



# Weare in the World

*For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents*

**February 25, 2026**



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### Meet the Candidates:

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### Upcoming Forum:

SAU 24 is hosting a "Meet the Candidates" for school board at John Stark Regional High School on March 3rd at 6 p.m.. There will also be time for budget questions.

### Election:

Tuesday, March 10, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Weare Middle School gym

### Results:

Results will be available following elections on the town website at <https://www.weare.nh.gov/> and the SAU 24 website at <https://www.sau24.org/>.

### Letter to the Editor

## Solar Savings for Weare

By David Erikson, chair of the Energy Commission, but writing as a Weare citizen.

Voters in Weare have the opportunity to save the town about \$8,000 or more every year by voting in favor of Article 22 on **March 10th**. Our Energy Commission has secured a grant from the NH Municipal Solar Grant program so the only cost to the tax payers will be an interconnection fee of about \$1,000. The electricity generated by the solar panels on the roof on our Safety Complex will offset the energy bill at the complex year after year.

Questions which have been asked and deserve addressing include:

**1.** Will there be maintenance costs? Solar arrays have very little maintenance needed. In 15 to 20 years, some of the inverters, which convert DC to AC, could need replacing. We could choose to hire the installer or someone else to check connections every five years or so, look for squirrel nests, etc. These costs will be easily covered by a small portion of the energy savings. The power generation of the panels can reduce to 80% after 25 years or so and with technology improving rapidly it will likely be cost effective to upgrade at some point.

**2.** Will there be a cost to decommissioning when the panels need replacing? Unfortunately, recycling used solar panels is currently more expensive than the cost to dispose of them at our transfer station. The frames can be removed and the metal has value, but the silicon panels will cost a few dollars each at most to dispose of.

**3.** Will the value of the array result in increased insurance cost? The town could choose to increase the covered amount on the building, but, since the chances of a loss are so low, probably will not. There are no trees that could fall on the panels and the safety complex is probably the least likely building in town to suffer a fire.

To summarize, as one member of our Finance Committee said when they voted to recommend Article 22, "It's a no brain-er". The one abstention was a member of the Finance Commission who is also on the Energy Commission and thought there might be an appearance of a conflict of interest. I hope we will approve Article 22 on March 10th.



## We're Looking for a Stage Manager! 🤖

By Connie Evans

Do you love being part of the action behind the scenes? Or know someone who does? Our production needs a stage manager - the calm, organized, behind-the-curtain hero who helps keep everything running smoothly. If you're detail oriented and enjoy teamwork, this is a wonderful way to get involved! No spotlight required — just enthusiasm and a willingness to help make the magic happen. Can you lend a hand? Or recommend someone who might be a great fit?

Rehearsals: **Wednesdays and Sundays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**  
Old Town Hall / Show: April 17-18. Reach out to us. We would love to talk with you! Contact Weare Community Theater/Connie Evans at [cke1@comcast.net](mailto:cke1@comcast.net).



## Spring Musical “Hadestown Teen Addition” Directed by Jennifer Matzke

By Eloisa Osgood - President of TRI-M, Improv Club, and Historian of I.T.S.

Jen Matzke is directing the **“Hadestown Teen Addition”** based on the newest Broadway hit, well loved, folk opera “Hadestown” by Anaïs Mitchell. The show will be going up at John Stark Regional High School on **March 13th and 14th at 7 p.m.**, and **March 15th at 2 p.m.** Tickets for adults are \$10.00 and tickets for Seniors and Students are \$7.00.

Hadestown- Teen Edition is a family friendly story that has been told over and over again. The story of Orpheus and Eurydice, following their love tale dealing with Orpheus trying to finish writing a song that will bring back spring. An early winter is started due to a jealous Hades, king of the underworld, as he takes back his wife, queen of the underworld, goddess of spring, Persephone.

The winter separates Orpheus and Eurydice as Orpheus tries to finish his song becoming buried in work. Eurydice deals with the harsh winter alone and eventually gives in to a deal with Hades. Orpheus finds out, filled with sorrow yet hopes to get his true love back, and travels to the underground to free Eurydice.

This production is filled with hope, jazzy music, sorrow, love, dance numbers, tension, and songs that will get stuck in your head! Gorgeous designs in set, makeup, costume, and lights - fun for all ages!

Please come and enjoy all the hard work done by the whole theater group.

**Friends of the Weare Public Library present**

# KNOCKOUT FOR A CAUSE & Pi-Day Smashfest!

**Knock Out will begin 11:00 AM on March 14th at Weare Middle School.**

Join us for an exciting, fast-paced game of Knockout!

**Play for fun, play for a purpose! All proceeds will go towards Summer Programming—come shoot your shot and support a great cause!**

**To play: \$10 per adult, \$5 for kids 12 and under.**

**Following Knock Out will be Special Pi-Day Smashfest!**

**Enter the raffle to put a pie in the faces of some local good sports like:**



**Jess Potter, Principal CWES**



**Clay Kriess, Director of the Weare Public Library**

**Bri Gomez, WMS Girls' Basketball Coach**

**Jason Button, WMS Boys' Basketball Coach**

**Corey Sisson, Visual Arts Teacher CWES**

**Alyssa Small, Weare School Board**

**Katie Lipp, Weare School Board**

**Brian Curry, Music Teacher CWES**




**There will also be a pie by the slice sale!**

## TAX HELP AT THE WEARE LIBRARY

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



## Meet the Candidates

### Weare Board of Selectmen



**Name:** Ricky Hippler  
**Contact:**  
[rhippler@wearefirerescue.com](mailto:rhippler@wearefirerescue.com)

**1. Tell us about your background: your education, line of work, how long you have lived in Weare and your involvement in the community.**

I am a life long resident of our town and will always call Weare home. I have been a heavy truck mechanic for my entire working career, focused on the electronics & emissions for class 7 and 8 trucks. I have also been involved with the Weare Fire Department since I was 15 years old. Community is ingrained in me no doubt. I was a past member of the Board of Firewards for 6 years and a Selectman for 9 years before taking a couple years off.

**2. What specific skills do you bring to the position?**

Serving as a board of selectmen member for 9 years, I hope I can bring some of my past knowledge back to the board and help guide the town in a direction that's a good balance for the taxpayers and our employees at the same time. Keeping constant contact with department heads & employees to hear what they need, and also keeping in contact with the townspeople is something I made every attempt to do to ensure that balance. Many people have told me I brought a common sense approach and sensible demeanor to the selectboard, and I hope to be able to do that again.

**3. What is the town government doing right?** I think the current board and departments have done well with their budget spending, considering the numbers are behind current costs.

**4. What could the town government improve, and how?** Some of our best assets are our employees, and I think the select board needs to think outside the box on how to help continue to retain and also attract for vacant positions. I also think that the town needs to do an assessment on the buildings and how they fit the needs of the people today, and the needs the buildings may have as well, i.e. maintenance.



**Name:** Jack Dearborn  
**Contact:**  
[Jack.I.dearborn@comcast.net](mailto:Jack.I.dearborn@comcast.net)

**1. Tell us about your background: your education, line of work, how long you have lived in Weare and your involvement in the community.** My name is Jack Dearborn, and I'm at 148 Gould Road, Weare, NH. It would be my honor and privilege to continue to serve on the Town of Weare Select Board.

I have lived all my 73 years in Weare.. I am a graduate of the Weare school system, New Hampshire Technical Institute, and New Hampshire College. I have had the privilege to attend many master's level courses at MIT, MIT Sloan, UV - Darden University, and Northeastern University and many advanced executive management courses.

I feel strongly that a high level of ethics is necessary for Weare citizens to have trust and confidence in the Town of Weare's select board, departments and committees' actions and decisions.

I have had the privilege of growing up in an ethical town for 73 years and working in an ethical and successful company for 36 years. I have had many growth opportunities at BAE Systems as an Electrical Engineer, Systems Engineer, Program Manager, Hardware and Software Department Manager, Director of Engineering and General Manager, Company and Corporate Vice President positions.

BAE Systems stressed the importance of ethical behavior while delivering on customer technical commitments and company's cost, schedule, profit and cash flow. All this while fostering an employee work environment that treats everyone with courtesy, dignity and respect.

I have served many terms as a chairman and vice chairman of the Town of Weare, Weare School District and John Stark Finance Committees, 36 years as a member of the Town of Weare Zoning Board of Adjustments, 12 years as chairman of the Town of Weare Capital Improvement Committee while serving on four non-profit corporations. I am currently serving on the Town of Weare Select Board as a Selectman.

Given my education, work and town related experiences, I believe I am qualified for the position of selectman and shall continue to perform all the duties as a member of the Town of Weare Select Board.

If elected, I will endeavor and strive to be an honest and valued team member - to discover, consider and follow the facts, make fact-based decisions free of

personal bias and collaborate with members to arrive at a considered decision.

**2. What specific skills do you bring to the position?**

My extensive knowledge of the town by being a citizen all my life, serving on many town committees, my engineering, management and corporate experience and my collective 42 years of town committees are relevant to performing the selectman position. My current position as selectman has given me the necessary experience to be ready on day one of the 2026-2028 term. I have a strong analytical process to gain understanding of the facts and make a considered decision. I am a strong team player and currently an active participant on the Weare Board of Selectmen.

**3. What is the town government doing right?** The town government endeavors to provide a safe community. The town government complies with all the local procedures and necessary state regulations. It operates a transparent management practice for the town business. It fosters a productive work climate by treating all with courtesy, dignity and respect. Provides the citizens of Weare with a well-run public participation process.

The town government executes ethical and efficient service delivery to the citizens within budget and typically returns any unexpended funds back to reduce taxes. Town government prepares an efficient cost and responsive budget for the town's consideration. The town government endeavors to find ways to provide lower tax impact to the town government portion of the tax rate.

**4. What could the town government improve, and how?** I believe the town government should reach out to voters and the finance committee earlier to discuss public needs and the budget pressure. Specifically, the town government needs to improve communication for the timely replacement of all departments' assets that are not in condition to meet the town service. This will achieve a timelier asset replacement, minimize budget repair overruns, reduce excessive overtime and improve service deliveries.

The town government should endeavor to find ways to reduce the town government's portion of the tax rate.



**Name:** Benson Goodwin

**Contact:** [bgoodwin@wearenh.gov](mailto:bgoodwin@wearenh.gov)

**1. Tell us about your background: your education, line of work, how long you have lived in Weare and your involvement in the community.**

I was born and raised in New Hampshire and have been a resident of Weare since 2013. My professional life has been dedicated to public service, spanning over 30 years, beginning as a volunteer firefighter/EMT in 1989 and retiring as an emergency dispatcher from the Goffstown Police in June 2025. I hold a Bachelor of Science in Geography and a Master's in Public Administration, which have provided me with a strong foundation in municipal operations, planning, and budgeting. My local involvement includes serving as Weare's Animal Control Officer, participating in the Goffstown Rotary, and volunteering as a Granite State Ambassador.

Currently, I continue to serve the community through my handyman business and by performing duties as a Justice of the Peace and Bail Commissioner. I am honored to currently serve as a member of the Selectboard and look forward to continuing that work to ensure that we keep Weare moving in the right direction.

**2. What specific skills do you bring to the position?**

Throughout my 30 years as a public employee, primarily in emergency dispatch, I've seen firsthand the importance of listening carefully and acting thoughtfully, especially when it matters most. My experience with labor unions and various boards has taught me how to take a complicated issue, break it down into its component parts, and solve each piece effectively. I've learned that the best public service comes from being both efficient and decisive, while always keeping the community's needs at the center of the conversation. I bring this same practical, problem-solving approach to every Selectboard meeting to ensure we are making the best decisions for Weare.

**3. What is the town government doing right?** We have a lot of good, hardworking people in our town departments who really care about Weare. One thing I think the Selectboard is doing well right now is staying focused on the basics: keeping our services running and being careful with every tax dollar. We are fortunate to have department heads and staff who show up every

day with a high level of professionalism and a genuine commitment to our success. As a board, we've worked hard to provide a stable, reliable environment for our residents. We've balanced long-term planning and budgeting with the immediate, practical needs of the town. I believe we've been successful in focusing on common-sense decisions that protect Weare's character while keeping us moving in the right direction.

**4. What could the town government improve, and how?** While we are doing the basics well, I believe we can always improve how we communicate with our residents. Town business can get complicated, and it shouldn't be a chore for people to understand how decisions are made. To improve this, I will continue to listen closely to ensure that the selectboard remains accessible. My goal is to ensure that our approach continues to be practical, fair, transparent, and respectful of the taxpayers.



**Name:** Cortland Manton  
**Contact:** Facebook or [manton.cortland@gmail.com](mailto:manton.cortland@gmail.com)

**1. Tell us about your background: your education, line of work, how long you have lived in Weare and your involvement in the community.** I grew up in Southern

Vermont with my parents and older brother, building houses with my family when not in school. In our free time we rode dirt bikes, played with our dog, and participated in Scouts. Working my way up from Cub Scouts, then through Boy Scouts earning the Arrow of Light and Eagle Scout along the way.

In fall of 2016 I moved to New Hampshire due to economic opportunity, no political representation in VT, and to attend Nashua Community College. There I obtained an associate's degree in Precision Manufacturing which led to my current job at General Electric Aerospace, where we machine jet engine parts for military and commercial aircraft. I have been there for 9 years, which through being fiscally responsible, let me buy my house on Mountain Road, in March of 2022. For most of that time I have been working night shift so my activity in the community hasn't been a lot other than to vote.

**2. What specific skills do you bring to the position?** Through different life experiences and situations, I have developed and improved my communication and interpersonal skills. Being a fast learner and highly motivated, especially in team settings, assists with my

skills as a moderator and translator between different parties. I am continually encouraged to fill any needs of a team in order to promote the success of all parties involved in a positive manner.

**3. What is the town government doing right?** Town department heads do a very good job working within finance allotments and guidelines, to stay under budget. They also do a good job communicating to the public through social media and other means encouraging a partnership with the public.

**4. What could the town government improve, and how?** Communication of town business is something that should be more widespread, easily viewed, and accessible by the public. Different town organizations; such as the PD, DPW, and the FD all use social media platforms, like Facebook, to readily engage with the community, providing constant updates for public safety or other important information. Creating or being a part of "pages" on Facebook helps spread town news and updates quickly, this should be used to better transparency of town business.

Public business meetings, on the other hand, use YouTube, and Weare Channel 6, which have low virtual attendance and overall views. An increase in a social media presence can help encourage more interaction with the general public on town matters. This grows the public and town government partnership to lead our town well and better aligned in the people's interest.



**Weare School Board**



**Name:** Christine Heath  
**Contact:** [christine.heath@sau24.org](mailto:christine.heath@sau24.org)

**1. Tell us about your background: your education, line of work, how long you have lived in Weare, whether you have children in the school system, and your involvement in Weare schools and the community.** Thank you for this opportunity to connect with our community. I moved to Weare 23 years ago and for the past 17 years, my husband and I

have been raising our family. Our oldest is a junior at John Stark and our youngest is an eighth grader at Weare Middle School. I started going to school board meetings and finance committee meetings before running for the Weare School Board in 2020. I feel it is important to learn and understand, before taking on such an important role in our community. I am a member of the Weare Friends PTO and a 29 year public school teacher. I have also worked with many NH colleges and universities as a cooperating teacher and as a mentor within my own school. Being an educator and mom gives me insight and background to the happenings in our schools. Being on the Weare School Board for 6 years has taught me the time, effort and knowledge needed to put together a responsible budget and negotiate contracts that retain our staff. I have decided to also run for the open seat on the John Stark School Board. I look forward to being able to serve my community in an additional way!

**2. What specific skills do you bring to the position?** I bring knowledge of public education from three view points - mom, teacher and board member. I feel that I am thoughtful, responsible and respectful. There have been challenges over the last 6 years, and I feel that I have learned to be a better listener and problem solver, in order to represent the community of Weare.

**3. What are Weare schools doing right?** Weare schools have created communities of learners. My girls enjoy going to school and feel safe, educationally challenged and connected. Specifically, over the past two years, the staff has worked hard to implement new curricula, support students' needs and improve testing and behavioral data. This has resulted in average to above average growth, bringing Weare closer to the state average. We are seeing more staff retention which only supports the above mentioned progress and connected community.

**4. What could Weare schools improve, and how?** I feel that Weare is going in the right direction and will continue, with the community's support. The testing data does need to continue to improve, so that our schools are seen as the valuable resource that they are, because many use testing data to judge that. As a board member who represents the schools, I'd like to improve communication with our community and their participation at our monthly board meetings. As elected officials, we need to be more available where community members are. We've started this by being at sports games, PTO meetings and school functions. The more community members understand our budget and

negotiating processes, the stronger our community can be.

Thank you for this opportunity to share and I would appreciate your vote to continue my position on the Weare School Board and also to join the John Stark School Board.



**Name:** Katie Lipp

**Contact:**

[Katherine.arnold1@gmail.com](mailto:Katherine.arnold1@gmail.com)

**1. Tell us about your background: your education, line of work, how long you have lived in Weare, whether you have children in the school system, and your involvement in Weare schools and the community.** Hi neighbors! I have lived and paid taxes in Weare for 10 years, where I have also served as a youth coach, Friend of the Weare Public Library, and School Board member. I hold a Masters in Social Work, am a certified Project Management Professional, and am licensed as an independent clinical social worker. I work as a behavioral health consultant providing clinical, strategic, and operational support to government agencies and health care organizations. My two children attend both schools in this district, giving me firsthand insight into our strengths and opportunities. I was honored to be elected to a one-year term last March and am seeking reelection so I can continue the work we are doing to retain teachers, improve student outcomes and respond thoughtfully to increasing costs.

**2. What specific skills do you bring to the position?** I bring strategic leadership, data-driven decision-making, and deep experience in child, family, and behavioral health systems. In my professional work, I regularly analyze data to assess needs, evaluate outcomes, and guide funding and policy decisions.

My work has focused on improving public systems by identifying what works, correcting inefficiencies, and implementing sustainable solutions. I have led large-scale initiatives, managed complex projects, and worked closely with educators, administrators, and community partners to deliver outcomes. I value clear communication, thoughtful planning, and accountability. My background in facilitation and change management allows me to respect differing viewpoints while keeping discussions focused on student achievement, safety, and long-term success.

**3. What are Weare schools doing right?** Weare schools do a lot right, and that deserves recognition. We have

dedicated teachers and staff who know our students personally and care deeply about their success. In a small town, those relationships matter. With improved staff retention, we are starting to see improvements in our test scores; continuing to pay our teachers a fair and adequate wage will be critical to further progress.

Our schools also make careful use of limited resources. Taxpayers expect careful stewardship, and I see real effort to prioritize classrooms and students even when budgets are tight. I also respect all of the work our administrators put into transparently communicating where tax dollars are going in each school board meeting and public hearing.

**4. What could Weare schools improve, and how?** Like many districts, Weare is experiencing significant growth in special education needs and associated costs. Needs are particularly high in our youngest classes and will require continued attention. As needs increase, so does the potential for Medicaid reimbursement. While Medicaid billing can't cover the full cost, it's an important lever we must continue to strengthen.

We can also continue to improve communication and engagement between the school board, families, and taxpayers. While detailed information is made available, it is clear that this information is not reaching the general public or perhaps not in a way that is helpful to them. Reducing barriers through plain language summaries, childcare at hearings and deliberative sessions, and clear explanations of procedures could help more community members participate.



**Name:** Ermelinda Timmins  
**Contact:** [ectimmins@gmail.com](mailto:ectimmins@gmail.com)

**1. Tell us about your background: your education, line of work, how long you have lived in Weare, whether you have children in the school**

**system, and your involvement in Weare schools and the community.** I have lived in Weare for almost a decade and I am a parent of two children currently attending Center Woods Elementary School. Like many families here, I live in town, pay taxes here, and care deeply about the quality and future of our schools.

For the past 12 years, I have worked — and continue to work — in higher education technology, supporting students, faculty, and complex educational systems. My work has given me insight into how schools operate behind the scenes, how technology and resources are used to support learning, and how thoughtful planning can improve outcomes.

Beyond work, I am actively involved in the community through coaching youth sports, volunteering, and participating in school and town activities. These experiences have allowed me to connect with families, educators, and students in meaningful ways and better understand the needs of our community.

**2. What specific skills do you bring to the position?** I bring a combination of practical experience, analytical thinking, and collaboration. My professional background has required working across departments, balancing budgets and priorities, using data to inform decisions, and communicating clearly with a wide range of stakeholders.

I value transparency, listening, and long-term planning. I am comfortable asking thoughtful questions, evaluating options, and working toward solutions that support students while being fiscally responsible to taxpayers. I also bring a strong understanding of how technology can be used effectively — and responsibly — to support learning and operations.

**3. What are Weare schools doing right?** Weare schools benefit from dedicated educators and staff who care deeply about students and their success. There is a strong sense of community, and many families are engaged and supportive of the schools.

I see positive efforts in fostering student growth, maintaining relationships between schools and families, and supporting students both academically and socially. These strengths provide a solid foundation to build upon as the district continues to evolve.

**4. What could Weare schools improve, and how?** Like many districts, Weare faces challenges related to communication, long-term planning, and balancing educational needs with financial realities. I believe there are opportunities to strengthen transparency, improve how information is shared with the community, and engage families more consistently in meaningful dialogue.

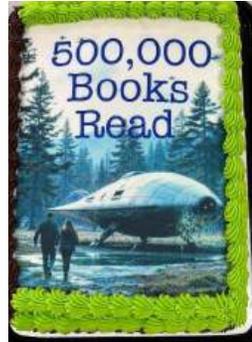
By focusing on thoughtful planning, data-informed decision-making, and collaboration with educators and families, the district can continue to improve while being mindful of resources. My goal would be to support continuous improvement in a way that is inclusive, respectful, and focused on student success.



# The Weare Area Writers Guild

By Sharon Czarnecki

Milestone Reached! We at the Writers Guild are very proud to announce that David Collins, one of our published authors, has now sold 500,000 books on Amazon's Kindle Unlimited. If you like science fiction, I am sure you will agree with us that he has an unusual humorous approach which sets his work apart. There are over 36 books to choose from! Just Google David Collins author to find his page for more information.



## Weare's First Annual Top Dog Raffle



Photo by Sharon Czarnecki

As you can see from the above photo, Arya has a pet dog. Every year, as a good citizen of Weare, she makes sure the family human gets her dog licensed. Caroline is very appreciative of the new jewelry when it arrives and a bit disappointed that it is only once per year.

Caroline is now a proudly licensed Weare dog awaiting her chances in the Top Dog Raffle. Good luck, Caroline.

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

Please note: a valid rabies certificate must be on file upon licensing. We will be holding a rabies clinic on **March 19th from 5:30-7:00** at the Old Town Hall.

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

Questions can be directed to the Town Clerk's office at 603-529-7527 or [pmoul@wearenh.gov](mailto:pmoul@wearenh.gov)

**4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL 4-WAY SPEECH CONTEST**  
 Rotary Club of Henniker

4-Way Speech Contest is a Rotary-sponsored event that challenges young speakers to explore ethical decision-making through the lens of Rotary's 4-Way Test.

**CONFIDENCE, CLARITY, CONNECTION**

Local Competition Date: **22ND MARCH 2026**  
 HENNIKER COMMUNITY CENTER

Semi - Finals Date: **12TH APRIL 2026**  
 HENNIKER COMMUNITY CENTER

**ARRIVE AT 12:00 PM**

**4-WAY TEST:**

- 1 Is it the truth?
- 2 Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- 4 Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

**REGISTRATION IS FREE CASH PRIZES**

1st Place	\$500
2nd Place	\$300
3rd Place	\$200

**OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS 9-12 GRADE**

★ John Stark  
 ★ Hillsboro - Deering  
 ★ home & private school students  
 Registration deadline on **FEBRUARY 20, 2025**

**Winners move onto District Level Competition**  
 Be prepared, dress the part and give us your best!

Here's how it works:  
 Speech Requirements: Contestants prepare a 6-7 minute speech that applies the 4-Way Test to a topic of their choice—personal, social, or global.  
 Judging Criteria: Speeches are evaluated on content, delivery, originality, and how well they incorporate the 4-Way Test.  
 Competition Levels: Students start at the club level, then advance through to district level.  
 Purpose: To promote ethical thinking, public speaking skills, and youth engagement with Rotary values.  
 It's a powerful platform for young voices to speak up, think critically, and inspire change.

More Information: [JANE.JEPSON@SAU24.ORG](mailto:JANE.JEPSON@SAU24.ORG) (JSRH) [MPRENTISS@HDSO.ORG](http://MPRENTISS@HDSO.ORG) (H-D HS)

**Weare Garden Club**

**Join us on March 3 at 7:00 PM**  
**for an ice cream social and our first meeting of 2026!**

**We meet the first Tuesday of each month for presentations, sharing, and conversations about gardening!**

**Hand in Hand SENIOR CENTER & THRIFT SHOP**  
 33 N STARK HWY,  
 WEARE 603-529-4263

All Are Welcome!

## Weare Public Library

### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### MONDAYS

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

#### TUESDAYS

- 10:30 a.m.: Mother Goose Storytimes (ages 0-2). Rhymes, stories, and songs for babies and toddlers – followed by playtime.
- 2:15-4.30 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month): Anime + D&D Club (ages 12-18). Like anime? Like D&D? Stop by after school to watch your favorite anime shows OR play D&D OR watch anime and play D&D AT THE SAME TIME!

#### TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

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

#### WEDNESDAYS

- 10:30 a.m.: Pre-K Storytimes (ages 3-5). Enjoy longer stories, fingerplays, flannel, and songs followed by a craft or related activity.
- 2.15-5 p.m.: Afterschool Gaming (ages 6+). Drop in to challenge your friends on the Nintendo Switch and other systems. Featuring collaborative games like Smash Bros, Mario Kart, and Minecraft.

#### THURSDAYS

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

#### FRIDAYS

- 10:30 a.m.-12.00 p.m.: Baby Playgroup (ages 0-3). An informal gathering of young children and moms with early literacy toys. Get out of the house; meet new friends!

### SPECIAL EVENTS

- Wednesday, Feb 25 at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (ages 0-6). Drop-In Playtime: Stop in and play with toys, playdough sets, puzzles, and games
- Thursday, Feb. 26 at 7:00 p.m. (adults). Book Group: Hannah Coulter. We're reading and discussing this historical fiction by Wendell Berry. An elderly woman reflects on her life in a fictional Kentucky from the 1920s to today. Call the library at 603-529-2044 to reserve your copy.

- Saturday, March 14 at 11:00 a.m. - Weare Middle School. Knockout for a Cause & Pi-Day Smashfest. Play for a purpose! Join the Friends of the Library and shoot your shot in a fast-paced game of basketball skills to benefit summer programming. Top it with a Pie by the Slice Sale AND enter the raffle to put a pie in the faces of teachers, coaches, and more!
- Tuesday, March 17 at noon. Book Group at the Hand In Hand Senior Center: "Someone Else's Shoes". Join us for a new book group at the Hand In Hand Senior Center! We're reading "Someone Else's Shoes" by Jo Jo Moyes - a story of resilience, female friendship, and finding your own path, filled with Moyes' signature humor and warmth. Pick up your copy at the senior center after February 17th.
- Thursday, March 19 at 6:30 p.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> of the month) (all ages). Peaceful Roots Yoga. Elevate community connection through mindful, fun, and creative movement with Yoga Master Amanda Marusarz! In this free workshop you'll learn simple, mindful flow that focuses on breathwork and deep stretches in those overworked places with easy-to-follow poses accompanied by light music and aromatherapy.

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

The WPL offers discounted passes:

**Weare Public Library** *Free & Discounted*  
**MUSEUM & PARK PASSES**  
Call us to reserve yours: 603-529-2044

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
CURRIER MUSEUM of ART  
THE ERIC CARLE MUSEUM OF PICTURE BOOK ART  
MOUNT WASHINGTON OBSERVATORY  
Museum of Science  
SEACOAST SCIENCE CENTER  
see science center  
SQUAM LAKES NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER  
WWW.NH.NATURE.ORG  
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE PARKS  
ZOO NEW ENGLAND  
Franklin Park Zoo - Stone Zoo

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

**HAND IN  
HAND**



**SENIOR CENTER  
& THRIFT SHOP**

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

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

**Wed – Sat, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**603-529-4263/ [www.facebook.com/hihsc.org](http://www.facebook.com/hihsc.org)**

*“Like the seeds dreaming beneath the snow your heart dreams of spring”*

- Khalil Gibran

At Hand in Hand, some do indeed dream of spring while others are enjoying the snow, snowshoeing, or playing with the younger generation making snowmen and snow angels.

The Garden Club, ready to sow their seeds, will hold their first meeting of the year on **Tuesday, March 3 at 7 p.m.** Apropos of the season, ice cream will be served. All are welcome.

Through the efforts of Sandy Turcotte, Hand in Hand has secured another grant from the State of New Hampshire for Tai Chi. Read more about it in the next issue of WITW.



*Sandy Turcotte (Instructor) shown with Tai Chi class members. Photo by Heleen Kurk*

The 12 o'clock Tuesday Book Club at the Center is off to a good start. Thanks to Dena at the library, Hand in Hand Senior Center can get multiple copies of the books we decide to read. The first book is “Someone Else’s Shoes” by JoJo Moyes which we will be discussing at noon on **Tuesday, March 17**, at the Center. We have a few copies left if you want to join. Stop by the Center to sign one out.

Laughter echoed across the tables, pegs clicked steadily along wooden boards, and friendly banter filled the room as Hand in Hand Senior Center hosted its first cribbage tournament. What began as a simple evening of cards quickly became a celebration of camaraderie,

concentration, and community connection. After several competitive rounds and plenty of memorable hands, two players emerged at the top of the leaderboard. Doug LeBlanc ranked first in overall wins, but it was Lea Anderson-Smith who claimed the championship title with steady play, sharp counting, and calm focus under pressure in the final cribbage match. The event ended the way it began—with smiles. Plans for the next tournament are already in the works, and if this one was any indication, the pegs will be flying again soon.



*Doug LeBlanc (Overall Wins) & Lea Anderson-Smith (Champion). Photo by Heleen Kurk*

Don't forget about the program offered by Granite VNA on “Brain Health” at **12:45 on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**. Whatever your age, there's always something more you can learn to keep your brain healthy and active. Join us.

Help Hand in Hand grow and become more relevant to you. Share your ideas and suggestions, and we'll do what we can to develop them and make them happen.



All are welcome to lunch every Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Dine in, take out, or free delivery (call 603-529-4263).

**February 25:** Breakfast quiche, mixed fruit

**March 4:** Pasta salad, bean salad and grilled hot dogs.

**March 11:** Million Dollar Spaghetti, bread, salad

Coffee, tea, and various desserts are also available. Donations are graciously accepted. All are welcome to stay and socialize, play games, and work on crafts.




# 10 Ways to Love Your Brain



**Join Us! No registration required!**

**Wednesday, Feb. 25  
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.**

**Learn about our aging brain, discuss tips to keep your brain healthy, and increase awareness about cognitive impairments such as Alzheimer's disease**

**HAND IN HAND SENIOR CENTER & THRIFT SHOP  
33 N STARK HWY, WEARE 603-529-4263**



## POETRY CORNER

### A Safe Harbour

Stepping out of the car into the night, my heart leapt for joy as I looked up, inky sky twinkled with blazing stars, way too many to count, "Where have you been all these stormy nights," I asked the stars, "Waiting for clouds to pass," they replied in a chorus of melodious angel sounds, their sparkle pure bliss, rooted to the ground under this canopy of awesome luminosity, I knew I was in a safe harbor of mystery.

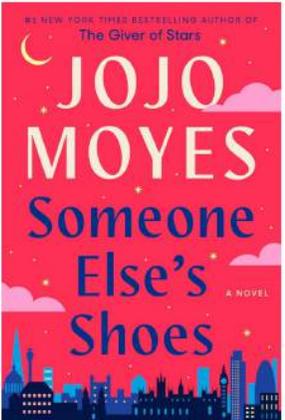
- Marge Burke

### Snow Banks

Landscape dotted with gigantic mounds of snow, plowed from storms that are the norm this winter, some so high they might tumble, except they won't packed so solid, create their own spectacles of grandeur, images of jagged mountain peaks, curves and slopes adding texture, challenging the mind to describe them, illusions of fantasy, capture the moment before the spring melt.

- Marge Burke

## Hand in Hand Senior Book Group



Join us at the Hand In Hand Senior Center on March 17th at noon. Pick up your copy at the senior center.

Who are you when you are forced to walk in someone else's shoes? A story of mix-ups, mess-ups and making the most of second chances.






## Church Corner



### Weare Bible Baptist Church

82 N. Stark Hwy. Weare, NH

**WORSHIP: SUNDAYS 11 a.m.**

*Changing lives one verse at a time.*

Sunday School at **10 a.m.**

Fellowship Service **12:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday** prayer meeting **7:00 p.m.**

*Live streaming on YouTube @wearebiblebaptist for most services*

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

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

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

For more information contact us: (603) 212-1600  
email: [office@wearebiblebaptist.com](mailto:office@wearebiblebaptist.com)

Website: [wearebiblebaptist.com](http://wearebiblebaptist.com)

### Holy Cross Happenings

We at Holy Cross Church are happy to share with the community good news about the yellow shed in our parking lot for used clothing drop-offs. During the 2025 year, St. Pauley Textile, Inc., with whom we partner, collected 41,073 pounds of used clothing. This was enough to clothe an estimated 7,566 people all over the world.

St. Pauly's thanks us for hosting our shed, and we, in turn, thank all of you in our town who drop-off your used clothing in the yellow shed and made 7,566 people around the world happy with new-to-them clothing.

### Contact Us

[weareintheworldnews@gmail.com](mailto:weareintheworldnews@gmail.com)

Layout Editor – Evelien Schaafsma

Assistant Editor – Alyssa Small

Town News – Tom Clow

School News – Marge Burke

Community Outreach – Sharon Czarnecki



### Rabies Clinic – Dogs & Cats

**Thursday March 19<sup>th</sup>**

**at the Old Town Hall**

**16 N. Stark Highway, Weare**

**5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**cost is \$10.00 per animal**

This clinic serves both dogs and cats.

It would be helpful to know your pet's age and weight.

### Mark Your Calendar

**Wed., Feb. 25**

6 p.m. – Ethics Committee meeting

**Thurs., Feb. 26**

7 p.m. – Planning Board meeting

**Mon., March 1**

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

**Thurs., March 5**

6:30 p.m. – Cemetery Advisory Committee meeting

7 p.m. – Public Library Trustees meeting

**Fri., March 6**

11 a.m. – Weare Area Writers Guild meeting

**Mon., March 9**

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

**Tues., March 10**

**7 a.m. – 7 p.m. – Town Voting at Weare Middle School**

**Wed., March 11**

6 p.m. – John Stark School Board meeting

7 p.m. – Conservation Commission meeting

7 p.m. – Weare Democrats meeting