



# Weare in the World

*For Weare Residents, By Weare Residents*

**January 28, 2026**

## Inside the Issue

- p.2: Lanctot Birthday; JS Teacher Award
- p.3: Legion; Top Dog Raffle; Pink Ladies
- p.4: Library; Weare Patriotic Kids Event
- p.5: Senior News
- p.6: Poetry; Calendar



## Angel Tree Thank You

From the Health Offices at Weare Middle School and Center Woods Elementary School

Dear Amazing Weare Community, from the bottom of our hearts, **THANK YOU!** Your incredible generosity, time, and spirit this holiday season has truly turned wishes into reality for so many families in our community.

Because of you – our generous donors, supportive businesses, and everyone who shared or contributed – we were able to bring so much joy and hope to children and parents who needed it most. You showed what happens when a community comes together: simple acts of kindness become a powerful force for good. Your support doesn't just provide gifts; it provides hope, lifts spirits, and reminds everyone that they are seen, valued, and loved.

A very special shout out to Country Three Corners for once again hosting an Angel Tree. Your unwavering support helps us reach more of the community, and we are incredibly grateful! Thank you for being our Santa's helpers, our community's heart, and for making this Christmas truly unforgettable.

We are so blessed to have you all. Wishing you and yours a happy and healthy New Year.

### Recipient Gratitude Quotes:

- "I looked in the bag for the boys. From the bottom of my heart, thank you, and everyone else who helped, so very much. I started tearing up when I was looking through the gifts. As a man, it's very humbling, and can also be humiliating to ask for help with anything. The world needs more people like you. Thank you"
- "I just wanted to thank you so much for the very kind gifts that were given to my children this holiday season. They were so happy to receive them and have not stopped talking about what a great holiday it was. As a mom, the stress that you have helped alleviate has been huge and I can't put into words how appreciative I am. I don't like that we have had to take these opportunities, but I am thankful that this community is so generous and willing to support one another in their time of need. It will not be forgotten, and the kindness will be returned. Thank you!"

## TAX HELP AT THE WEARE LIBRARY

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





## Joe Lanctot Turned 100 on Jan. 17th

By Sharon Czarnecki

Joe and his wife Doris (who passed away in 2010) were married in 1948 and have many children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The couple moved to Weare in 1964 and restored a 1700's white farmhouse that still stands today next to Lanctot's Plaza. *(Joe obviously did a really good job making it sturdy as it was moved down the road a few yards from its original location.)*

The young couple decided to provide for their family – eventually there were 6 children – by growing their own meat and produce. They set a good example because Al, the second child, started a vegetable stand from a picnic table when he was 12 with many happy customers.

Much of the community remembers the little red store, built in 1967 where Joe wore many hats but was most known for his skills behind the deli and meat counter.

Since they were also still farming, the couple provided much of the produce sold in the store from their own farm. It is a true New England success story. What started as a popular vegetable stand became J.A. Lanctot & Sons Groceries and then eventually Lanctot's Plaza.

Happy 100<sup>th</sup>, Joe. The town is truly grateful you decided to put down roots in our little community.



## School News

### John Stark Regional High School Educator Kevin Munroe Receives National Teacher Excellence Award

SAU 24 is pleased to announce that Kevin Munroe, a science and engineering educator at John Stark Regional High School, has been recognized as a 2025–2026 Teacher Excellence Award recipient by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA).



Munroe was the sole New Hampshire educator selected for this national honor, which recognizes outstanding teachers who exemplify excellence in technology, engineering, and STEM education. The Teacher Excellence Awards are sponsored by Goodheart-Willcox, a leading publisher of career and technical education materials.

"We are incredibly proud of Kevin and this well-deserved recognition," said Gary Dempsey, Principal, "Our students are fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated teacher like Mr Munroe." Munroe will be formally recognized at the ITEEA 88th Annual Conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on March 25–28, 2026.

ITEEA is the professional organization for technology, innovation, design, and engineering educators, serving members who advance technological and engineering capabilities through education.



## Legion Auxiliary Plans for the Year Ahead

By Ellie Chapman –

Member Philbrick Clement Post 65 Weare, NH

Our Auxiliary has entered the quiet time of our year. We have no community events scheduled in the next few months, but we will spend our next few meetings preparing for the upcoming year.

We will begin the new year by holding nominations and voting for our officers. The positions held are our President, First Vice, Treasurer, Secretary, Unit Historian, and Sergeant at Arms. Per our bylaws, this takes place at our January meeting. In March, the elected members will be sworn in by a representative from the NH American Auxiliary Legion office in Concord.

We are very thankful to our members who step up and assume these responsibilities. Some of our members have served in one or more of the positions for a number of years and we are always appreciative of the time they give.

In the next year, we will continue to participate in our annual events – our Memorial Day Service at the Middle School (all are welcome), the Patriotic Celebration, Old Home Day, the Poppy Cans drive, Bake Sales, the Quilt Raffle, and awarding the Lois Nichols Scholarship to a student at John Stark High School.



I'd like to 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](http://www.ALforVeterans.org).

**Weare Public Library**

**Presents**

**FIGHT FOR PRIZES & GLORY!**

**There's no pre-registration, but you'll need to be on time!**

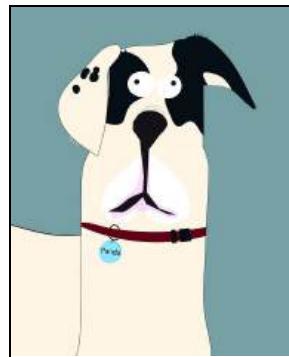
**SUPER SMASH BROS.**

**ULTIMATE TOURNAMENT VI**

**Wednesday JAN 28 3:30**

**Ages 6 - 18**

[wearepubliclibrary.com](http://wearepubliclibrary.com) 603-529-2044



## Weare's Annual Top Dog Raffle

Did you know that almost 2,700 dogs call Weare home? And that under NH RSA 466:1, every dog four months or older shall be licensed annually in the clerk's office of the town in which the dog is kept?

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.

To encourage residents to license their dogs between **January 1st and April 30th**, we are excited to announce Weare's First Annual Top Dog Raffle. 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**. We will have three gift baskets filled with treats for humans and canines alike. Each household that licenses their dog or dogs before April 30th, will get a ticket to enter. Winners will be selected on Friday May 1st and will be notified by the Town Clerk.

In order to be eligible for an entry ticket:

- You must be a Weare resident, and dogs need to be licensed between January 1st and April 30th, either online or in person at the clerk's office.
- 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.
- Entries are limited to one ticket per household, regardless of the number of canine residents.

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



## Weare Pink Ladies Group February Meeting

By Lily Tang Williams

Our next month Weare Pink Ladies' lunch will be on Wednesday **February 25th at 12 p.m.** in Concord. The actual location is TBD. Keep an eye on our Facebook page.

Stay warm and healthy!

Please **let me know** if you are coming and would like a ride. You can join us on Facebook ([1 Weare Pink](#) | [Facebook](#)) or use email [lily4liberty@comcast.net](mailto:lily4liberty@comcast.net)

## 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 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month): Anime & Manga Club (ages 10+). Stop by after school to watch your favorite anime shows!

#### TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

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

#### WEDNESDAYS

- 10:30: 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.: 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

- Wed., Jan. 28 at 3:30 p.m. (ages 6-18). Super Smash Bros Ultimate Tournament. Fight for prizes and glory in this double-elimination tournament. There's no pre-registration, but you'll need to be on time.
- Thurs., Feb. 19 at 6:30 p.m. (3rd Thurs. 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.
- Thurs., 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 603-529-2044 to reserve your copy.

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

The WPL offers discounted passes:



Thanks to the [Friends of the Library](#) for making these possible!

Join us for a free afternoon of fun with kids games, crafts, refreshments and door prizes sponsored by the Weare Patriotic Committee, on Saturday, February 28th at the Weare Town Hall, 16 N. Stark Hwy (next to the American Legion) from 11 - 2. This event will kick off our 2026 50/50 raffle which will run until the drawing on June 20th at the Patriotic Celebration. We hope to see you there! 😊



## 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)

***The best winter outfit is a blanket of good company.***

In between snowstorms, join us at Hand in Hand Senior Center for things to do and good company to keep. Let's look at what's going on in February at the Center.

**Chair yoga** happens at **10:30 a.m. every Monday** and Thursday. There's no pressure. The DVD that we use allows you to be comfortable working at your own pace. On **Mondays at 11:00 a.m.** you have the opportunity for a more advanced program. Drop in and check it out.

Do you have a craft you're working on? Do you want to get out of the house and spend time talking with others? Join us at the center **every Monday at noon**. Have a cup of coffee or tea (on us), bring a sandwich, and a craft. The last Monday of any month may focus on a specific craft. On **January 26<sup>th</sup>** we will tie dye T-shirts (bring a white shirt) and **Monday, February 23** will focus on making a braided coaster (material will be provided). During these special classes, a \$5 dollar donation is appreciated. Please contact Donna at [dmccarronslp60@yahoo.com](mailto:dmccarronslp60@yahoo.com) a week before the class to confirm you are coming. This will allow time to gather or purchase necessary material.



Photo by Sue Messner

Would you like to learn more about the **Voter Registration** process in New Hampshire? Join Nancy Christian, one of the Weare Supervisors of the Checklist at **1 p.m. on February 11** at Hand in Hand. She will explain the documentation required and how the information is maintained.

Are you a cribbage player? Did you know cribbage originated in England in the early 17th century? It was created by Sir John Suckling, an English poet and gambler. Sharon has organized a **cribbage tournament** to be held **Thursday, February 12 at 5 p.m.** She's limiting it to 20, so please sign up to be one of the lucky players. All are welcome.

Reading is a winter passion for many people. If you are one of them, come help develop a daytime **reading circle** on **Tuesday, February 17 at noon**. Good books and good company go together at the Center.

Granite VNA will present a program on **"Brain Health"** on **Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:45 p.m.** At 3 pounds, the brain isn't very large, but it is a powerhouse. Learn more about keeping it healthy at any age.

Don't forget, Weare has a **Ride/Share program**. If you know someone who needs transportation to a medical appointment, shopping or other errands, call Community Volunteer Transportation Company at 603-821-0569 for more information. Rides are free. (see poster below on this page)

We are always appreciative of those who support our mission. A special shout out to Peggy Bailey, one of the original founders of what is now Hand in Hand Senior Center, for her sponsorship this month.

Hand in Hand Senior Center – a place for laughter, learning, friendships and support. Our website is [www.hihs.org](http://www.hihs.org)



Join us for lunch every Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Dine in, take out, or free delivery.

**January 28:** Breakfast: eggs, hash browns, bacon, pineapple

**February 4:** Ham and broccoli alfredo with bow tie pasta, bread, salad

**February 11:** Turkey stew, crusty 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.

Need help getting to appointments?

Need help getting to the grocery store?

Schedule a [free ride](#) with

**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER TRANSPORTATION COMPANY**

in partnership with



## POETRY CORNER

### Way Too Early

Signs of spring seem  
way too early in  
mid-January,  
snow and cold reigned  
except for four days  
when temperature warmed,  
then snow and cold returned,  
invisible signs on country roads,  
soil beneath swells with  
ice lenses push bumps  
upward, driving lumpy,  
frost heaves have arrived,  
way too early, winter  
will be with us  
for a few more months.

-Marge Burke

### Well of Strength

I went to the well today,  
in search of strength, hope  
assurance, I went to see  
mountains at Gould Hill,  
centuries old mountains,  
near and far, as far as  
Presidential Range, so clear  
outlined with a sharpie,  
their strength, endurance  
a marvel to cherish,  
orchard below sleeping  
under eider down snow,  
while buds ready themselves  
with promise of spring to come,

all is quiet, I am  
alone here, a speck  
in our universe, yet  
not alone, I am one  
with eternity,  
having found strength, hope  
assurance sitting in  
the shadows of mountains.

- Marge Burke

## Mark Your Calendar

### Wednesday, Jan. 28

4:30 p.m. – Cemetery Advisory Committee work session  
6 p.m. – Ethics Committee meeting

### Saturday, Jan. 31

**9 a.m. – Town Deliberative Session**

### Monday, Feb. 2

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

### Tuesday, Feb. 3

7 p.m. – Zoning Board meeting

### Wednesday, Feb. 4

6 p.m. - Weare School Board meeting  
**7 p.m. – Weare School District Deliberative Session**  
7 p.m. – Master Plan Subcommittee meeting

### Thursday, Feb. 5

6:30 p.m. – Cemetery Advisory Committee meeting  
6:30 p.m. – Public Library Trustees meeting

### Friday, Feb. 6

11 a.m. - Weare Area Writers Guild meeting  
6 p.m. – John Stark School Board meeting  
**7 p.m. – John Stark School District Deliberative Session**

### Monday, Feb. 9

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

### Tuesday, Feb. 10

7 p.m. – Finance Committee meeting

### Wednesday, Feb. 11

7 p.m. - Conservation Commission meeting  
7 p.m. - Weare Democrats meeting

## 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