



Weare in the World

For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents

March 11, 2026

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Officers Honored for Work on Radio Communication System

By Police Capt. Frank Hebert

The Weare Police Department's Commendation Award has been awarded to Sergeant Brandon Montplaisir and Officer Laura Purslow for their attention to detail and tireless efforts in the successful redesign and upgrade of the Emergency Radio Communications System to meet the needs of the community, while significantly reducing the overall cost of the project and eliminating recurring fees.

It has been well documented that the Emergency Radio Communication System for the Town of Weare compromised the health, safety and welfare of both the general public and municipal employees due to unreliable coverage throughout the town. This deficiency was notably highlighted in an officer involved shooting in 2019, when an officer sustained a life-threatening gunshot wound and responding officers were initially unable to request emergency medical assistance because the radio system failed to transmit.

Early projections to correct the system estimated costs of approximately \$1.4 million for the system itself, in addition to tens of thousands of dollars in recurring annual fees. In 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law. When funding from this act was distributed to municipalities, the Weare Board of Selectmen prioritized using these funds to address the town's radio infrastructure deficiencies. Challenges such as proposed tower locations that failed to meet coverage requirements and the burden of recurring annual fees threatened to derail the project.

In June 2022, the Weare Police Department volunteered to lead and facilitate the design and implementation of the emergency radio system upgrades. Sergeant Montplaisir and Officer Purslow worked diligently to identify tower locations capable of providing adequate coverage and negotiated with tower owners regarding equipment placement and fees. Their efforts resulted in identifying three existing cell towers whose owners agreed to allow equipment installation on the towers with no recurring costs. Additionally, they identified town-owned property for the construction of a new tower that would provide the necessary northeast coverage.

The project was completed in November 2025 at a cost of just over \$900,00 and carries no recurring annual fees.



Officer Laura Purslow is shown above receiving a commendation from Police Chief Christopher Moore for her effort in improving the emergency radio communication system. (courtesy photo)



Sergeant Brandon Montplaisir, shown here, recently received a commendation for his effort in improving the emergency radio communication system. (Courtesy photo)



DOING 10 TO 20

The Town of Weare has awarded longevity ribbons to Captain Frank Hebert (Right) for 20 years of service, Sergeant Brandon Montplaisir (Left) for 15 years, and Administrative Assistant Emily Dauphinais for 10 years.



Henniker Area Rotary Club

Calling all local high schoolers!

Our annual 4-Way Speech Contest is back for 2026, and it's the perfect stage to sharpen your public speaking skills while tackling the big questions.

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

Winners also move on to the District Level Competition for even more prizes!

The Rules:

We're looking for: confidence, clarity, and connection.

Open to: all students in grades 9-12 (John Stark, Hillsboro-Deering, and home/private school students are all welcome!). **Topic:** Choose a topic you're passionate about—personal, social, or global. **Length:** Your speech must be between 5–7 minutes. **The Challenge:** Apply the Rotary 4-Way Test to your topic:

- * Is it the truth?
- * Is it fair to all concerned?
- * Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- * Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Key Dates

Registration Deadline: **March 21**, 2026

Local Competition: **March 22**, 2026, 12:00 p.m. at Henniker Community Center (57 Main Street Henniker)

Semi-Finals: **April 12**, 2026

TO APPLY:

Contact your school representative or reach out to us directly for an application:

Jane Jepson (JSRH): jane.jepson@sau24.org

M. Prentiss (H-D HS): mprentiss@hdsd.org



Legion Auxiliary

By Ellie Chapman –
Member Philbrick Clement Post
65 Weare, NH

Welcome to March...the spring thaw begins (hopefully). I've written in a prior article about how the American Legion Auxiliary came to be, back in 1919, following the first American Legion Caucus held in Paris. Its purpose was to advocate for and to assist veterans and their families. In March of 1921, it made efforts to expand the organization and, by that November, they had a total of 24 departments. The name "American Legion Auxiliary" became official at the first national convention in 1921. Believe it or not, our own Philbrick - Clement Post Auxiliary Unit was granted their charter in August of 1920!

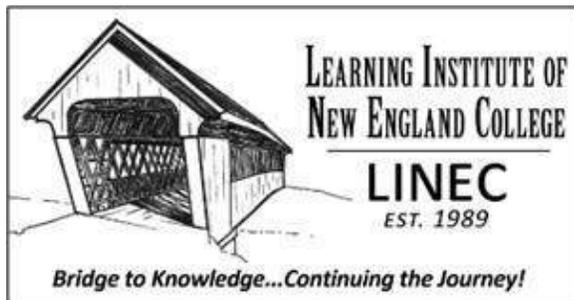
It continues today thanks to many, many volunteers who take on the responsibilities of our unit. March brings us to swearing in our appointed officers - new and the ones who continue in their position and responsibilities from the prior year. This ceremony was held this week at the Legion Post. Our District 2 Director, Lisa Wright, came to our unit to perform the swearing in ceremony.



(From left to right) Linda Holbrook – President / Rose Gilman – Vice President / Becca Drabble – Secretary / Maryanne Greene – Treasurer / Ellie Chapman – Historian / Cathy Skirkey – Sergeant-at-Arms / Deb Chase – Chaplain / Lisa Wright – District Director forefront

Many thanks to all of our officers and members who keep our unit active in our community!

I'd like thank our community again for all of the support you have given us to help make our fundraising efforts a success. If you'd like to see if you are eligible for membership, just go to www.ALForVeterans.org.



Something's New at LINEC

By Chris Hague

Something's new at LINEC (The Learning Institute of New England College): we have a new website at LINEC.org, a simplified course registration process, new short courses and the spring course list.

LINEC's ongoing, informal monthly book group, The Art of the Novel, meets at Tucker Free Library in Henniker every first Wednesday afternoon. In April, Professor of English Emeritus Don Melander will lead a discussion of Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*, followed in May by Michael Cunningham's *The Hours*.

A new monthly group will meet second Thursday afternoons at Tucker Free Library to discuss science topics participants choose, led by Curtiss Rude, a retired physicist and electrical engineer. No special expertise is required, just curiosity. Reading material, if used, will be provided.

Lisa Melander knows that for many, math was not a favorite subject. Recreational Math, meeting May 8 at the Congregational Church in Hopkinton will give participants a chance to play math games and discover ways math offers enjoyment and wonder. Everyone of any skill level is invited. In-person classes meet from 10 AM to noon at the First Congregational Church in Hopkinton from April 6 to mid-May.

Tuesday mornings, Glenn Stuart, NEC Theater Professor Emeritus, presents Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure," a timely dark comedy that explores justice, hypocrisy, corruption, and mercy in a way that resonates powerfully today. His classes include video presentations of the play and lively discussions.

"The Symphony" will meet Wednesdays, guided by Dave Wasilew, a lifelong music lover besides being an engineer and software developer. This class will hear selections by composers, and learn their personal stories and cultural influences. It's not necessary to be a musician to appreciate each session.

Three afternoon Zoom classes meet at 1:30 PM. Mondays. Don Melander will lead discussion of Dante's *Inferno*, using John Ciardi's translation of *The Divine Comedy*, of which *The Inferno* is his first book.

Alexander von Humboldt was the most famous scientist of the 19th century. On Tuesday afternoons, join Eric Simon, a scientist and educator, who explores the

intersection of biology, nature, and the humanities. "Alexander von Humbolt's Epic Journey to South America" will explore and discuss thought provoking topics.

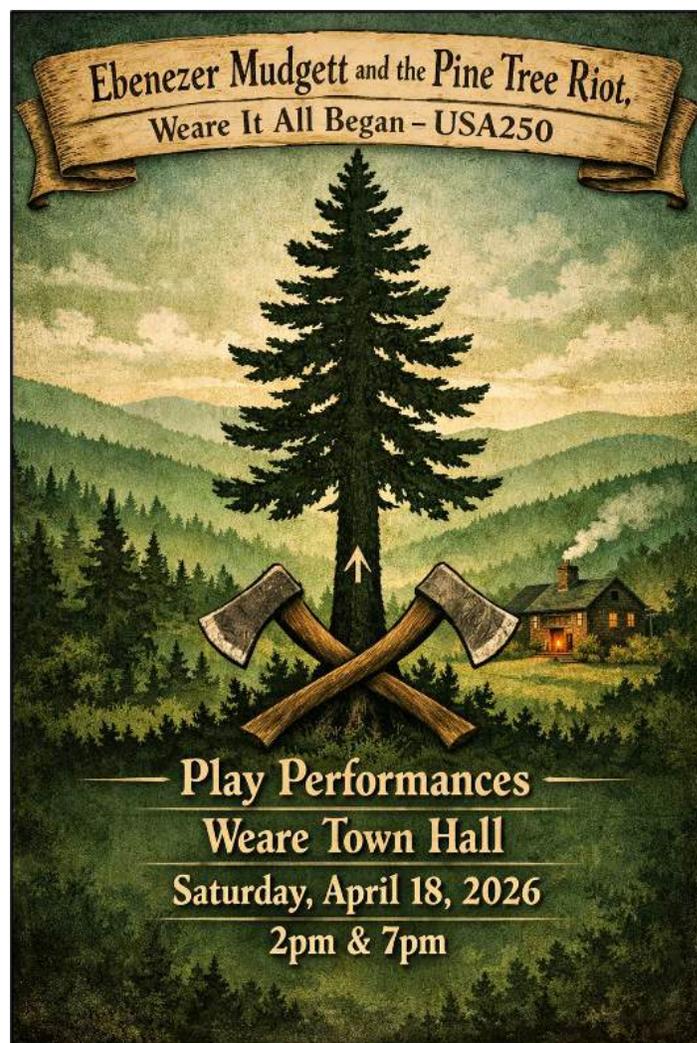
Lisa Melander, an educator and NEC graduate with a degree in philosophy, will continue "Philosophy in the 20th Century," a discussion based on A. C. Grayling's *The History of Philosophy*, on Wednesdays when the LINEC book group is not scheduled.

Thursdays from 5 to 6:30 PM, join "Misplaced and Unresolved: Varina Howell Davis, First Lady of the Confederacy." A student of Civil War medicine, and American literature, Sarah Traphagen will explore this complicated woman's history.



Course details and registration information is available at linec.org. Registration is open until March 23. New participants are encouraged to join.

Professor Dick Hesse leading discussion at a LINEC class





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: **Wednesday and Sunday 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 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 - the 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.

Contact Us

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Weare's First Annual Top Dog Raffle

All it takes to be a cool dog in Weare is to get your license and be sure your rabies shot is up to date. Make sure your dog is part of the "in" crowd.

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 p.m. 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

JOIN US FOR ANOTHER

CHILI NIGHT!

FRI. MARCH 20TH
4-7 PM
OLD TOWN HALL • 16 N STARK HWY



Chili of all kinds- vote for your favorite!
Cornbread & cobbler too

	Adults- \$10	*\$30
	Kids (5-12)- \$5	Family
	4 and under- free!	Cap!

Hosted/paid for by Weare Democratic Committee
<https://wearenhdemocrats.org>



Rabies Clinic – Dogs & Cats

Thursday March 19th
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.



Kaison's Sugar House. Photo by Alyssa Small.

Weare Public Library

WEEKLY EVENTS

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

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

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

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

THURSDAYS

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

FRIDAYS

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Thursday, Mar 12 at 3:30 p.m. (age 5+). **Crafty Creative Creations: Snow Globes**. Make your own Snow Globe! Supplies provided. Space is limited. Call the library to register.
- Saturday, Mar 14 at 11:00 a.m. (at the Weare Middle School). **Knockout, Pi-Day Smashfest, & Pie Sale**. 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, Mar 17 at noon (adults). **Book Group at the Hand In Hand Senior Center**. 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.

- Thursday, Mar 19 at 6:30 p.m. (3rd Thursday of the month) (all ages). **Peaceful Roots Yoga**. Elevate community connection through mindful, fun, and creative movement with Yoga Master Amanda Marusz! 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.

- Thursday, Mar 26 at 7:00 p.m. (adults). **Book Group: The Bullet That Missed**. We're reading a mystery by Richard Osman. It is an ordinary Thursday, and things should finally be returning to normal. Except trouble is never far away where the Thursday Murder Club is concerned. Call the library to reserve your copy.

- Tuesday, Apr 14 at 3:00 p.m. (grades 4 & 5). **Kids Book Club**. Meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month to talk about a book you've read. April's theme: MYSTERY. Pick a book from home, from school, or from the library and come to share your thoughts and hear about what others are reading. Call the library to reserve your spot.

**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 NEW HAMPSHIRE
CURRIER MUSEUM of ART
THE ERIC CARLE MUSEUM OF PICTURE BOOK ART
MW OBS MOUNT WASHINGTON OBSERVATORY
Museum of Science
SEACOAST SCIENCE CENTER
see science center
SQUAM LAKES NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER WWW.KHINATURE.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

“Kindness is like snow – it beautifies everything it covers”

- Khalil Gibran

Support and kindness abound at Hand in Hand Senior Center. People helping and supporting each other and the Center with words of appreciation, donations, suggestions, laughter, and outreach. Think about getting involved in Hand in Hand and helping it to grow with your ideas, passion and time. The goal is to build a center that provides things of interest for people 50+. Reach out to us and let us know what you want.

There were many busy hands learning how to braid rugs and walk away with a hand-braided coaster. Donna continues to teach and share her knowledge and passion for all things crafts.



Photo by Heleen Kurk

Speaking of Donna, with the latest snowstorm, Donna continues to lead snowshoers who are interested on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Meet her in front of Hand in Hand to carpool. Before you know it, the snowshoeing will change to hiking.

The newly formed daytime **book club** will meet on **Tuesday, March 17** at noon at the Center. We'll discuss "Someone Else's Shoes" by Jojo Moyes. There will be copies of the next book, "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak. The book club will meet once a month on the third Tuesday of the month. All are welcome.

Join us on **Tuesday, March 24 at 3 p.m.** for an **afternoon at the movies** and watch "Fried Green Tomatoes" which serves up a heaping portion of tall

tales, harrowing situations, and issues we can all relate to. Refreshments will enhance your viewing experience.

After lunch on Wednesday, **March 25**, Kaylee, a John Stark High School senior pursuing a career in cosmetology, will organize a **one-day, spa-style care event** for seniors. You must sign up with Heleen by **Friday, March 20**. We are thrilled to be making another connection with young people from our local schools.

In March we spread Irish cheer by saying, "We wish you the luck of the Irish." But do you know how and why that expression came about? During the American gold and silver rush in the 19th century, many successful miners were Irish immigrants. Some believed their prosperity was due to sheer luck rather than hard work, coining the phrase in a somewhat dismissive tone. Over time, however, it evolved into a term that celebrates Irish resilience, charm, and fortune. And so, Hand in Hand Senior Center wishes young and older, "The luck of the Irish."



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).

March 11: Million Dollar Spaghetti, bread, salad

March 18: Corned beef and cabbage, carrots, potatoes

March 25: Breakfast casserole, fruit

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



Check out our ongoing programs and join in the fun!

Weare Garden Club:
first Tuesday of the month at 7 pm

Writers' Guild:
first and third Friday of the month at 11 am

Book Club:
third Tuesday of the month at noon

Yoga:
every Monday and Thursday at 10:30 am

Crafts & Conversation:
Mondays at noon

Visit our website to learn more!
www.hihsc.org

33 N Stark Hwy, Weare 603-529-4263






LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Hitching Post Car Wash

By Sharon Czarnecki

Some of you may have noticed the 24-hour car wash at 107 North Stark Highway in the north end of town. The Hitching Post - now has a real live person there a lot of the time. The new owner (*as of January 2026*), Quinton Croteau, is often greeting his customers with a smile and lots of attention to any questions they may have. As for the cars, they are happy to have each of their hubcaps pre-rinsed by Croteau himself, or one of his employees.

Croteau has already hired 2 new employees, but expects that to be enough for now. He does have numerous plans to expand the business to meet the needs of his neighbors in Weare. For instance, he is considering adding limited express detailing to the services offered and is open to suggestions for other options you might like to see.

When asked what drew him to this business, he explained that he has always loved the look of a shiny clean car. (He very much enjoys antique car shows, for instance.) Of course, being an integral part of what keeps cars on the road and salt-free in these New Hampshire winters is a great comfort as well. He comments that too often beautiful cars suffer from rusted undercarriages if not protected in the winter.

Croteau also mentioned that he checks every aspect of the business every day that he is there to make sure all 3 of his vacuums work properly with good suction and full-run times, all the jets are performing as they should, and all the brushes are in excellent condition. He explained the condition of the brushes is very important and he does both a visual and a hands on inspection of each of them which is one of the reasons he is on site so much of the time. Croteau is also very proud that they now have upgraded the 2 DIY bays, and you no longer need to drag coins to the machines. Credit cards can now be swiped, inserted, & tapped. *However, if you have been saving up coins; no worries, those can still be used as well.*

Mr. Croteau has over ten years of experience working in this industry and was proud to learn the ins and outs from the former owner of the Hitching Post – Mr. Steve McDonough. When Mr. McDonough was ready to retire, Croteau was happy to step up and make the purchase.

He did canvass other local towns, but honestly felt that Weare had the kind of neighborly atmosphere he enjoys. He has already begun integrating into the local business community and looks forward to participating in all of our local events like Old Home Day.

Lastly, Croteau pointed out that he is offering something new so people



can get to know his business and, at this time, he is accepting memberships which result in a significantly discounted wash card for a group of car washes.

For more information, you can reach him by email at: croteauguinton@gmail.com or go to the website at: www.hitchingpostcarwash.com or find us on our Facebook page.



POETRY CORNER

Snow Management

So much snow,
so little place
to put it
after multiple
storms, snow banks
get higher
with each plowing,
creative
management
called for now,
where to put it,
how to make
intersections
safe to turn
when you have
to drive halfway
into the street
to see what's
coming, or
reconfigure
narrowing
driveway to
use the garage,
snow banks so
high they look
unsteady like
an avalanche
ready to happen,
it is still
February,
there could be more.

—Marge Burke

Struggle Above

The sky is having
 a struggle with itself
 today, happy or
 grumpy, cloudy or
 sunny in a stuck
 weather pattern of
 snow every other
 day, so much we are
 running out of places
 to put plowed snow,
 clouds rumble across
 the sky in shades of grey,
 sun tries to push them
 aside and send happy
 rays so ground glistens,
 patches of blue poke
 through, only to be
 blotted out by grey
 angry clouds ruling
 the sky today, struggle
 ends, storm clouds prevail.

—Marge Burke

Mark Your Calendar

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

Mon., March 16

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

Tues., March 17

3:45 p.m. – Trustees of the Trust Funds meeting
 7 p.m. – Parks and Recreation meeting

Wed., March 18

7 p.m. – Energy Commission meeting

Thurs., March 19

7 p.m. – Master Plan Subcommittee meeting

Fri., March 20

11 a.m. – Weare Area Writers Guild meeting

Sat., March 21

9 a.m. – Weare Republicans meeting

Mon., March 23

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

Tues., March 24

6 p.m. – Weare School Board meeting

Wed., March 25

6 p.m. – Ethics Committee meeting