. weare.nh.gov.



Town-Wide Litter Cleanup Saturday, April 23

(Rain Date: April 30)

Blue collection bags available at the town office and the Weare Public Library. Help keep Weare beautiful!



Currently, we have 966 subscribers! We'd be happy to add you to the list.

Bids Approved for 2022 Paving; Two Highway Dept. Vehicles

By Tom Clow

With spring and summer road work just around the corner, Director of Public works Benji Knapp presented the Board of Selectmen with the bids for paving and related work at the board's April 4 meeting. R&D Paving was again selected to lay the asphalt as well as do the reclaim work – grinding up the old pavement.

R&D was the low bidder in all categories. Reclaim will be done at \$0.79 per square yard. The 2" binder coat of pavement will be put in place for \$74.50 per ton; the 3/8" top coat for \$75.50 per ton; and hand work will be done for \$155 per ton. Big Foote Crushing was awarded the contract for gravel crushing at \$3.20 per ton. Big Foote was the only bidder for gravel crushing.

Bids were also opened for the two vehicles approved for the Highway Department on the 2022 Town Warrant. A 10-Wheel International Hx520 plow truck will be purchased from Allegiance Trucks of Manchester at a cost of \$136,549 for the cab and chassis. The price includes a \$15,000 trade allowance for a 2005 Volvo. The bid for the truck body and plow equipment went to H.P. Fairfield, the only bidder. They will use Tenco equipment.

For the medium-size truck approved by voters, the town will purchase a Chevrolet Silverado cab and chassis from MacMulkin Chevrolet of Nashua for \$57,876, which includes a \$6,000 trade allowance. The truck body and plow equipment will be purchased from H.P. Fairfield for \$71,450. Fairfield was again the only bidder.

Planning Board Appointments

Also, at the April 4 meeting, Dani-Jean Stuart was appointed to a three-year term as an alternate on the Weare Planning Board. Stuart said that she moved to Weare in 2005 from Londonderry, where she had served on the planning board. When asked her reason for wanting to be on the board, she said that the planning

board's decisions can have an impact on the quality of life in a community for years to come.

There have been two other alternates recently appointed to the Planning Board: Paul Gannon and former selectmen Jack Meaney, who had served as the ex-officio representing the BOS. Bruce Fillmore was reappointed as a full member of the Planning Board at the March 21 Selectmen's meeting. Fillmore serves as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Board.



Mile of Pennies Fundraiser at WMS; Deadline to Contribute April 22

By Sharon Czarnecki

Of course, in this case, "pennies" are a euphemism. You don't need to rummage under couch cushions. You can donate online – see below.

Students in the know have reported that this fundraiser is a COMPETITION. Weare Middle School home rooms are vying for first, second and third place to see who can collect the most money – and also earn a class party.

There is a serious component, of course. The event will raise money for four charities students have chosen. They are the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, SPCA, St. Joseph's Indian School and the worldwide "Clean Water Project." This is a school-wide fundraiser for a community service project. The goal is to collect a "mile of pennies," which equals \$844.70.

The students have made it easy for you to donate and have created their own website to donate directly to each charity.

Now, here is a really important part: your donation will take you to a different website. Once you have made your donation, you will have to go back to the student website and click on the word "Home" at the top. Scroll down just a bit and click on "Give Your Homeroom Credit Form." Lastly, you will need to know your child's grade and homeroom teacher's name. Here is what the screen will look like:

Check out the Headers above to see each Student-made page with videos about the Charities. Or click on the links below to donate..... Don't forget to fill out the Google Form to give your child's Homeroom credit after donating to any of these organizations. Your donation will be credited to your child's homeroom. Top 3 Homerooms will win prizes! Step 1: Donate Donate to Dana Farber Canoser Institute Donate to St. Joseph's Indian School Donate 16 St. Joseph's Indian School Donate 16 St. Joseph's Loden School Oster Your-Homeroom-Credit Form

If you have any questions, please contact Holly Wilson, advisor of WMS Community Service Students: Hollis.Wilson@sau24.org.

Invention Convention. Grace Messier, a sixth grader at Weare Middle School, has been selected as national finalist for her third-place finish in best in grades 6-9 for her "Simple Sand-inator." The Seventh Annual Invention Convention U.S. Nationals will be held Michigan from Mav 31-June https://inhub.thehenryford.org/icw/competitions/us-na tionals-landing. In addition, the 2022 Northern New England Invention Convention winners were announced virtually on April 3. Congratulations go out to Center Woods/Weare Middle School's Carl Hallock for his "Descuffinator 3000," the winner of the fourth grade Entrepreneurship Award. Congratulations also go to Maura Osgood and Sophie Sargent for Best Team Effort in grades 4-5 for their "Lotion-O-Meter." You can watch the virtual award ceremony hosted by WMUR Meteorologist Hayley LaPoint at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwVcQRMxCXQ



The Weare Middle School Stage Company will be presenting "Help Desk: A Stay-at-Home Play," written by Don Zolidis. This hilarious comedy pokes fun at various customer service situations. Performance dates are Friday, April 15 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 16

at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 per person or \$28 for a group of 4. There is a maximum of 180 seats per performance and no tickets will be available at the door. To order tickets online, go to www.wearemiddleschool.net and click on the link to the play.



Members of the JSRHS **Amnesty International** Chapter sold baked goods during a recent school theatre production to raise money for humanitarian efforts in Ukraine. Thanks to the generous contributions from the community, the Amnesty Chapter raised \$620 for World Central Kitchen, an organization that is feeding refugees at the Polish border. The World Central Kitchen is also working to send food supplies into affected Ukrainian cities. Courtesy photo. Standing L to R: Grace Caplan and Kyle Provencher. Sitting L to R: Arden Ulmer and Andra Chabot. Additional Amnesty Chapter members were in the play and/or baked for the event.



Eleven John Stark Regional High School students participated in a Virtual **Model U.N**. Conference through Clark University on March 26 in the school library. All of the students were part of the online General Assembly discussing innovation in the fight to end climate change. To prepare for the conference, students researched their country's stance on the issue as well as how their country is impacted or could be impacted by climate change. At the General Assembly, there were about 50 other countries represented by students from various schools on the east coast.

This was the first Model U.N. Conference for John Stark this year. To prepare, they learned the rules of parliamentary procedure and applied that knowledge to the conference. Many of the John Stark students made speeches to the committee and were signatories on potential resolutions (working papers). They also worked in small groups in breakout rooms with students from other schools. In the end, they voted and passed a resolution that offered many ways to help with the issue of climate change. Among the issues discussed was the need for developed countries to help developing countries with climate change. John Stark Social Studies teacher Jessica Regal is the Model U.N. Club's Advisor.

Back row L to R: Connor Williams, Arik Linstad, Daphne Walsh, Quince Kirtland. Middle row L to R: Emily Barriere, Evan Brow), Shayne Sargent. Front row L to R: Jack Rie, Khloe Burgess and Tess Mosher (Jessica Regal photo).



Danielle Flamont (left) looks on as Aiden McKeage (right) makes change for coffee cart customer JSRHS Paraeducator Stacy Fuller (courtesy photo).

Students in the Life Skills economics class at John Stark Regional High School created a **coffee cart business** to learn about how to develop a product, earn an income, and practice the kitchen skills they have learned. The coffee cart rolls during flex block on Tuesdays and Fridays to offer teachers and staff the opportunity to purchase coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and sweet treats (which are also baked by the students in their cooking class).

"This project has been a great exercise in leadership and choice in learning for our students," said special education teacher Tessa Carbonneau in a school release. "The students have made all the decisions and created all of the pieces for the coffee cart. Everything from surveying consumer needs to developing a menu, budget, and pricing. Additionally, the students are learning to use a financial tracker and are developing

skills in customer service, making change, and foodservice."

"Now that the coffee cart has been up and running, we're venturing into more product development to gauge customer preferences for baked goods," said special education teacher and cooking and nutrition instructor Faith Crowe. "We made donuts one week, and they were a hit. This week, we asked teachers and staff if they'd prefer homemade donuts or lemon blueberry muffins; the muffins were the top vote-getter," commented Crowe. The coffee cart also offers gluten-free options and accepts requests.

The Life Skills Program at John Stark plans to keep the coffee cart going next year as a valuable learning opportunity for students while keeping faculty and staff happy (and in caffeine and treats!)

The Life Skills Program at John Stark ensures students with specific disabilities are taught the skills necessary to be as independent as possible. The program also encourages active participation in the school and the greater community. The students recently donated more than \$200 from their coffee cart proceeds to the school's Ukraine fundraising efforts.



The John Stark-Hopkinton Oz-Ram Robotics Team. L to R: Ben Leach, Teddy Ehrmanntraut, Logan Grant, Bourne Spooner, Cam Lapointe, Jackie O'Donnell, Owen Horne, Vaughn Dixon and Eli Sarasin (Lou Lapointe photo).

The John Stark-Hopkinton Oz-Ram **robotics team** made it to the quarterfinals of the F.I.R.S.T. Greater Boston New England District event last weekend in Revere, MA. They were chosen as a first-round team alliance after ranking 16th overall from a field of 37. Completing their second district event, they took home the quality award, given out to a team with a robot that combined robustness and the ability to successfully

complete all tasks with finesse. Unfortunately, not enough season points were earned to continue on to the district finals, ending their season. Oz-Ram will continue to meet, improve upon their robot and compete in off-season events. The team is coached by Hopkinton's Charlene Betz and John Stark's Lou Lapointe.

Artwork. Students in Joseph Montroy's creative arts, drawing, stained glass and 3-D art classes at John Stark Regional High School created the pieces below. Montroy joined the art faculty this year and has been teaching since 2005. He holds a Master of Fine Art in Studio Art from the Rochester Institute of Technology and has held various positions as an art teacher, including as a visiting lecturer at Dartmouth College and adjunct professor with the N.H. Community College System. He is also the owner of Catalyst Studios and produces indoor and outdoor sculptures and jewelry. See ARTWORK, page 6.



Drawing by Caleb Beaupre, grade 11



Stained glass by Sophie Hebert, grade 12



Creative arts by Abby Powers, grade 9



Elizabeth Ackerly, 3D art, grade 9



Nathan Carl, creative arts, grade 10.



Kassidy Downing, stained glass, grade 11



Ryann Telgen, creative arts, grade 9



SAU 24 Director of Technology **Lee Despres** was recently nominated and selected to be honored by the Consortium for School Network (CoSN) in their 2022 Volunteer Hall of Fame. In announcing the award, the CoSN Board of Directors stated, "Without your leadership, vision, and

hard work, it would be impossible for CoSN to accomplish all that we do. Our success is dependent on the hard work and generosity of volunteers like you." CoSN is the professional association for school system technology leaders.

It's time to register for **full-day kindergarten** at Center Woods Elementary. If your student is five years old by Sept. 30 this year, registration is open. Packets to print



out are available on the CWES website at https://www.centerwoods.net/about_us/student_regist_ration. To pick up a packet and drop completed forms off, the office is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Questions? Call the school at 603-529-4500.

Join SAU 24 Superintendent Jacqueline Coe and JSRHS Principal Gary Dempsey on April 21 at 6 p.m. for **open office hours** via Zoom. Ask a question or listen. Link: https://sau24-org.zoom.us/j/82142291994?pwd=OHIrb TB2TnIrU1BZSmpTRThxWFd5UT09 Meeting ID: 821 4229 1994 Passcode: 225191 or Join by phone @ (US) +1 240-623-0475 PIN: 538 949 965#.

Superintendent Jacqueline Coe would like to invite community members and SAU 24 families to complete a **Communications Survey** in order to support the school district's efforts to evaluate its approach to communications. Family and community-focused surveys can be found at www.sau24surveys.com.

College Graduates and Honorees Dean's and Honors Lists

Allan Lunt, University of Tampa
Bethany Fulton, Paul Smith's College
Raelyn Roberts, Emmanuel College
Glen Spooner, Husson University
Kayden Easter, Canisius College
Ian Combs and Kaitlyn Brown, University of Maine
Brianna Bodner, Clark University
Casey Henry, Cedarville University

triple) elimination tournament. Therefore, in the later rounds, it'll be the best against the best!"

The Weare Library provides Joy-Con and Power A controllers, but competitors are also welcome to bring and use controllers of their own. Official rules will be provided at the start of the tournament.

Go to the sign-up page at

wearepubliclibrary.com/smash, call the Weare Library (603-529-2044) or email wearepl@comcast.net. The event's held in the upstairs Paige Room. The deadline to sign-up is one hour before the event. After that, it's GAME OVER.

A few more upcoming events:

Game Night (for all ages)

Thursday, April 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Knit & Craft Group (for teens & adults)
Saturday, April 16 at 12:30 p.m.

<u>Time is running out</u> to complete the Weare Library Survey, let your voice be heard, and be entered in the drawing for a Gibson's Bookstore giftcard. The quickest way is online at: <u>bit.ly/weare-survey</u>

Weare Public Library News

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate Tournament II is coming!

Next Wednesday, April 20, starting at 6 p.m, you can compete to become the top video fighter in town as the Weare Library hosts its second *Super Smash Bros*. *Ultimate* competition.

"We held Tourney #1 last December," said Director Clay Kriese in a library release, "and the contestants very much want to do it again. We have regulars during our weekly Tuesday afternoon gaming sessions. A few of them have helped us in unlocking almost all of the game's 89 playable characters (like King Dedede and Zero Suit Samus), but we're now opening the competition to anyone of any age and skill level. I look forward to meeting new players and seeing what super moves they can pull off!"

Kriese added, "Like last time, when seeding the bracket, I try to group the younger and older competitors. At minimum, this will be a double (if not

Scouts



On April 2, Weare's Troop 24 honored Miles Lanier for his achievement in earning Boy Scouts highest rank of Eagle Scout. Troop 24 is chartered by Weare's American Legion Post 65. Lanier completed his Eagle Project last October when he refurbished the baseball dugouts at Bolton Field. He has been scouting since first grade and is currently a Junior at JSRHS. Above L to R: Miles Lanier, Brad Goulet from the American Legion and Scoutmaster Marc Hallee (courtesy photo).



L to R: Zack Morrison, Ben LaBier, Evan Payeur, Quin Ban, Rylan Grolljahn, Jon Moul, Spencer Jones, Zac May, Lauren Ban, trainer Elizabeth LaBier and Julianne LaBier (courtesy photo).

Leadership Training Troop 529

By Marc Payeur, Scoutmaster

Scout BSA youth leaders from Troops 529 B and 529 G in Weare completed the Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) course.

The training course was offered at Holy Cross Episcopal Church on March 19. Former President of the Northeast Region Area 1 Venturing Officers Association and current National Youth Leadership Training Assistant Course Coordinator Elizabeth LaBier taught the course.

Eight scouts from Troop 529 B and two scouts from 529 G successfully completed the course requirements.



Girl Scout Troop 61281 recently went to visit the Weare Fire Station. Captain Kristina Houde and Nathan were fantastic with the girls and they loved it! (Courtesy photo).

Obituary



Christine and LeRoy (Lee) Eldon Marcroft (courtesy photo).

Lee Marcoux was born August 10, 1938 in Eugene, Oregon and recently passed away on March 22, 2022. Growing up, he experienced the thrill of living in the Rocky Mountains in Colorado and Crater Lake in Oregon, and fighting forest fires in Yosemite in California. He was raised with simple means and once stated that, when he grew up, he just wanted indoor plumbing.

He certainly created that and more for his family. After college, he entered the U.S. Navy through Officer Candidate School, served for four years and became a Lieutenant Junior Grade. While in the Navy, he was given top-secret clearance as a decoder. He was known as a straight-arrow, secret-keeping kind of guy.

But the central axis of Lee's life was the 62-year love story between him and his beloved wife, Christine. On Christmas Eve, 1960, his life would change forever on a German commuter train when, at the age of 22, he met the barely 19-year-old Christine, a German nurse and pastor's daughter. Due to a language mishap, Lee had ended up on the wrong train. Christine, however, had relatives in Boston and the U.K. and spoke enough English to answer his many questions. Lee knew just enough German to sing Silent Night with her. They agreed to keep in touch. Two years later, Lee moved to Cuxhaven, Germany to learn more about her world and a year after that, her father officiated at their wedding.

The young family soon included two daughters, Lee got his MBA, and they bought a house with help from the GI bill. Lee pursued Marine Electronics and worked in that field for 35 years. The family traveled a great deal including Germany, New Jersey and Oregon. In fact, at his 25th high school reunion, he even won the "Most Traveled" award! However, he was always completely devoted to his "Sweetie" and his girls.

In 2000, Lee and Christine moved to New Hampshire, as his office had relocated. They became members of the Deering Community Church in 2002. He served on

several key committees, but he found his favorite calling as a champion for the rights of the LGBTQ+ community with PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and the ONA (Open and Affirming) movement. He would especially like to be remembered for working with UCC (United Church of Christ) churches in NH who were in the process of becoming Open and Affirming. This advocacy was a struggle, but he kept showing up at conventions, marches, church services, and political gatherings.

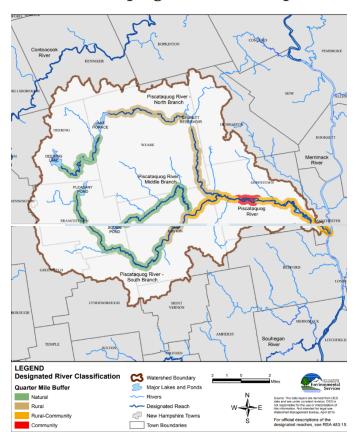
Lee also enjoyed serving his town as Selectman in the town of Weare and as an officer on the Weare Democratic Committee. He also ran for N.H. State Representative in 2012! He so loved making a difference in this particular world!

Lee had an infectious laugh, and quite a sweet tooth. He was brilliant, loyal, dependable, devoted, honest, opinionated, passionate, funny, surprisingly optimistic and was a big bear of a man. His powerful spirit lives on in all those he touched. He often brought a smile to so many when asked how he was doing. His reply was always, "Wonderful!!"

LeRoy now joins his parents, brother, and sister in spirit. He is mourned by his wife Christine Marcroft and daughters Suzanne Marcroft, of Weare; and Ingrid Marcroft, of New York City, and other family members around the world.

To honor his memory, donations can be made to ONA https://openandaffirming.org/about/donate/donationpage/ and/or PFLAG would be a blessing: https://pflag.salsalabs.org/supportpfla

Piscataquog River Base Map



Representation Needed

By Sharon Czarnecki

There will soon be a vacancy for the position of a representative from Weare to serve on the Piscataquog River Local Advisory Committee (PRLAC). More information is available from the N.H. Rivers Management and Protection Program, which created the PRLAC, at the following website:

https://www.des.nh.gov/water/rivers-and-lakes/rivers-management-and-protection

Dick Ludders has been the Weare representative to the PRLAC since the Local Advisory Committee (LAC) for the Piscataquog River was established in the mid-90's. Ludders will be stepping down this year and wants to identify a replacement to ensure Weare remains represented on the committee. Currently, the committee includes representatives from the following communities in the watershed: Manchester, Goffstown, Deering, Francestown and Weare. One member who serves at-large is a fish specialist. A New Boston representative will be joining soon. The committee meets once a month on the third Monday in the downstairs meeting room of the Weare Public Library. Anyone interested in protecting this vital natural resource by serving on the PRLAC can contact Ludders at rludds45@gmail.com or 603-995-4311.

SENIOR NEWS

News From Senior Café

By Peggy Bailey, Mary Thomas and Sue Canella

Menu:

April 13: Chicken stroganoff

April 20: Hamburger Soup with fruit salad

April 27: Mini meatloaves

Dessert, coffee, tea and hot chocolate included. Fruit may also be added.

Affordable Lunch for all (donation of your choice) FREE for any local area seniors age 60+.

Time: 11a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday.

Dine in (there is room for 35 guests - masks currently required) or take out. Delivery is free for any senior who has no transportation. Call ahead to 603-529-4263 and leave your name, telephone number and how many plates. It is first come, first served.

Senior Food Pantry needs: canned cat food, B&M baked beans and toilet paper. Find us on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/Hand.in.Hand03281/

Ya Never Know Thrift Shoppe

By Melody Beauregard

April is RED TAG month and BOGO women's tops! Ya never know what you will find at these reduced prices, but you can be sure of great value and many reasons to shop second hand.

We now have a collection of beautiful store sample wedding dresses, size 10. We also have LU LA ROE tops, skirts and dresses from \$5-\$7 all NEW WITH TAGS and a great selection of Coach purses.

Spring shoes and sneakers are on display in all sizes. If you don't find what you are looking for, please ask one of our volunteers. We may have just what you need in our back room.

We always appreciate donations which can be placed in the orange bin out front, or hand delivered during business hours: Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. We are located at 33 North Stark Highway.

Be sure to "like us" and "share" on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/ThriftyShopper03281

Wine Tasting at Country 3 Corners

Friday, April 22, 5 - 7 p.m. 833 S. Stark Highway, hardware store 603-529-7539 X 4 or lfiala@country3corners.com Check out our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Country3Corners



Become a Sponsor!

Goffstown Rotary's 9th Annual Car Show Saturday, June 4th ~ 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Corner of Parsons Drive and N. Mast (Route 114)

\$100 Trophy - Sponsor one class (1st, 2nd & 3rd)

\$150 Bronze - Your Banner at show \$250 Silver - Booth space at show

\$500 Gold -Your name and logo on all print and digital

materials, banner placement, booth space, selection of Best of Show for Sponsors'

Choice award trophy

In-kind donations and goodie bag fillers are also welcome.

All proceeds benefit our local community. Contact us via Facebook or email at info@goffstownrotary.org or call 603-606-8758 (Robin).

Rotary Speech Competition Winner

Congratulations to Kara Tschida of Goffstown for winning the 4-Way Test Speech competition! Kara will now go on to the semi-finals at the Henniker Community Center! She is seen here, accepting her prize of \$300 from Rotarian Cheryl Elliott. Way to go Kara!



Rotary Grants Date Change

Last year, we moved the grant application window from February-March to June-July in order to include money acquired as a result of our annual car show fundraiser. We have recently decided to make this a permanent change.

Therefore, the new grant application date going forward, will be July 15 - Aug. 31, each year. For an updated application, or any questions you may have, please use the "contact us" portion of our website: https://aoffstownrotarv.org.

Rotary Scholarship

The Goffstown Rotary Club will be reviewing scholarship applications of John Stark students *residing in Weare*. While academics are part of the screening process, major focus will be on the student's participation in community service activities, as that is the primary focus of our Club's activities. All students interested in applying for a scholarship should contact his/her guidance counselor for an application. The winner will be announced during John Stark's upcoming awards night.

The Goffstown Rotary Club services the communities of Weare, Goffstown, New Boston and Dunbarton. It meets most Tuesday mornings, 7:30 a.m., with one evening meeting per month. Attendance is available both in-person and via Zoom. For more information, please email info@goffstownrotary.org, call 603-606-8758 or find us on Facebook!

-Rotary news submitted by Robin Morrell



Looking for Something to Do?

By Sharon Czarnecki

How about an <u>ART SHOW</u> by a Weare artist? Rosemary Conroy will be presenting a series of contemporary bird paintings from May 1 – May 31 at the Harris Center for Conservation Education in Hancock. The exhibit is



titled "Into the Wild" with an opening reception on Friday, May 6 from 5 - 7 p.m.

The Harris Center is a beautiful venue and they will be "flinging open all the many windows and serving refreshments." As an added bonus, at 6 p.m., musician Richard Doherty will play an original composition entitled "Flying without wings: Inspired by Birdsong."

For more information and directions, please visit the Harris Center website at http://www.harriscenter.org or contact Rosemary Conroy text/phone at 603-315-9060 hello@rosemaryconroyart.com

Don't forget to check out an upcoming theatre opportunity at WMS (see page 4) or the fun gaming offerings (all varieties...board and video!) at the library (see page 7).



Rabies Clinic for Dogs and Cats

Wednesday April 13th at the Old Town Hall 5:30-6:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per animal

Weare Animal Hospital is administrating the vaccines. Please call Maureen Billodeau at the town clerk's office with any questions 603-529-7527.



How far that little candle
throws his beams!
So shines a good deed
in a weary world.
William Shakespeare

Good Deeds Needed

By Sharon Czarnecki

Are you aware you can print a copy of *Weare in the World* whenever you want to? We do not have any copyright restraints, so feel free.

I mention it because it has come to my attention that there are some folks out there who do not have computer access and thus cannot get a copy at this time. Perhaps you know a neighbor who is in a hospital or nursing home for a while. You can always print a copy and take it to them.

Garden Club News



Join the Garden Club!

By Anne Wirkkala

New members and guests are welcome! Any interest and skill level in things gardening. Meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at the Weare Public Library in the Sawyer room at 7 p.m. Please wear a mask.



The next meeting is May 3...

The topic is "Herb Gardening," and the speaker is Sarah Marcoux of the Master Gardeners Speakers' Bureau. Marcoux, and her then 18-year-old son, Joseph, became Master Gardeners in fall 2016.

In recent years, the mother-son team also built a pollinator garden at Southwick Elementary School in Northfield where the Marcoux family lives. Third grade teacher, Mr. Winslow, notes that "she took on every aspect of the pollinator garden for Southwick School, from applying for the grant, obtaining the plants and other materials, and overseeing the planting."

Marcoux and her son have also worked at local farmers' markets, staffing an "Ask A Master Gardener" table.

Marcoux became involved in the Speaker's Bureau in spring 2017. She has spoken at libraries, assisted living facilities and garden clubs. Topics have included permaculture, adaptive gardening for seniors, herbs, and vegetable gardening. She shares that she never pictured herself as someone comfortable speaking in public, so instead she looks at it as sharing something she is passionate about.

She is so ardent about her UNH Extension experiences See GARDEN, page 12

GARDEN, continued from page 11

that she is now studying at UNH working toward a Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems with a minor in Brewing.

Her favorite part about volunteering is "definitely seeing people who are excited about learning something new, and on the flip-side she's never walked away from a volunteer experience where she didn't learn something." Working with "elementary students gives me an entirely new perspective, and elderly people in assisted living share their decades of tried-and-true gardening experiences."

The Weare Garden Club hosted a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker at its meeting on April 5. Ruth Axelrod is a member of the UNH Extension Master Gardeners Speakers' Bureau and an Advanced Master Gardener with experience in Maryland who grew up in India. She now lives in Concord. Her interests have always centered around eco-friendly gardening, composting and stormwater management. Her passion is to help people recognize the ecological impacts their gardening habits pose for their neighbors and the greater realm of the Earth. She provided our members with a solid background as to what is currently happening and why, as well as to measures we can all easily take to heal our world.

Please help us promote these programs; bring your friends and neighbors and spread the word. You do not have to be a member to attend these programs.

For more information contact Anne Wirkkala (awirkkala@gsinet.net or 603-529-1234.

Weare Garden Club Scholarship

Deadline April 30

Do you have an interest in pursuing a degree (major or minor) or a certificate in any of the following fields: sustainable agriculture; plant biology; horticulture; landscape landscape architecture; design; permaculture; soil science; plant science; entomology; agricultural food science; management; pathology; botany; science teaching; plant genetics; plant propagation and breeding; plant molecular biology; nature preservation; controlled environment agriculture; or environmental science?

The Weare Garden Club offers a scholarship to an individual from John Stark High School or a resident or teacher from Weare attending college or a continuing education program. The individual must have an

interest in a field related to gardening and plants and be registered for a course or be accepted at a college.

Applications are available upon request in the Guidance Office of John Stark High School or upon request from the Weare Garden Club, gardenclubweare@gmail.com This award is based on character and commitment to a field of endeavor and is not need-based. The Weare Garden Club may choose to interview finalists.



Asked and Answered: Music in Schools, and how it has affected your life

Focus on Music

By Marge Burke

Recognition of the arts - drama, dance, music, poetry, photography — are the last senses we lose as a mind ages and memory fades, with music being the absolute last one, still with us as we are dying. The German philosopher and theologian, Goethe, said one should hear a little music, see a fine picture and read a little poetry every day.

Research has shown that emotions can be regulated by listening to music, stress and anxiety reduced, concentration improved. How children process language and speech is enhanced. The Mozart Effect enhances math learning, aids in deductive reasoning and increases brain wave activity. You don't have to just listen to Mozart, jazz and other genres can be very beneficial, too.

With so much educational emphasis these days on STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) it is important to see that "A" for "arts" is in the middle of an enhanced educational acronym: STEAM. The Weare schools have a robust music education program beginning with kindergarten right through graduation.

Brian Curry, music teacher at Center Woods Elementary School, captures the minds of our youngest learners with "music of the day" playing as the students enter the classroom. They discuss what they are learning from what they are hearing, the genre – be it classical, jazz, or folk music – as well as learning a little about the composer. At the beginning of the school year, singing inside was not allowed due to COVID-19

See MUSIC, page 13

MUSIC, continued from page 12

restrictions, so the students sang outside, with their music joining the chorus of birds flying above.

CWES students begin to learn what the different instruments are and are encouraged to try any of them in the classroom room, Curry said, with percussion in the lead. Tapping their feet while playing a percussion instrument helps learn rhythm. On a white board, students also write rhythm and notations like half notes and full notes to understand the pulse of the music, which is then transferred to a computer; they then play their own music. Often, they will improvise on a xylophone. Their exposure to music is wide ranging, learning about composers from Beethoven, Vivaldi and his Four Seasons, the opera "Carmen" and the Beatles. Curry said they are very proficient in singing the "Yellow Submarine."

By the time these students move to Weare Middle School, they are well prepared to move to the next steps in both music appreciation and music participation in Serena Gorham's classes. Every student has the opportunity to learn how to play the recorder. Here, they learn more about rhythm and how to manage it. Instead of tapping their feet as they have done in elementary school, they learn how to internalize the rhythm. Gorham has instituted "recorder karate," encouraging her students to earn a "black belt" in rhythm.

In these school years, students are ready to try out other instruments and join the band, where they learn to rely on each other and become a team that can produce beautiful music. As the students learn to play an instrument, they are also internalizing things like linear motion, how to move their fingers from one note to another, developing skills that will enhance their achievement in other courses, with math being one, Gorham said. If they were to take up playing the organ, they would apply the same linear movement not only of their fingers, but their feet, using heel and toe to move from one pedal to another. Chorus is also available to students at this level, where they move from a dysfunctional group of singers to a family with pride in their accomplishments as they make beautiful music in harmony.

When the students move on to John Stark Regional High School, they already have a strong music education; they can read music, harmonize, understand tempo and rhythm and are ready for more challenges. They also have knowledge of composers from the early music era to today's contemporary music. They can

even compose their own music. The Performing Arts program at John Stark is headed by Dan Williams, band and orchestra, and Sue Williams, chorus. They are eager to introduce their students to more demanding music performances. Students are required to take band, chorus or music appreciation at least once during their four years at the school. It is here that students build more confidence in themselves and know that it is okay to keep trying if at first they don't succeed. Being a team player, being creative, camaraderie and collaboration are just some of the side benefits of band or chorus. Can you handle critique and learn from it?

Dan Williams said, "If you mess up in band or chorus, everyone is affected and the music suffers, where if you mess up in math class, only you are affected, not the entire class." Both teachers stressed how important the family atmosphere they strive to create is to reach a satisfying end product, be it a concert or just personal satisfaction in being part of something bigger than themselves.

As we emerge from the restrictions of COVID-19,, there is much emphasis throughout SAU 24 on addressing the social and emotional needs of all students. Music is one activity that addresses those needs, as it can have a calming effect and reduce anxiety. Involvement in music – playing an instrument, singing in a chorus or just listening to a favorite genre – can have a profound effect on one's mental health and social life. Students involved in band or chorus form strong bonds and become a family where trust is paramount. Music uses both sides of the brain to bring about these benefits.

Both JSRHS music teachers are proud of the achievements of many of their students as they graduate and make their way into the world. They mentioned how some John Stark students have made music their career. One is now a music teacher here in New Hampshire; others have found satisfying work as a sound engineer, music therapist or theater performer, while others enjoy playing in a local pickup band, church choir or in community theater.

On May 9, there will be a concert in the gym at John Stark with the combined bands and choruses from the middle school with as many as 90 students in each field. The public is invited, so mark your calendars now and watch for more information.

Now that you have read this article, turn your radio on or favorite media device and listen to some music, or pick up your instrument and make some beautiful sounds and enjoy the benefits music has to offer.



Senior Project for Life

By Joe Czarnecki

During my years as a student at John Stark, the school instituted the practice of requiring a senior project from all graduating seniors. I had been involved with some talented fellow students in a band we formed. My role was as singer and Emcee. While that was rewarding, I always wanted to do more and decided the senior project was a great time to learn how to play the acoustic guitar. My Uncle Mark — already a talented musician — was my mentor. He recommended I start with an Applause guitar, so I searched music stores until I found one I could afford. It has now been a few decades since that somewhat whimsical decision, and it has had a far-reaching impact on my life and those of friends and family.

Actually, it all started way back in second grade with Mrs. Bissonette. As we all know, every second grader can sing, and they are all artists. I was no exception and also a bit of a cut-up. Consequently, when Mrs. Bissonette played an Elvis medley on the piano, I did my best impersonation — which must have seemed odd coming from an eight year old. But to my teacher's credit, it was well received. (Of course, she made sure none of us faltered over lyrics by handing out sheets with the words for each of us ahead of time.)

Once I got to high school, I joined the chorus and had parts in school musicals – Sonny in "Grease" and the Jester in "Once Upon a Mattress." I was fortunate enough to work with both Betsy Stebbins and Nancy Brennan and during those years; the school took many awards both in theater and chorus. In fact, we traveled to Busch Gardens in Virginia for the National Choral Competition.

Among the skills we were all taught were how to project your voice, how to support a lead singer, how to sing as a group so that voices blend and how to sing Acapella. It was, in fact, truly wonderful when we learned to sing as one at a competitive level. It is like deliberately painting with muted colors and careful blending so there is only one overall clear impression.

One of the other things that struck me about my time at John Stark was the incredible support we had from Principal Mark Roth and his administration. They allowed us to bring our band in on occasion to play four or five songs for the students at lunch time. They were also patient with us when we tried out our vocal techniques in the stairwells, where, to our delight, we sounded *great*. For quite a few of us, music seemed essential to our lives and I'm sure it is still true today that music is a lifeline for a lot of teens.

As for my life, it has been permanently enriched. All of my five children play instruments; I have been blessed to have a hand in the music at my church; I take my guitar on my vacations to campgrounds; I write and record songs and am able to play with some talented friends who make time twice a month for playing music together. Oh, and my dog is named Gibson — a pretty far-reaching influence for a senior project, I'd say.

Music in Schools Led to Noteworthy Choices

By Debbie Farr

To say music in school affected my life would be an understatement. From elementary school choirs to high school choirs, music was what I looked forward to every day. By the time I reached my senior year in high school, I was performing in two different choirs, traveling to all parts of the state.

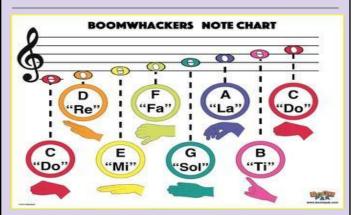


There were 823 students in my senior class, so the competition was keen. The acapella group had about 80 singers and the top choir had just 16. I was beside myself when I made it for the top choir! We sang at school functions, assisted living facilities, churches, sporting events – you name it, we were usually there. And because I had taken piano lessons since I was six, I was also often an accompanist for various choral groups. I went from that wonderful experience to college, on a piano and voice scholarship, writing music and performing in various shows. After college, I began teaching piano and voice lessons out of my home. Some of you may remember John Davidson, the famous singer and performer from the '70s. I was one of about 40 individuals from across the country chosen to participate in his singers' summer training camp back in See NOTEWORTHY, page 15

NOTEWORTHY, continued from page 14

'77. I performed in several shows out on Catalina Island in California where the camp took place.

After marriage, I became a church organist and directed the adult, bell and children's choirs. accompanied various shows my sons were in during their elementary years. I taught music at a private elementary school, wrote and published my own lullabies (you can find them at my website, www.familynh.com), wrote wedding songs anniversary songs as a business and continued singing in choirs. Even through four moves around the country, my connection and love of music was the one constant as today, I still sing in a choir and play the piano! Had music not been in my life growing up, there are so many personal, scholastic and social benefits I would've missed. As I said, to say music in school affected my life would be such an underwhelming statement for such an overwhelming personal benefit! Thank you to all music teachers!



They Make Music Fun

By Sharon Czarnecki

Victoria Keane, age 14, was happy to relate her fun experiences with music in the Weare school system.

She says it started with Mrs. Bissonnette in grades Kindergarten through third, who played songs for her students and "just let us dance. The only requirement was that we have fun." She went on to say, "We also played with instruments, and I remember that we all thought we were very good at it, and we enjoyed all the sounds we produced. We all felt talented."

Keane explained that by the time they got to Mr. Fanning's class in fourth grade, they did realize they probably were not *all* going to play instruments, after all. But in spite of that, he found one instrument they could all relate to and enjoy: the Boomwhacker. The sounds it made were clearly dependent on length and she says it made it easy to see how sound changed based on the length of the instrument.

Ms. Fortier taught fifth grade music and was known to positively LOVE the Beatles. The class read a book about them, watched videos and learned a lot about how the Beatles developed and why their music changed over time. Keane says she still enjoys their music, but now she knows a lot more about them too.

Keane said she is particularly loving Ms. Gorham's class at Weare Middle School She points out that by the time they all got to sixth grade, she and her fellow students were old enough to start learning some more basic facts about how music is put together. She is happy to explain she has been taught all of the types of notes and their names and locations on sheet music and how tempo is represented. She says each student is learning to play – very basic – guitar or ukulele and so she is also learning about frets. Keane is truly enjoying the ukulele and plans to keep learning it.

She says the whole group is enjoying the fact that they are able to play music together. They use Boomwhackers with each person designated a note and work in a group to create songs. Ms Keane notes that, "Of course, it helps that Ms. Gorham is very supportive and gives us Jolly Ranchers just for trying and participating."

The Weare Area Writers Guild

Evening Writers Group

By Sharon Czarnecki

As many of you probably know, we have a pretty active writers group in town. But I am starting to hear from people fairly often who can not get to the daytime meetings because of work.

If there are enough interested people to form a group, we can start an evening get-together.

Let me explain the format that has been so successful with the daytime group. All genres are welcome. Anyone who wants to reads a page or a chapter - depending on time. They let us know what kind of feedback they are looking for and then everyone chimes in with whatever seems helpful. The readers vary and no one is required to read. After all, what good would authors be if there were no readers? This is not a classroom environment as none of us presume to be better at this than anyone else.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please contact me at czar5@comcast.net If your schedule permits, stop in and meet the daytime group. Our next meeting will be at the Senior Center 33 North Stark Highway (Rte. 114) from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Friday, April 15.

Deer Disaster

Eating yew bush leaves
by invading deer
was bad enough, mine
and my neighbors,
until they raided
the holly bushes,
both male and female,
leaves gone, not one left,
shiny, green holly
leaves were always
a winter joy delight.

-Marge Burke

Musical Score

Composer's delight birds on wires, do, re, mi, or re, do, mi, making a score, half notes and whole, depending on how close together they sit, pauses imagined as well as completed piece.

-Marge Burke



Since February 2020, Weare in the World has been produced by these happy volunteers and is no longer a publication of the Weare Public Library. Read our story at https://www.weareintheworldnews.com/about. Pictured L to R: Alyssa Small, Sharon Czarnecki, Marge Burke, Karen Lovett and Tom Clow (courtesy photo).

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Following the big snow melt in March, my family and I (and probably many of you) have been astonished by the large amounts of trash littering Weare roads. So many Bud Light cans! We have been cleaning up our own road, but the main roads are daunting even for the most motivated among us. While we are thankful for the many volunteers who pitch in to do the dirty work, how much better would it be for a lot of that trash to end up where it should - in a recycling bin at the transfer station!

The Weare Transfer Station estimates that only 15-20% of our residents are recycling. Not only does recycling help keep our roads clean, but there is a local, financial benefit to recycling. In 2018, recycling generated a return of \$98,000 to our town. However, since COVID, this number has gone down. In 2021, the number was \$77,000, which was an improvement over \$25,000 in 2020. In 2018, Weare shipped an average of 2 trash trailers, each weighing 16-18 tons, to be incinerated each week. Last year, we were shipping 3 trash trailers a week. A lot of the trash shipped to the incinerator is recyclable. For every ton of recyclables removed from the trash, the town saves \$75. In their meeting on March 21, 2022, the Weare Select Board acknowledged the need for review of our transfer station, in part to help increase current recycling.

Although our transfer station is not accepting plastics for recycling at this time, it is very convenient to discard your paper, cardboard, glass, and cans in marked areas at the dump. So please separate your trash. It helps keep our town clean, and it chips away at your tax bill too! Happy Earth Day! For more information on how recycling helps Weare and what you can recycle, please refer to the "The Recycler" Transfer Station's newsletter: https://www.weare.nh.gov/transfer-station/files/the-recyc ler-newsletter. For broader information environmental and economical benefits of recycling, visit this page from the Environmental Protection Agency: https://www.epa.gov/recycle/recycling-basics.

-Alyssa Small

Weare in the World welcomes letters to the editor on matters of public interest. The suggested length is 250 words, and all letters are subject to editing. Letters must include the name of the writer and a way to contact them (phone number or email). WITW reserves the right to decline printing letters.

Send letters to weareintheworldnews@gmail.com.



Hand in Hand Ministry Board Members

Enthusiasm for helping others required. This position is part time and there are no formal meeting schedules. However, Board Members usually do some volunteer work within the Senior Center or Thrift Shop whenever they are able.

In addition, a major contribution of board members is that they help decide, by votes, what, where, and when resources will be used for the benefit of Hand In Hand Ministries and their mission.

If these tasks sound like a great opportunity for you to do what you LOVE, please get in touch. Contact President Bob Boucher at boucherrobert@comcast.net or Director Peggy Bailey at handinhandministriesinc@gmail.com or call 603-529-4263.

Weare Athletic Club Board Members

Are you interested in getting involved more in the Weare community? Volunteer and join our Weare Athletic Club board! We have open positions and you can be a part of bringing sports and fun to our Weare youth!

Please attend our public WAC Board meeting Monday, May 9 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Please contact the email address below for the link. Any "active member" of WAC is eligible to vote at the annual meeting.

At this meeting, we will be voting for all officers, including president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, seven at-Large directors, concession stand coordinator and fundraising coordinator.

To learn more about the positions available, please check out the WAC website:

https://www.weareathleticclub.com/page/show/3025733-contact-us Current members would also be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Our regular board meetings occur once a month on the second Monday via Zoom (working on in-person meetings soon, we hope!) Contact Jessie-Lynn Sullivan: Communications@weareathelticclub.com
https://www.weareathleticclub.com/



Autumn Hills Campground

Bathhouse Cleaner

FT and PT, various shifts, flexible hours. Cleaning bathhouses, restocking materials. Must be 16 years or older. Benefits for FT employees. Experience/knowledge of chemical use preferred; \$16-\$20 hour. To apply, call 603-529-2425 and ask for Jennifer.

Country 3 Corners

Convenience Store - Cashier, Deli, Stocking, Cleaning

FT and PT, various shifts,fFlexible hours. Must be 16 years or older; benefits for full-time employees.

CDL-B Driver, experience required; \$23 per hour.

To Apply: Stop into the store at 833 S. Stark Highway for an application. Call 603-529-7539 for the convenience store X2; for hardware store, X3.

Weare Girls & Boys Club

Group Leaders & Assistant Group Leaders

Looking for an extra staff member in the after-school program. Also, now hiring summer camp staff at this time. Part time, competitive salaries, all experience levels welcome. If you are looking for a fun afternoon or a fun summer, please get in touch and make a difference in the lives of young people. Contact Jim O'Hara at johara@centraInhclubs.org.

Weare Market & Deli

Retail Associate , Grocery Store

PT/FT; all shifts available. Experience not needed but must work well with others. Prefer 18 years or older. Schedule varies. Salary - will discuss.

Deli Associate - PT

Apply at 421 S. Stark Highway



Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday, April 13

4:15 p.m. - Trustees of the Trust Fund meeting

5:30 p.m. - Rabies Clinic, Town Hall

6:30 p.m. – John Stark School Board meeting

7 p.m. – Conservation Commission meeting

7 p.m. – Weare Democrats meeting

Thursday, April 14

7 p.m. - Planning Board meeting

Friday, April 15

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

Monday, April 18

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

Tuesday, April 19

6 p.m. – Weare School Board meeting 7 p.m. – Cable Committee meeting

Saturday April 23

9:30 a.m. - Weare Republicans meeting

Contact Us

weareintheworldnews@gmail.com

Editor – Karen Lovett
Assistant Editor – Alyssa Small
Town News – Tom Clow
School News – Marge Burke
Community Outreach – Sharon Czarnecki





Daffodils poking through are a sure sign of spring (Marge Burke photos).