



# Weare in the World

*For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents*

**January 24, 2024**

## Why We Love Living in NH

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



*Baconia Farm, Old Hillsboro Road, Henniker (Terri Trier photo).*



*Top of Mt. Monroe. In the picture is the Lake in the Clouds, the Hut and the summit of Mt. Washington (Marc Payeur photo).*

## Bridge Replacement Nears With State Funds Available

By Tom Clow

The pieces are falling into place for the complete replacement of the River Road Bridge in the not-too-distant future. At the Jan. 15 meeting of the Weare Board of Selectmen, Interim Department of Public Works Director Jason Fiske proposed setting up a subcommittee to review the proposals from seven engineering firms and recommend two or three to the BOS to interview. The subcommittee will consist of five members including Fiske, Town Administrator Naomi Bolton, one selectman and two town residents.

Fiske said that the town has been told that state funding is now available for the project. The state pays 80 percent of the cost for bridge replacement with the remaining 20 percent coming from the town. Several years ago, the town established a capital reserve fund for bridge replacement and repair. For four consecutive years, voters approved placing money in that fund, some of which has been used for repairs to the River Road Bridge. Finance Administrator Beth Rouse said there is \$299,159 of the taxpayer contributions still in the capital reserve fund. In addition, she said, the town received supplemental allocations for bridge replacement from the state of \$326,966 in 2022 and \$90,776 in 2023. That brings the total in the fund to \$716,901, she said. The timeline for replacing the bridge will depend on the schedule of the engineering firm that is selected, Fiske said.

River Road is an important commercial route, especially for sand and gravel supplied to surrounding communities and independent contractors. In addition, it is identified in the Town of Weare Hazard Mitigation Plan as an alternate north-south emergency evacuation route since it parallels Route 114.

Weare has two other red-listed bridges. One on Lull Road and one on Old Francestown Road, but both are much smaller projects.



**"Talk" To Us**  
**Favorite Winter Activity**  
**Deadline – Feb 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Weareintheworldnews  
@Gmailcom

## Town and School Filing Periods

By Tom Clow

The filing period for town and school district offices opens on Jan. 24 and closes on Feb. 2 at 5 p.m. Those wishing to file for town offices may do so at the office of the Weare Town Clerk. According to the SAU 24 website, anyone wishing to file for positions in the Weare School District or John Stark School District should contact the office of the Superintendent of Schools at (603) 428-8863.

The following positions are open:

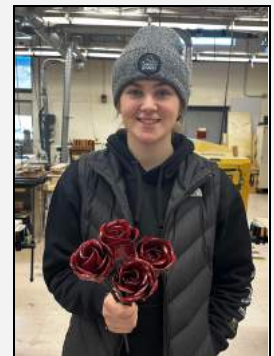
Town of Weare	
Board of Selectmen	Two three-year terms One one-year term
Moderator	One two-year term
Supervisor of Checklist	One six-year term
Library Trustee	One three-year term
Trustee of Trust Funds	One three-year term
Ethics Committee	One three-year term
Weare School District	
School Board Member	Two three-year terms
John Stark School District	
School Board Member (At Large)	One three-year term
School District Moderator	One one-year term

## Important Dates: Local Elections

Feb. 3 9 a.m.	Town Deliberative Session	WMS Cafeteria
Feb. 7 7 p.m.	Weare School District Deliberative Session	WMS Cafeteria
Feb. 9 7 p.m.	JSRHS Deliberative Session	JSRHS Cafeteria
<b>VOTING DAY      MARCH 12      WMS Gym</b>		



When John Stark Regional High School senior **Becca Mussey** was in a welding class at JSRHS this year, she noticed the flowers on her teacher's desk. The bouquet on tech education teacher Joab Owen's desk contained metal flowers. Intrigued with the idea, Mussey thought she'd try creating something similar.



Mussey began her project by making a paper flower petal template and then used the template to cut three pieces of sheet metal into the flower petal shape, according to a school release. She then tack-welded each piece, one by one, to a 1/4" metal rod (stem). Not one to skimp on details, she welded small mounds of metal "thorns" to each stem and then bent each petal one by one with pliers to make each rose unique. To give each rose an even more realistic look, she used a vice to bend the stem in different directions. Her final step was to apply two coats of spray paint to complete nine roses, which she gave away as gifts.

While she's still weighing her options for next year, Mussey has been working at Mullholland Metal Restoration in Weare after school since March. As a student at Stark, she's taken full advantage of the Tech Ed Department taking Intro to Woodworking, Advanced Woodworking and Intro to Welding. She's also utilized the Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) option at JSRHS. ELOs offer students a way to learn outside classroom course offerings while earning credit toward graduation. Mussey has completed two ELOs in advanced woodworking and plans to take two more ELOs within the Tech Ed department next semester.





It has been called "An indispensable guide to good citizenship in an era of division and rancor." *New York Times* bestselling author and former diplomat Dr. Richard Haass' new book, "The Bill of Obligations: Ten Habits of Good Citizens," will be the focus of the NH Civics William

W. Treat Lecture on Feb. 6.. Students from six New Hampshire high schools will join Dr. Haass for a virtual discussion about what the American people can do - both individually and collectively - to ensure that our democracy not only survives but thrives. **Elizabeth Ackerly**, a junior at JSRHS, has been selected as one of the participating students.

"Elizabeth and I read his book together and conferenced on the question she will ask and also a potential second question," said JSRHS social studies teacher Dan Marcus. "In addition to reading the book and meeting with me, she has attended a couple of organizational meetings and will be part of a practice session for the event later this month. She is an exceptional student and this is quite an honor."

In his book, Haass, the head of the Council on Foreign Relations for 20 years, argues that the very idea of citizenship must be revised and expanded, according to a school release. The Bill of Rights is at the center of our Constitution, yet our most intractable conflicts often emerge from contrasting views on our rights. As former Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer pointed out, "Many of our cases, the most difficult ones, are not about right versus wrong. They are about right versus right." The lesson is clear: rights alone cannot provide the basis for a functioning, much less flourishing, democracy.

The Treat Lecture is free to the public. Pre-registration for this virtual event is required at <https://tinyurl.com/HaassTreatLecture>.

The Treat Lecture Series is presented by NH Civics, with support from the William W. Treat Foundation and NH Humanities, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities, and with assistance from the NH Council for Social Studies (NHCSS).

The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) is pleased to announce that **JSRHS Athletic Director Rodney Brown** has been recognized by the association as a Certified Master Athletic Administrator. To earn this distinction,



Rodney has demonstrated exemplary knowledge, contributions and on-going professional development in the field of interscholastic athletic administration. The voluntary certification process included a thorough evaluation of the candidate's educational background, experience, NIAAA Leadership Courses, and professional contributions. It culminates with a practical written or oral presentation project. He is one of a very elite group of interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide to attain this level of professionalism.

Missy Descoteau's kindergarten class at CWES has been learning about **Bojangles** through the school curriculum program Wit and Wisdom and the book "Rap a Tap Tap" by Diane and Leo Dillon.



Descoteau said her students were so excited to learn about "making art with your feet." They created their own tap shoes with paper, cardboard and some pennies taped to the bottom of the shoe to create what they called "tappers" on the toes and heels of the shoes. Then the students performed their own tap show on the floor tapping along to Bojangles and Shirley Temple, keeping the beat and stopping when the tapping stopped in the song.

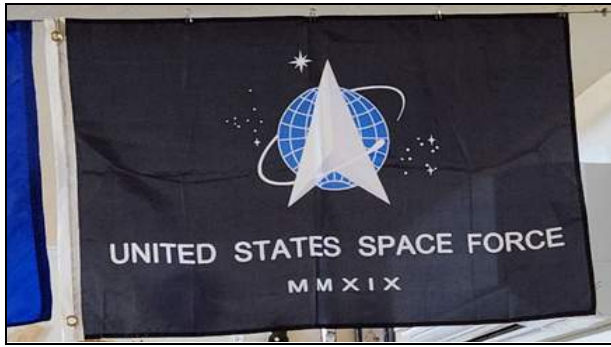
Descoteau said it was a joy to watch their performance and they were so proud of the music they made. She included a picture of the display of the tap shoes in their "art museum," which is this month's dramatic play center in the classroom. Everything in the museum was created from the Wit and Wisdom "Learning about the Senses" unit.

The 2024 CWES **Spelling Bee** winner is third grader



Joel Miller. The winning word spelled was "wears." This is the third year Miller has been the CWES spelling champ. Runner up was second grader Owen Schofield.

(Courtesy photo L to R: Schofield, CWES Enrichment Coordinator Kate Rodgers and Miller.)



## New Flag at Legion Post 65

By Tom Flaherty

*Member, Philbrick-Clement American Legion Post 65*

In December, Weare's Philbrick-Clement American Legion Post 65 officially installed the flag of the United States Space Force (USSF) in its hall, where the flags of all other U.S. military branches and departments currently hang.

Special guest at this ceremony was Weare's Owen Payeur, along with his parents, Marc and Heather. Owen currently serves as a Second Lieutenant in the Space Force.

Remarkably, Owen's brother, Noah, also serves in the Space Force as a First Lieutenant. Both received their officer commissions through UNH's Air and Space Force ROTC program. Even more remarkable is that they both earned their Eagle Scouts in BSA Troop 24 in Weare which is sponsored by Post 65.



During the ceremony, the Legion recognized the importance of the Space Force, with its mission to "secure the nation's interests, in, from, and to

space." They also mentioned the chief duties of the Space Force: monitoring thousands of satellites, which provide critical services like GPS, weather monitoring, missile tracking, communications, and electronic financial transactions; tracking thousands of items of "space junk," which pose imminent threats to satellites and people in space; and facilitating military and civilian space launches across five U.S. launch sites.

After the ceremony, all members present thanked Owen and Noah for their dedicated service and invited them to join American Legion Post 65. *(Courtesy photo: Noah Payeur and Owen Payeur.)*

## Police Dog

By Christopher Moore, Weare Police Chief

There has been some community interest in the Weare Police Department obtaining a police K-9. Police K-9's can be a very useful tool but also bring a large amount of liability and expense depending on the type of K-9 being utilized. The primary function of a police K-9 is patrol work. To be certified as a police K-9 team, the K-9 and his handler attend training for approximately 16 weeks, and they receive training in obedience, agility, apprehension, and searches. Ancillary functions of a police K-9 team include explosives detection and narcotics detection.



At this time in the Town of Weare, we do not have the calls for service which would justify the acquisition of a police patrol K-9 (which is a good thing). We currently rely on our mutual aid partners should we need any assistance from a police K-9 team.

Recently, police departments have seen the benefit of using comfort dogs. Goffstown Police Department has "Libby," for example. Police use comfort dogs to provide interactions during investigations involving children or adults to reduce anxiety and increase communication. They also provide comfort to people during times of crisis who may have been impacted by violence, tragedy, or traumatic events. This would be a useful addition to our department but prior to looking at expanding the resources of the police department we would need to establish a reliable system of funding for the department's current needs. Specifically, ballistic equipment, body-worn cameras, and tasers need to be included in the budget as they are annual expenses not currently accounted for. *(Courtesy photo: Moore while he was a Corporal with the Norfolk (VA) Police Department and his K-9 "TAZ".)*

## New Energy Economy Panel Discussion

**Feb. 4, 1:30 p.m., Henniker Congregational Church**

Energy transition: What does it mean for the Granite State? Hear from the experts on the challenges and opportunities for New Hampshire citizens as we transition to a new energy economy. Panelists include: Sam Evans Brown, N.H. Executive Director of Clean Energy; Dan Weeks, V.P. Business Development of Revision Energy; Henry Herndon, Director of Member Services at Community Power Coalition of N.H.; and Donald M. Kreis, Consumer Advocate of N.H. **Free and open to the public.** Donations will be accepted. Sponsored by Henniker Democratic Party Committee. *For weather cancellation, call 518-915-8474 before noon on Feb. 4.*

## Weare Public Library News

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### For Kids and Teens:

**PokeMondays:** Mondays, 2-4:30 p.m. Meet, trade, and play with other Pokemon card game enthusiasts and win prizes.

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

**Scholastic Chess.** Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m. All kids are invited to jump in, learn logic and planning skills while they play.

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

**Afterschool Gaming.** Wednesdays, 2-4:30 p.m. Challenge your friends on the Nintendo Switch and other game systems. (Recommended for ages 6+).

**Read with the Ruff Readers.** Wednesdays (starting Jan. 17), 5-6 p.m.: Read with friendly dogs! Call us at 603-529-2044 to register.

#### For Adults:

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

**Craft Group.** Thursdays at 1 p.m. Learn a new craft. Space is limited. Call us at 603-529-2044 to register.

**Book Group.** Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. We're reading "The Bear" by Andrew Krivak. Call us at 603-529-2044 to reserve your copy.

**Tax Help.** Feb. 12, 15 and 16. Free from the AARP. Schedule your appointment by calling Jim Luckern at 603-765-0558.

## Friends of the Weare Public Library

By Dianne Hathaway

### Annual Meeting

The Friends held their annual meeting on Nov. 28 and elected officers for 2024 as follows: Nancy Zienkiewicz-President, Suzanne Belanger-Vice President, Helen Dutton-Treasurer, Lindsey Hilliard-Secretary, Lea Anderson-Smith, Member at Large.



### Rotary Grant Update

The Friends applied for a grant from the Goffstown Rotary Club and were awarded \$250 out of the \$575 requested for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) kits.

### Telescope Update

The telescope, funded by the Friends of the Weare Public Library, is now in circulation! Thank you to the N.H. Astronomical Society for assistance and experience with the purchase. Stop into the library and find out about borrowing the telescope for your own stargazing.

### Little Free Library

The Friends have a Little Free Library in front of the WPL on East Road that is regularly stocked. This is a "leave one, take one" library for used books, so look the next time you are in the center of town. This is a year-round service with volunteers shoveling after every snowstorm.

Please join us! We meet on the fourth Tuesday evening of January, March, May, July, September and November at 6:30 p.m. at the Weare Public Library. **Our next business meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024.** If you would like more information, please email us at [friendsofwearepl@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwearepl@gmail.com).

## It's Nice to Give Twice

The South Weare Improvement Society was recently gifted a large donation of health and wellness type items.

While considering what to do with the items the decision was made to make a gift of the items to the Weare Hand in Hand Senior Center for distribution amongst our local seniors. It is our hope that those in the community will benefit from these items ranging from steam humidifiers, folding Handy Canes, heating pads etc

From all of us at the S.W.I.S. we want to thank the Weare Hand in Hand group for all that you do for the community. Your service to our local seniors is both greatly appreciated and commendable.





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

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

**33 North Stark Highway, Weare, NH 03281**

Wed - Fri, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sat: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

603-529-4263 / [facebook.com/hihsc.org](https://facebook.com/hihsc.org)

What an amazing community we live in. Recently, a call came in from South Weare Improvement Society that they had **wellness and health items** to donate to Hand in Hand Senior Center for community seniors. This included canes, thermometers, heating pads, humidifiers, toothbrushes and hand sanitizer. Three huge boxes! And we thought that Christmas was over! It's heartwarming to have one nonprofit help another. Our hearts are full of appreciation.

Don't forget **chair yoga** – Mondays and Thursdays at 10:30; **crafts** – Mondays at noon; and a **movie afternoon**, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" on Thursday, Jan. 25 at 4 p.m.

Other special things are happening as well. Wonderful people are volunteering their time and expertise to help us grow and bring in fresh ideas that will continue to make the organization relevant and vibrant. They year 2024 will be an exciting time for us.

Though social media seems to be the popular way to communicate these days, word of mouth is how Rebecca Shade learned about Hand in Hand Senior Center and Thrift Shop. While getting a haircut after moving to Weare last spring, her hairdresser suggested she see about volunteering at the Thrift Shop. Rebecca is a great fit; quickly learning all the ins and outs, from organizing to running the register. She has a love of helping others through active listening. Even though Rebecca has a full-time job at Weare Middle School maintaining the building and grounds, she finds time on her day off to help at the Thrift Shop. Her hobbies, which include metal detecting and working on creative memories, show how diverse she is. Rebecca is a great example of the fun-loving, dedicated volunteers who have graced our doors.



**WHAT'S FOR  
 LUNCH?**



Wednesdays 11- 1. Dine in, take out or free delivery. scrambled eggs.

**Jan. 24:** Breakfast potatoes, pancakes, ham slices, scrambled eggs.

**Jan. 31:** Sugar mountain ham & potatoes, chopped veggie salad, fruit & cheese

**Feb. 7:** Stuffed cabbage, mashed potatoes, carrots, apple sauce.

*Coffee, tea, and various desserts are also available.*

**WHAT'S IN  
 THE SHOP?**



**-\$1 off boots and shoes, leggings, men's and women's pants**

**-50% off all Christmas items and picture frames**

And we're gearing up for Valentine's Day!



See up-to-date information on our Facebook page [facebook.com/hihsc.org](https://facebook.com/hihsc.org), and like us while you're there..



**Tips for Caregivers**

Caregiver Connection is an opportunity for family caregivers to support one another and connect with our professional staff. Granite Visiting Nurse Association provides a safe space to connect with other caregivers facing similar challenges. Join Thursday, Jan. 25 from 10-11 a.m. Registration required at (603) 224-4093 ext. 85815.

## Lookin' for Love

By Cathy Bailey

If you'd like to adopt any of the pets pictured here, please complete an adoption application at <https://www.heartsandtails.org/adoption-application>



Meet Clover! He is a Yellow Lab/Retriever mix and is friendly, affectionate, gentle, smart, playful, quiet and athletic. He is house-trained and his vaccinations are up to date and he has been neutered.

Clover, being an outgoing, friendly sort, would like to greet you himself, so here he is!

"Hi there, I'm Clover, a two-year-old yellow lab, and I've got a 'pawsitively' heartwarming story to share! Recently, I had a close call with the euthanasia table in a Texas shelter (they had already given me the first shot to sedate me in preparation) but my foster family swooped in, saving me from the unthinkable. Now, I'm wagging my tail in New Hampshire, on the lookout for my forever home and a second shot at happiness.

And guess what? I'm not just house-trained; I'm a full-on cuddle expert, and my foster mom and foster doggie sister think I'm the sweetest and absolute best. At 60 pounds, I might need to gain a bit more weight, but that just means there'll be more of me to love. I'm the cuddler-in-chief, giving full-body hugs and thinking I'm a lapdog, especially on cozy couches.

While I'm a bit curious and nosy, I'm generally a chill dude, not your typical high-energy pup. But that doesn't mean I am not down for a game of fetch in the backyard and having fun with toys. I'm wicked smart, and I'm doing a great job at learning my manners!

If you're looking for a furry friend who's good with other critters (dogs, cats and chickens), enjoys laid-back moments, and is ready to make your heart melt, I'm your guy!

Let's embark on this tail-wagging journey together and create a lifetime of paw-some memories!"

As you can see, Clover is as close to perfect as you can ask for! If you're interested in adopting this super sweet young boy, please complete an adoption application at the website above.

For more information, visit the adoption website at: <https://www.heartsandtails.org/petfinder-list/>.



## Looking for Something to Do?

Compiled by Sharon Czarnecki

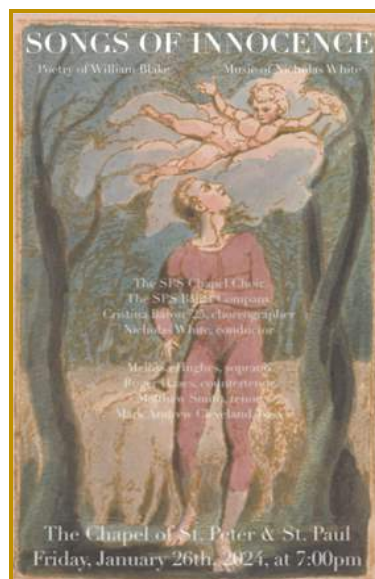
**Chapel of St. Peter St. Paul**

**46 Rectory Rd, Concord**

**Friday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m.**

**Admission Is free; all welcome**

The Chapel of St. Peter and St. Paul is the venue for



this event, which will feature the St. Paul's School Chapel Choir and the school's ballet company. With its lofty ceiling, rich acoustics, and aesthetic beauty, the wooden panels encasing the entire length of the chapel will allow large images that William Blake painted for each of his poems to be displayed during the performance.



**School Fundraiser**

**Monday, Jan. 29, 7-9 p.m. (Doors open at 6 p.m.)**

**Weare Middle School**

The famous Harlem Wizards will visit for an evening of fun basketball where they will play against a team of teachers, principals and community leaders. The event is a fundraiser for the WMS Student Council and the school's music program. To purchase tickets and more information: [www.harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets](http://www.harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets)

Basketball aficionados are treated to great skills, teamwork, slick dribbling, alley-oops and crazy slams. The non-hoop fans attending will find out that this is much more than just a basketball game. The night is funny, theatrical, exciting and spectacular and the gym will reverberate with oohs and aahs, laughter, enthusiasm, and much much more.





**Sunday, Feb. 4, 7:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.**  
**AG Paintball, "Game of Thrones" Scenario Game**  
**158 Deering Center Road, Weare**

The Army of the Dead, led by the Night King, are fast approaching Winterfell, the realm's most northern kingdom and stronghold. Jon Snow, often revered as the King of the North, has assembled an army that is humanity's last hope. If Winterfell falls, so will the rest of the seven kingdoms. Who will win? The King of the North or the King of the Night? Pre-registration and tickets required for this event. Bring your own paint. Equipment rental available. More info: [www.agpaintball.com/events](http://www.agpaintball.com/events)



**Our library has discount passes!**

**Science Pub: Local-ologies**  
**Tuesday, Feb. 6, 6 p.m.**

**Walter's Basin Restaurant, Holderness, NH**

Science Pub is live at Walter's Basin Restaurant in Holderness. Gather for a casual evening learning about and discussing science topics over food and drinks. The February topic is "Mycology: Local Mushroom ID" with Eric Milligan, founder of the New Hampshire Mushroom Co. Milligan will talk about how to identify and properly forage local mushrooms and answer questions on both foraging locally and cultivating specialty/medicinal mushrooms. Science Pub is for an adult audience. Space is limited and pre-registration is required at [nhnature.org](http://nhnature.org). Cost: No charge.



## **Asked and Answered: Winter Breakfast**



### **Winter Breakfast**

As told by Andy Czarnecki

"I loved winter camping. My squad was in charge of breakfast when I was about 12. I liked cooking at home and my Mom came from a big ethnic family so loved cooking for big groups. My sister and I were always recruited as helpers. It definitely paid off on that cold winter morning in the woods."

"I woke up early and got 2 of my buddies out of the sack. It was so quiet. The sun was just coming up. There were small animal and bird tracks all along the edge of the campsite too."

"I recall some of the guys were earning cooking badges and we had to make sure they got all their steps in to qualify. We had boiling water for hot chocolate and coffee (for the leaders). In addition, we made bacon, eggs, cream of wheat and English muffins – some charred, some not."

"It was sure cold and getting my guys out of their sleeping bags was the hardest part of making breakfast. Me and my two best friends made the fire. Then we got the other 3 up. We could see our breath in the air fogging glasses for some of us. All the utensils were so cold we tried to wear gloves but had to give up because that was too cumbersome. So, we made ourselves hot chocolate first to warm up our hands. Only one leader was awake with us and all else was still. We started to wonder if we would be eating this food by ourselves."

"Then, we put the bacon on to fry. You should have seen that campsite come alive! Lots of boys chattering, gathering more wood, sitting by the fire in long johns and jackets and boots, looking thru their stuff for mess kits."

"My squad – we were heroes, and we basked in the  
**See BREAKFAST, page 9**



**BREAKFAST, continued from page 8**

glory for sure. After that, on a winter hike people always said, "Have Andy's squad do breakfast." You couldn't see it on the outside, but on the inside – I actually felt my self esteem growing. After that, I volunteered for more stuff – even in school and I had more confidence. I was still kind of a shy science guy, but I knew I could definitely make a winter breakfast in the cold outdoors. Who knows what else I could do? That's one reason I have loved scouts my whole life."

-Sharon Czarnecki

**Breakfast with Grammie**

By Marge Burke

My grandchildren dubbed this recipe "Eggs McGrammie." It was a favorite when they visited.

-3 cups frozen hash brown potatoes

-¾ cup shredded cheddar cheese

-1 cup diced Canadian bacon

-6 eggs beaten

-1 12 oz. can evaporated milk

-Salt and pepper

Grease 2-quart baking dish. Arrange potatoes evenly on bottom. Sprinkle with Canadian bacon and cheese.

In a small bowl, mix eggs, milk, salt and pepper. Pour over potato mixture. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Bake in 350 degree oven for 40-45 minutes. Serve and wait for the smiles.



**Tell Us About:**

**Your Favorite  
Winter Activity**

Do you like to ski, snowshoe, ice skate, ice fish, sit in front of the fireplace with a hot cup of cocoa, go to Florida?

**I LOVE NEW HAMPSHIRE!**

By Connie Evans

I sometimes forget how fortunate we are to live in New Hampshire. Too often I take for granted the easy access we have to mountains, lakes, the ocean and metropolitan Boston. Actually, Manchester and Concord have all I need in a city or town. For a small state, we are home to 1,000 lakes and ponds that



[nhlakes.org](http://nhlakes.org) writes are the cleanest and healthiest in the country. On a smaller scale, Weare has picturesque dog walking trails that hug the Piscataquog River and streams that feed into it and are at most a few minutes away by car. And aren't we fortunate to have a lake, several ponds and Clough State Park to enjoy within our own town's boundaries?! Additionally, traffic in Weare doesn't raise the blood pressure like city travel does. Rarely do I have to wait for as many as four cars to pass in order to turn right towards Concord. If I do, I consider it a high-volume traffic time. Some states may have mountains and a river or two, but many don't have all the natural resources we have in New England nor Weare's great location. I have never been to Kansas, and I apologize if I am incorrect, but I don't think Kansans have much to compare with what we have in New Hampshire. How many outside of New England do?

I have read that it is important to spend a few minutes a day on gratitude; it's good for your well-being. I am not one for New Year's resolutions, but maybe I should make one: to count my blessings each day that my home is in New Hampshire and not Kansas (sorry Kansans). We have lived in Weare for 53 years and I cannot think of a better place to live.

**POETRY CORNER****Winter Snow Storm****Prelude to a Storm**

Storm clouds drift across  
the sky, dark, ominous,  
portent of coming events,  
sinking lower in the  
firmament, closing in  
on us, as we await  
the predicted storm,  
I want to cuddle under  
a blanket while waiting,  
hold a mug of steaming  
coffee, inhaling its aroma,  
feeling safe from pending  
elements, night comes,  
storm arrives after dark,  
I cannot see the snow  
it is too dark, I'll  
wait until morning  
to see the white miracle.

**The Storm**

True to prediction  
 the storm arrived last  
 night, snow fell while I slept,  
 hushed world of white like a  
 fluffy, woolen blanket,  
 spun and woven from sheep's fleece,  
 awaited me when I awoke,  
 pure and undisturbed,  
 all was quiet, plow trucks  
 had long past my driveway,  
 clouds still hung low in the sky,  
 more snow still to come,  
 and come it did for many  
 long hours, piling up  
 inch by inch, like a  
 Currier and Ives painting.

**Postlude for a Storm**

Storm began while I slept,  
 ended next day while I slept,  
 now, postlude begins today,  
 blue sky, bright sunshine, mountains  
 of snow to be removed,  
 town and city crews worked  
 overtime to clear roads  
 for morning commute,  
 piles of plowed snow temptation  
 to jump in, slide down, just like  
 jumping in rain puddles,  
 cross country ski trails,  
 mountain slopes need grooming,  
 lake surface a field of snow,  
 not yet frozen enough  
 for snowmobiles.

*-Poems by Marge Burke*

**Mark Your Calendar**

**Wednesday, Jan. 24**

6:30 p.m. - Finance Committee meeting

**Thursday, Jan. 25**

7 p.m. - Planning Board meeting

**Saturday, Jan. 27**

9-11 a.m. - Weare Republicans meeting

**Monday, Jan. 29**

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

**Wednesday, Jan. 31**

6:30 p.m. - Finance Committee meeting

**Thursday, Feb. 1**

7 p.m. - Library Trustees meeting

**Friday, Feb. 2**

11 a.m. - Weare Area Writers Guild meeting

**Saturday, Feb. 3**

9 a.m. - Town Deliberative Session

**Monday, Feb. 5**

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

**Wednesday, Feb. 7**

6 p.m. - Mildred Hall Advisory Committee meeting  
 6 p.m. - Ethics Committee meeting  
 6 p.m. - Weare School Board meeting  
 7 p.m. - Weare School District Deliberative Session

**Thursday, Feb. 8**

7 p.m. - Planning Board meeting

**Friday, Feb. 9**

6 p.m. - John Stark School Board meeting  
 7 p.m. - John Stark School District Deliberative Session

**Monday, Feb. 12**

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

**Tuesday, Feb. 13**

7 p.m. - Parks and Recreation Commission meeting

**Wednesday, Feb. 14**

3:45 p.m. - Trustees of the Trust Funds meeting  
 7 p.m. - Conservation Commission meeting  
 7 p.m. - Weare Democrats meeting

**Contact Us**

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