

Weare in the World

Weare Residents, By Weare Residents
June 26, 2024



Cub Scouts in the Weare patriotic parade on June 22 (Karen Lovett photo).

For more parade images, see page 3.



JSRHS Graduation

June 15, 2024



Madison Walton (Susan Stepanek Lavertu photo).

For more graduation images, see page 2.

Town Moderator Resigns; Temporary Replacement Sought

By Tom Clow

The Town of Weare is seeking a town moderator pro tem, and the responsibility to make that appointment falls to the Supervisors of the Checklist. The complete posting for the position, as it appears on the town website, can be seen below. The opening occurred because the present moderator Jon Morton moved to a different community. Town Clerk Maureen Billodeau said she received Morton's letter of resignation on June 10.

Billodeau said that the New Hampshire Municipal Association offers training sessions for all town officials and the N.H. Secretary of State's office holds webinars for election officials. It is the responsibility of the town moderator to be present at and oversee all local, state and federal elections in the town. Billodeau said that the state primary will be held on Sept. 9, and the general election for state and federal offices will be on Nov. 5.

The person chosen will also moderate the 2025 town deliberative session, which is normally held on the first or second Saturday in February and oversee the 2025 town election in March. In addition, the town moderator is responsible for making appointments to fill any vacancies on the Weare Finance Committee, which begins its meetings in October.

Official Posting on Website

The Supervisors of the Checklist seek letters of interest from registered voters interested in serving as town moderator pro tem to fill the vacant town moderator position. The moderator pro tem would serve from the time of appointment through the March 2025 election, when the town will vote to fill the town moderator position for the remainder of the term.

Interested individuals should review NH RSA Chapter 40 and NH RSA Chapter 659 and familiarize themselves with the duties of the moderator prior to submitting their letters of interest. The moderator pro tem must be available and in

attendance at all elections up to, and including, the town election in March 2025.

Letters of interest must be submitted to the Town Clerk by Friday, July 19.



JSRHS graduation continued All photos courtesy of Susan Stepanek Lavertu



Michael Jezierski



Arik Linstad, Connor Lavertu, Rebecca Scoledge, Eloisa Osgood and Ella Smith.



Kayleigh Megowen with Susan and Dan Williams.



Bradley Dickinson



Logan Montgomery



Rebecca Mussey

Weare Patriotic Celebration, continued



Police Chief Christopher Moore leads the parade.



Weare Public Library staff members in 80s-themed fashion.



N.H. Department of Corrections Honor Guard.



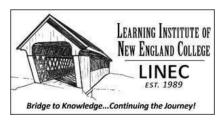
Request for Proposals Lists 2024 Summer Road Projects

By Tom Clow

A request for proposals (RFP) for asphalt paving and reclaiming, posted on the Town of Weare website, lists the road projects planned for this summer. DPW Assistant Sandi Robinson confirmed that this was the latest plan. Clough Park Road, from the bridge over the Piscataquog River to the Dunbarton town line, which is just past the entrance to the state park, and Beech Hill Road, which is off Sugar Hill Road, are scheduled for complete reclaim and reconstruction. Beech Hill is a dead-end road off Sugar Hill Road that ends in a circular turnaround. A drive down either of these roads indicates that work has already been started on culvert replacement.

According to the RFP, Bartlett Drive, Abbie Drive, Balch Hill Road and Lorden Lane are scheduled for a one-inch pavement overlay and a top coat.

In March, voters approved a warrant article that would add \$600,000 to the Road Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund. Up to \$284,000 of that amount was anticipated to come from a State of New Hampshire Highway Block Grant.



Registration Now Open for Summer Classes!

Flat Fee: \$25

Take as many courses as you'd like! Get ready for an exciting summer of learning and growth! Join our summer term classes designed to help you explore and broaden your knowledge in a supportive and stimulating environment.

Our summer term offers an excellent line-up of classes, with great volunteer instructors and speakers. With the exception of the Novel Reading Group and the Supreme Court Review, each course runs for four weeks beginning the first or second week of July. See the website for details: www.linec.org

With courses in-person and over Zoom, there's plenty to choose from. **Zoom courses are marked with an** *.

- Poets of Place: Edwin Arlington Robinson's Tilbury Town, Maine
- Culturally Curious? Great Stories from Art History*
- Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night's Dream
- Lincoln and Finch: Attorneys at Law*
- The Novel Reading Group; Penelope Fitzgerald's Offshore and Shuggie Bain by Douglas Stuart
- Supreme Court Review
- Four Clint Eastwood Movies



July 11th - 14th 2024 FREE Admission!

Thurs: 6 - 10 p.m. / Fri: 5 - 11 p.m.

Sat: Noon - 11 p.m. / Sun: Noon - 5 p.m.

Every day - Live Entertainment

Every day - Carnival Rides

Friday 6:30 p.m. - 5K Road Race

Saturday Night - Fireworks

Sunday - Noon - Parade For More information go to:

For More information go to: www.hillsborosummerfest.com

30 11

Weare Pink Ladies Meeting

By Lily Tang Williams

Our luncheon this month will be a potluck

on **Sunday, June 30 from 1 to 3 p.m.** We will be gathering at the home of one of our local ladies for some Japanese food, BBQ and potluck items. For location and directions, email lily4liberty@comcast.net This is a fun get-together for members of Weare Pink & Friends when we can form friendship and support each other in this busy world.

Scout News



Court of Honor Troop 24

By Marsha Loveday

Troop 24 celebrated their year-end Court of Honor at the American Legion. We awarded several Scouts rank advancements, including Benjamin Lanier for attaining the Rank of Eagle Scout! Benjamin has been Scouting in Weare for 10 years with Pack and Troop 24. His Eagle Scout Project was to build a half-pipe skate ramp at the Weare Skate Park. He will stay on in Scouting to give back to his Troop and community! He marched in the

town parade with our charter organization, American Legion Post 65, on June 22. If anyone is interested in more information on how to join



Troop 24, contact Marsha Loveday: wearetroop24@gmail.com. Above: Eagle Scout Benjamin Lanier with his Eagle Project (courtesy photo).

Weare Public Library Upcoming Events



SUMMER READING: JUNE 20 - AUG. 1

Kids (Birth to K): Earn prizes by registering and completing early literacy activities. You can also join our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Club.

<u>Kids & Teens:</u> Register and turn in your logs weekly to earn a small prize and be entered to win raffle prizes and gift cards. <u>July 27:</u> Last day to turn in reading logs. <u>Aug. 1:</u> Winners will be announced during the finale. Grand prize: new bikes!

<u>Adults</u>: When you return your books, receive one raffle ticket per day. We'll draw for gift certificates from local sponsors. First prize: an uncirculated Silver American Eagle Coin. Grand prize: a \$100 gift card!

Upcoming Weekly Events

MONDAYS

10:30 a.m. <u>Kids Herbal Garden Club</u> (grades 1-5). Learn how to plan, grow, and care for an herb garden! On July 1, we'll learn about dandelions and build a tool carrier. Space is limited. Call to register.

2-4 p.m. <u>PokeMondays</u> (kids). Meet, trade, and play with other Pokemon card game enthusiasts and win prizes.

4 p.m. <u>Monday Movie Matinees</u>. Enjoy family classics in the Sawyer Room with popcorn, lemonade, and activities. -July 1: *Kiki's Delivery Service*; July 8: *Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile*; July 15: *Up*.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

2-4:30 p.m. <u>Cards</u>: (adults). Meet and play pinochle or cribbage with other card game enthusiasts.

WEDNESDAYS

10:30 a.m. Stories at the Lake (kids). Join librarians at Chase Park for stories, songs, and movement. If you do not have a Chase Park Summer pass, you may still attend and leave afterwards. See gate attendant for questions. In case of inclement weather, we will meet in the library.

2-5 p.m. <u>Gaming</u> (ages 6-18): Challenge your friends on the Nintendo Switch and other game systems.

THURSDAYS

1-3 p.m. <u>Craft Group</u> (adult): Learn a new craft. Space is limited. Call us to register.

FRIDAYS

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. <u>Baby & Toddler Playgroup</u> (ages 0-3). An informal gathering for young children and caregivers. Get out of the house; meet new friends! Books, puzzles, early literacy toys, and music.

SPECIAL EVENTS/ JUNE

Thursday, June 27, 6:30 p.m. <u>Campfire Stories</u> (family): Stories, songs and s'mores by the campfire on the library lawn (weather permitting).

Friday, June 28, 1:30-3 p.m. <u>Lego Club</u> (ages 4-12): Stop by and create with our huge bucket of Legos and put them on display.

SPECIAL EVENTS/JULY

Tuesday, July 2, 12:30-2 p.m. <u>STEAM: Edible Campfire</u> (kids & teens). Learn the basics of fire safety and make a campfire that you can eat!

Thursday, July 4. Closed: Happy Independence Day!

Monday, July 8, 10:30 a.m. <u>Miss Julieann in Concert</u> (ages 0-10). A morning concert is exactly what the kiddos need! Listen and dance along with Miss Julieann: A music therapist, nature educator, illustrator, and children's musician.

Tuesday, July 9, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. <u>STEAM: Fun with Bubbles</u> (grades 1-5: Big bubbles, small bubbles, bubbles that bounce and even bubble: It's outside. Wear clothes that you can get wet and soapy.

1:30 p.m. <u>Teen Craft: Pottery</u> (grades 5+). Make your own coil clay pot with instruction from local artist, Karin Cutter.

Wednesday, July 10, 6 p.m. <u>Yoga: Stretch It Out with Sattiva</u> (adults). Join Yoga Master Sattiva in this free workshop. Celebrate rejuvenation and vitality as you learn invigorating poses, and collaboratively devise a holistic and joyful summer plan for nurturing body and mind.

Thursday, July 11, 6:30 p.m. <u>Family Fitness Fun.</u> Join Briana Gomez of Gom-EZ Fitness as we move our bodies through dance, relay, and light competition.

Friday, July 12, 12:30 p.m. <u>Cookbook Club</u> (adults). Join us for a yummy afternoon! We will pick a recipe from Indulge by Valerie Bertinelli. Sign-up and pick your recipe at the library.

For events that require registration, call us at 603-529-2044.

HAND IN SENIOR CENTER AND & 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

When you pass Hand in Hand Senior Center and Thrift Shop, you'll notice some lovely hanging plants gracing the picket fence. Our thanks to the Goffstown Rotary Club for donating them to us. They certainly add a feast for the eyes, whether you are just passing by, stopping to shop or attending something at the Center.

A few weeks ago, Jade, who previously ran a program on building a terrarium, offered a flower container garden session. It was fun and everyone went home



with an outdoor container filled with flowers to tend during the summer. We're fortunate to have friends like Jade who plan, shop for and run these mini programs for Hand in Hand.

As the hot, lazy days of summer find us begging for cooler weather, stop in at the Center, browse around the Thrift Shop, have a cup of coffee or tea, sit and relax with a friend or by yourself to cool off: Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.. Everyone is welcome.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?



Wednesdays 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Dine in, take out or free delivery. June 26: Ham, turkey and cheese roll-ups, lemon orzo salad with feta

<u>July 3:</u> Red beans and sausage, rice, apple-walnut coleslaw

July 10: Shepards pie, salad

Coffee, tea, and various desserts are also available. Stay after for crafts and conversation.

WHAT'S IN THE SHOP?



We've been busy putting great new stock in all areas of the Shop. And we've rearranged the displays to keep shoppers on their toes.





Weare Athletic Club's 10U baseball team, coached by Bryan Stockhaus and Dan Wandell, made it to the championship game on June 19, losing to Henniker, 10-0,. They had a great season! Front: Mia Fairhurst, Brody Ash, August Wandell. Back: Joel Miller, Thomas Edmands, Reece Bell, John Lovett, David Dorr, Caleb Devriendt and Hez Atamian (Jane Ash photo).



Weare Athletic Club's 10U softball team, coached by Roger Miknaitis, Dustin Ryan and Elizabeth Beauvais, reached the championship game against Henniker, just missing in extra innings, 18-15. Team members are Addison Crete, Annabel Lunderville, Arya Beauvais, Aubree Carpenter, Avalene Laura, Azariah Pihl, Emmy Ryan, Gabrielle Valles, Julianne Woods, Lena Hartwell, Ruby Von Husen, Sofia Gomez and Vivian Sizemore.



Looking for Something to Do?

Compiled by Sharon Czarnecki



AG Paintball 603-529-3524 www.agpaintball.com

July 1 & 8 * 3-8 p.m. Monday Night Walk-ons Registration required for all events. See website.



56 Mt. Vernon St., Milford (603) 672-1002 x38 https://amatocenter.org

June 26 * 2:30 & 7 p.m. Princess & the Pea Riverbend Youth Organization. Free. Donations encouraged.



American Legion Post 65

12 North Stark Highway, Weare 603-529-2722

www.wearepost65.org

Breakfast every **Sunday** 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.



Capitol Center for the Arts

603-225-1111 www.ccanh.com

Chubb Theatre 44 S. Main St., Concord

July 5 & 6 * 7 p.m. Mean Girls (High school version)

Bank of NH Stage 16 S. Main St., Concord

June 28 * 7:30 p.m. Club D'Elf - Moroccan music June 29 * 8 p.m. Cathedral- Rock Tribute to Van Halen

July 2 * 10 a.m. The Emperor's New Clothes/

children's theater

July 6 * 7 p.m. Rockstar Karaoke

July 7 * 6 p.m. NHMC Sunday Sessions: Ian Archibold

and Ian Galipeau/guitar and song

July 9 * 10 a.m. Return to Oz/ children's theater



150 Ash St. Manchester 603-669-6144

www.Currier.org

NOTE: Our library has discount passes!

Until Dec. 31 * Frank Lloyd Wright Homes Tours Wed-Sun. at 9:30 a.m., noon & 2:30 p.m.

EXHIBITS

Until Aug. 18 "Cymodocea" Artist: Elizabeth Key

Until Sept. 2 Filippo de Pisis and Robert Mapplethorpe:

"A Distant Conversation"

Until Nov. 3 "Stories of the Sea" Van Gogh & Wyeth

Until Aug. 23 Summer art camp. Ages 6 to 14 **Classes and Workshops** for children and adults. Registration required. See website. Cost range is \$150 to \$375 for non-members.



Deering Community Church

762 Deering Center Rd. 603-464-5643

www.facebook.com/DeeringCommunityChurch

July 3 * Noon Guild BBQ/ All women invited



Fuller Public Library

29 School Street, Hillsborough

603-464-3595 <u>www.fullerlibrarv.info</u>

June 27 & July 11 * 1 p.m. Board Games

June 29 * 10 a.m. Local Author Meet & Greet

July 1 & 8 * 1 p.m.Knitting PurlsJuly 1 & 8 * 2 p.m.Tech HelpJuly 2 * 1 p.m.How To's DayJuly 4CLOSEDJuly 5 * 1 p.m.Chat N Chew

July 8 * 2 p.m. Military History Book Club

July 11 * 10 a.m. Tie Dye Tees Grimes Field, 28 Preston St, Hillsboro

July 2 * 9 a.m. Toddler Basketball (Ages 2-3)
July 2 * 9:30 a.m. Toddler Basketball (Ages 4-5)
Fee \$20 Register: www.hillsboro.recdesk.com

July 3 & 10 * 3 p.m. Hillsboro Fitness Club



Hampshire Hills Athletic Club 50 Emerson Rd., Milford

603-673-7123 <u>www.hampshirehills.com</u>

June 30 * 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Yin Yogan Sound Bath

Registration Required.



Henniker Brewing Co.

129 Centervale Road, Henniker (603) 428-3579

www.hennikerbrewing.com

June 27 * 6 p.m. Trivia/ Smokin' Trolley Food Truck

June 28 * 4:30-7:30 p.m. Suds & Solar Energy

Tommy's Pizza

June 29 * 3-5 p.m. Benjamin Harris music / Tommy's Pizza
June 30 * Iberian Empanada food pop up

July 3 * 6 p.m. Run Club

July 4 * 6 p.m.Trivia/Smokin Trolley & Ice-O Shaved IceJuly 5* 5 to 7 p.m.Kilroy Music / Tola Rose Italian EatsJuly 6 * 5 to 7 p.mPhileep Music/Cali Arepa Pop Up

July 7 * Iberian Empanadas

July 10 * 6 p.m. Run Club/Ice-O Shaved Ice



Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce www.ghcocnh.org/event

Butler Park Concert Series 17 W. Main St.

July 11 * 6 p.m. East Bay Jazz

July 11 * Summer Fest begins. See flier p. 4.



Hillsboro Moose Lodge 15 School St., Hillsboro

603-464-6024

https://www.facebook.com/hillsboro.mooselodge/

June 27 * 5:30-6:15 p.m. Zumba with Lisa

June 28 & July 5 * 7 p.m. Queen of Hearts Drawing June 29 * 6 - 8 p.m. Queen of Hearts Drawing Summer Dance Party

July 1 & 8 * 7-8 p.m. Line Dancing



Majestic Theatre

880 Page Street, Manchester

(603) 669-7469 www.majestictheatre.net

Studio Theatre location 880 Page Street

June & July Summer camp. Scholarships available



2 Institute Drive, Concord (603) 271-7827x113 www.starhop.com

June & July STEM Summer Camp. Registration still open. Limited spaces available. Ages 5 to 14. See website for details.



Milford Area Players

Amato Center 56 Mont Vernon St, Milford (603) 672-1002

www.milfordareaplayers.org

June 30 * 1:30 - 4 p.m. Auditions:

Also July 1 * 7:30 - 9 p.m. "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"



Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum

18 Highlawn Rd. Warner, NH 03278 603-456-2600

www.indianmuseum.org

EXHIBITS:

Until Oct. 31 * Baskets: Carriers of Life and Spirit

Ongoing * Medicine Wood Trail, Betsy Janeway Arboretum & Activity Area, artifacts from prehistoric to contemporary Native Americans from every corner of North America.



1 Central Wharf Boston, MA 02110 617-973-5206

www.neaq.org

NOTE: Our library has discount passes!284

Featured Exhibits: Amazon rainforest / Atlantic harbor seals / Giant ocean tank / Indo-Pacific coral reef / Marine mammal center/ Olympic Coast sanctuary / Penguin colony / Sea jellies / Science of the sharks / Shark and ray touch tank.

Now showing: "Arctic: Our Frozen Planet," "Blue Whales: Return of the Giants," "Ocean Paradise (3D)" and "Secrets of the Sea." (*Tickets required. See website.*)



NH Audubon

84 Silk Farm Rd. Concord 602-224-9909 NHaudubon.org

Until July 3 * 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Jane Kolias Exhibit METALSUM – Art inspired by nature



80 Hanover St., Manchester 603-668-5588

Main Stage - 80 Hanover St. Manchester

June 28 * 7:30 p.m. An Evening with Nick Lowe and

Los Straightjackets (music)

July 5 * 7 p.m. Alice in Wonderland Jr.

July 6 * 11 a.m. Alice in Wonderland Jr.

July 9 – 12 * 10 a.m. Children's Summer Series:

Also 6:30 p.m. Madagascar – A Musical Adventure Jr.

03 Rex Theatre - 23 Amherst St., Manchester

June 27 * 7 p.m. The Lavender Scare (dance)

June 28 * 7:30 p.m. Welcome to the Club:

A Musical Cachet of the Great American Crooners

June 29 * 6 p.m. 10 Years of Ink Link News: A

Celebration of Community

Poetry F

Poetry Readings

Frost Farm Poetry 122 Rockingham Rd,

Derry

www.frostfarmpoetry.org 603-432-3091

June 27 & July 11 * (Thursdays) at 6:30 p.m.

July 11 * 6:30 p.m. A reading by Brian Evans-Jones followed by open mic.

Stark Brewing Co. 500 N Commercial St, Manchester www.starkbrewingcompany.com 603-625-4444

June 27 & July 4 & 11 * Slam Free or Die is a poetry open mic and slam series that happens (every Thursday night) at Stark Brewing.



200 Bedford, St. Manchester (603) 669-0400

www.see-sciencecenter.org

NOTE: Our library has discount passes!

Until June 28 * Zach's Contraptions - Chain Reactions & Rube Goldberg Machines® (Reservations recommended)

2024 Summer Camp Registration is NOW OPEN.



23 Science Center Road Holderness, NH 603-968-7194

www.nhnature.org

NOTE: Our library has discount passes!

CRUISES:

Mon. & Fri. * 3 p.m. Loon Cruise

Daily Thru July 1 * 1 p.m. Squam Lake Cruise

Tue. & Thu. * 3 p.m. Cruise with a Naturalist

Daily * 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Live animal exhibit trail and hiking trails.

June 28 * 10-11:30 a.m. Story Walk Kick Off 846 US-3, Holderness, NH (behind the post office) Snacks and crafts provided.

July 9 *9:30-11:30 a.m. **Clearing Invasive Plants** - Horticulturalist Emma Erler demonstrates effective management strategies to reclaim a garden from invasive species.

Dinosaurs Return Life-size dinosaurs. Temporary exhibit features Allosaurus, Baryonyx, Diabloceratops, Dimetrodon, and a Parasaurolophus and can be climbed upon for photos. See website for details.

Vernal Pools Now open. Learn about the animals dependent on these temporary wetlands. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Reservations required.

Other Ongoing Programs and Summer Adventure Camp. See website for details.

Blue Star Museums initiative- FREE admission to currently serving **U.S. military** personnel and their families this summer.

Volunteers Needed ages 14-17 to serve as First Guides Training is provided, more info here: www.nhnature.org/who/volunteer.php



Southern NH University Arena 555 Elm St. Manchester

603-644-5000 www.snhuarena.com/events

June 29 * 1 & 7 p.m. Monster Jam – Tickets online



Stark Brewing Co. 500 N Commercial St., Manchester 603-625-4444

www.starkbrewingcompany.com

June 27 & July 4 & 11 * 6:30 p.m. Trivia **July 3 & 10** * 7:30 p.m. Karaoke



White Birch Community Center

51 Hall Ave, Henniker (603) 428-7860 <u>www.whitebirchcc.org</u>

(603) 428-7860 <u>www.whitebirchcc.org</u> (Programs are FREE unless listed in blue)

Please RSVP rustyg@whitebirchcc.org_so that we are sure there is space available. Volunteer Dial-A-Ride Drivers Needed. Consider being a Dial-A-Ride volunteer driver. For more info contact Rusty: 603-428–3077.

June 27 Bus Trip – Perkins Cove & The Marginal Way (\$12)

June 27 * 8:45 a.m. Gentle Yoga
June 27 & July 8 * 10 a.m. Bone Builders
June 28 & July 9 * 9:30 a.m. Bone Builders

June 28 * 2 p.m. Forever Young Fitness

July 3 & 10 * 8:30 a.m. Tai Chi

July 3 & 10 * 10 a.m.Knit Wits knitting groupJuly 5 * noonLunch Bunch at High Tide

July 8 & 10 * 1 p.m. Bridge

July 9 * 1 p.m.Movie - CabriniJuly 9 * 10:45 a.m.Gentle Chair Yoga

July 9 * 1 p.m.Mah JonggJuly 10 * 1 p.m.Team Trivia



Weeds too pretty to cut...yet (Karen Lovett photo.)

POETRY CORNER

Recently, our 24th national poet laureate, Ada Limon, was interviewed on WBUR, Boston Radio, about her latest projects and writings. She concluded her interview with a writing prompt offering, "What do you want to say to your landscape?" I offer her suggestion to all you readers and writers of poetry to take up this writing prompt and share your results with all of us who read *Weare in the World*. Here is mine.

Love Letter to My Landscape

I spend my days nestled in your majesty, surrounded by beauty, ever changing beauty, you provide me with something different to feast my eyes on every day, throughout all four seasons, sometimes I neglect you when I let things grow wild, today, my yard is full of foot high pink clover, magnet for birds perched in your stately trees, singing songs of praise, native white daisies spring up wherever the spirit moves them, joy to my heart, hemlocks with new growth of lighter green, pine trees carpeting the ground with straw colored needles, bit of a nuisance I must admit, but part of life's vagaries, flowering trees green now after extravagant abundance of color,

after the solstice
daylilies, annuals
will grace my landscape,
you are so generous,
always giving, not just
to me with your beauty,
but to other creatures
who inhabit my world,
for their homes and food,
birds, butterflies, even bees,
later you will provide
me with an incredible
fashion show as leaves

burst into blazing color,
and then comes winter when,
your landscape is hushed
under a mantle of white,
a time to rest, snuggle
in generosity
of gifts, where I am one
with you and your offerings,
a safe harbor to anchor
my life, live in peace, love, and
harmony together,
where I am my authentic self,
praise and thanks to my landscape.

-Marge Burke



Asked and Answered: Dads



Emma York, center, is shown with her dad, cradled. Courtesy photo.)

1 Dad

By Emma York

I'm here to run with that "#1 Dad" cliche you see on coffee mugs. Much like everyone else, I was born with a dad, but his journey as a dad got a little derailed (estranged if you will), and I was left with a mom and a big sister. I was MORE than content with that, and if you asked me at the ripe age of 25, I'd tell you that my mom and my sister filled the gap as best as they could. I still had my uncles, my grandfather, and a few of my friends' dads who occasionally stepped in for fishing or hunting, and that was mostly enough for me.

Then along came Rich. I was very much not so thrilled about having a man in the house after several years of man-free life, from the age of six all the way to twelve, and even more upset when he brought along his destructive son, EJ, who was just a few years younger than me. Don't get me wrong: I was every bit See DAD, page 11

DAD, continued from page 10

of a feral child, and for a girl, I definitely ran in the big leagues. I played on both the girls' and the boys' soccer teams; I essentially ran amuck through the woods like a feral kid; and I thoroughly enjoyed fishing. So yes, I was not for the faint of heart either. But, not only did Rich consume some of my mother's time, he encouraged her to leave me with his son... ALONE. Wrong move, Rich. I liked to be feral WITHOUT the company of a crazy nine-year-old city boy.

I whined, and I begged, and sometimes I even lied to try and get Rich and his naughty son out of our lives for good, yet Rich persisted. I'm not sure whether it was through my own maturing, or through the patient, quiet, under-the-radar style parenting Rich did from the sidelines that finally won me over, but eventually, he just became dad.

Rich became dad not because he is my biological parent, and I'd love to tell you that it was because he embraced my smart mouth, and less than soft and feminine personality, but it was because he showed up. He came to soccer games, he helped with homework, he was there through my first car accident, and even when I woke up after wisdom tooth surgery. He nurtured the small bit of softness that I tried to tuck deep down to make it easier to reject him. He held me through my first high school breakup and even asked if I wanted him to sic his overwhelmingly aggressive son on the boy who hurt my feelings. And when I found myself up a creek without a paddle as an adult with no place to live, he was waiting on the steps at the front door of his own home with open arms and a spare room for me and my crazy dog.

So, if you asked me if I thought I had the #1 Dad, I'd tell you I bought him that mug, and that he drinks coffee out of it most mornings. I'd tell you that he is PawPaw to my dog, and that my dog wags his tail and runs to my car whenever I ask if he wants to visit. Despite me pushing him away for several long and very tiring years, he is one hundred percent, without a single doubt in my mind, my DAD, and the best one to do it, too.

A Few Thoughts of Dad

"A memory of my dad: Michael D. Padilla. His summer plaid shirt, short sleeved, like a tartan: red, green, black and white thin stripes. He wore it regularly, especially when going out for ice cream! Dad clad in plaid, a sweet summer memory." - Diane Padilla

"My dad could beat up your dad." - Miah Czarnecki

"My dad, Al Weatherbee, has a great singing voice and often sang while cooking bacon on the weekends. "You

Are My Sunshine," "John Henry," "This Old House," "Good Night Irene." Bacon and a happy song. A good way to start any day." -Sharon Czarnecki

"When my father deemed us responsible enough, he released my older brother and I into the aisles of the grocery store by ourselves. We were each given certain missions from his well-organized shopping list. And so while he strolled behind at a leisurely pace with the cart, we would go ahead, flicking through the aisles, hunting down the crackers or the bread or the cans of whatever, and bring them back to him. It was a sweet taste of independence. Sometimes, though, my small little self got a bit turned around in the store. It was, after all, the size of France or something, and dad was now somehow hard to find. Seconds stacked up and panic fluttered. The taste of independence turned metallic. But soon, as if the worry in my child's heart had fired up some sort of emergency flare, I would hear him. Whistling. Smooth and easy, as an older man might on his daily walk through the park to feed the pigeons. My father was signaling back, like a lighthouse coaxing in a boat, which for a moment thought it might never find home." -Karen Lovett

Tomato Soup

By David Collins

I remember a story my father told me close to 50 years ago. He was 60 then, and this story took place when he was only a child—probably close to 100 years ago.

He was born in 1914 and 'survived' the great depression. He told me that his father sometimes took the children (and there were many of them) out to a diner and that he would order cups of hot water. He then poured ketchup from a bottle into each cup of hot water and "made tomato soup." Back then, there were no paper cups; all the mugs were ceramics and washed after each use. The ketchup was from a bottle (there were no packets).

Something about that memory made him feel the need to retell it to me. I do not think it was the "We were poor" or the "Look at how we suffered" mentality of today. It was about taking care of your family and doing what you had to do to survive.

I think about what it was like to be poor back then.

As I pass the market, I see well-dressed people holding cardboard signs saying, "Pity me and give me money." I see them checking their messages on an iPhone 15. They are all dressed better than I am. I also notice that their arms are marked by the needles of the drugs they are addicted to. Some of them have their teeth

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falling out, another sign of addiction. Their eyes have a vacant stare to them. Someone hands one of them a hamburger. After the car leaves, he tosses the food into the trash. It wasn't money for drugs; it wasn't what he wanted...perhaps needed.

I wonder what my father, or my grandfather, or my great-grandfather would think...

My Late Father

By Douglas Gilbert

I have one memory of my father, sitting at the kitchen



table eating celery together. As play regularly this tranguil scene in my mind's eye, becomes my purest most reliable memory of Red and me. We were each our own men that day, but since then, Red became the man I imagined him to be, and I became his protégé.

He contracted acute leukemia shortly after he experienced a lightning strike that should have killed him, and he passed quickly at age thirty-two. I was three, too young for grief or sorrow or loss of innocence. What I learned from Red was an abiding appreciation for the precarious nature of life.

I am older now, and my two boys have already lived much longer than my late father when he succumbed to the cycles of life and the distant call of scattering angels.

As another Father's Day is upon us, I ponder, but never ask, what they may have learned from me.

The Third Sunday of June: Father's Day

By Val Bartholomew Except...

I remember the year it fell on Dec. 24. Dad said, "Come on outside with me a minute. I need to check the lights." We walked to the middle of the street in front of our house, turned, and beheld the magic dad had brought to our neighborhood. Every window was lit with the glow of a blue candle, a spotlight shown on the front door lighting a painting I had done of Rudolf, and Christmas music filled the air from the speakers he

had put outside. In the midst of that speechless moment – it was Father's Day.

Another time it came during the week before Thanksgiving. Dad and I each had a shopping bag in hand, and took off to the field and woods behind our home. We were collecting autumn's gifts of dried fruits, seeds, and foliage to use as Christmas decorations. Once back home, our bags full and cheeks rosy, Dad taught me again how to spin magic. Armed with sprays of silver and gold, and glitter for touches of sparkle, our items were transformed into some of our most treasured decorations. It became an annual tradition, and today some of my fondest memories are of The Woods Walks - Father's Days.

Once it really did come in June, though not on that 3rd Sunday. I was about 7, and had just lost a tooth. Dad asked what I might wish for the Tooth Fairy to bring. Now, I was a pretty savvy kid. I grew up with magic, and knew about this particular form. I felt sort of obligated to be upfront about things. So I thought. I didn't want to disappoint dad. Then I remembered seeing a rosebud on one of our bushes earlier that day, just about fully open. That was it; the perfect way to tell dad I knew, without breaking the magic. I told him I

would love a yellow rose. The next morning when I woke, that beautifully pristine yellow rose was in a glass of water on my bedstand, still moist with dew. I think he heard me - it was Father's Day.



My life has been filled to overflowing with Father's Days – far, far more than my 72 years. And each has been made by the magic of Love. I am so blessed, so many times over. My father is Albert A Weatherbee, Jr.

I love you, Daddy.



Tell Us About: Keeping Cool!

What does your family do to beat the heat? What did you do on hot summer days when you were a kid? Do you have a special recipe to cool people down?

Obituary

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of



Anne Wirkkala.

Known to some as the "Egg Lady," to others as the "Master Gardener," she made a difference in many lives, always thinking of others before herself.

She served the Weare community in many capacities, as the librarian at John Stark for many years, and

later supporting the Library and Historical Society, and most precious to her, serving as the president of the Weare Garden Club. Her absence has left a huge hole in the hearts of many, especially her daughter, Liz Malik. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to a local animal shelter, women's shelter, food bank, or the Garden Club Scholarship Fund (PO Box 187, Weare, NH 03281), or give your time to a community garden.

For those who Anne touched, please join us at her farm, 183 East Road, **Saturday**, **July 20 at 2 p.m.** for a BBQ celebration of life. Anyone who knew Anne knew she was never one for fanfare, but a gathering of friends from her many walks of life, enjoying her garden is something she would smile upon.

Weare Business Corner



Contact Us

weareintheworldnews@gmail.com

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



Why We Love Living in New Hampshire

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



Well?! Where's the birdfeeder? (Sharon Czarnecki photo).

Mark Your Calendar

Thursday, June 27

7 p.m. - Planning Board meeting

Tuesday, July 2

7 p.m. – Garden Club meeting 7:30 p.m. – Zoning Board meeting

Wednesday, July 3

6 p.m. - Mildred Hall Advisory Committee meeting

Thursday, July 4

INDEPENDENCE DAY

7 p.m. – Public Library Trustees meeting

Friday, July 5

11 a.m. - Weare Area Writers Guild meeting

Monday, July 8

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

Tuesday, July 9

7 p.m. – Park & Recreation meeting

Wednesday, July 10

7 p.m. – Conservation Commission meeting

7 p.m. – Weare Democrats meeting