Police Chief Chris Moore (left) is shown here with newly hired part-time officer Ashley Pepelis and newly promoted Corporal Michael Muise (Tom Clow photo)

Selectmen Approve Promotion Plus Hiring of New PT Officer
By Tom Clow
The Board of Selectmen at its Sept. 21 meeting approved the promotion of Patrolman Mike Muise to the rank of Corporal in the Weare Police Department and the hiring of Ashley Pepelis as a part-time police officer. Muise has been with the Weare department for four and a half years. In presenting Muise for promotion, Chief Chris Moore said that he could not say enough good things about him, and that Officer Muise sets the culture for their department. Muise will start his new rank as Corporal at a rate of $30.06 per hour with an increase to $31.11 after a six-month probationary period in that position.

Ashley Pepelis is certified as a full-time officer in the State of New Hampshire. She presently holds a position with the Wilton Police Department, where she has worked since February 2017, but is originally from Weare and currently resides here. She will be working

See POLICE, page 2

Weare Public Library Welcomes New Director
By Brenda Cannon
After living most of his life in Tennessee, Clay Kriese now thinks that “The Ballad of Davy Crockett” got it wrong. “New Hampshire is actually the greenest (and the best) state in the land of the free,” he says. “Though I have not yet killed a bear. Give me a few weeks.”

Kriese comes to serve as the Director of the Weare Public Library after serving as a public librarian in both East Tennessee and West Virginia.

It was in Nashville, however, where he met his wife Angela, and his two sons Holden (11) and Miles (8) were born. “My family and I are excited,” says Kriese. “We were searching for an ideal (and idyllic) town to live, work, play and grow. After driving through this beautiful area, touring the library and meeting the friendly people who work here, we had a warm feeling. It just felt right.”

Kriese says that one of his top goals as a director is to encourage the residents of Weare to become lifelong library users and readers.

See LIBRARY, page 2
POLICE, continued from page 1

locally as a part-time officer at a pay rate of $25.37 per hour. Pepelis started her law enforcement career in South Carolina after graduating from John Stark Regional High School and earning a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Hesser College. She has a total of 12 years’ experience in law enforcement.

In other business, the Board approved the expenditure of $1,652.86 for licensing and equipment to accommodate Zoom meetings. The one-year Zoom license for $199 will accommodate up to 300 participants with unlimited time. The remaining $1,452.96 will be for equipment, to include a 65-inch tripod for a camera, webcam, ThinkPad, hardware, USB microphone for the computer, plus setup and installation. The Board decided to go with the Zoom platform after discussing other alternatives for remote conferencing. Town Administrator Naomi Bolton told the Board that most New Hampshire towns are using Zoom. Board Chairman Jack Meaney said that the State of New Hampshire also has Zoom meetings. Funds for the project will come from the Selectmen’s Budget with the possibility of being reimbursed from COVID-19 CARES money if available.

Weare Police Officer Mike Muise’s family helps him celebrate his promotion to Corporal (Tom Clow photo)

LIBRARY, continued from page 1

“...but the library is more than books,” he adds. “It’s an adaptive community center – a unique place to explore, learn, utilize technology, meet with friends, relax and have fun.”

Kriese says that he has too many hobbies. He loves board games, video games, music and anything to do with Halloween. He currently hosts a popular podcast with his wife. In 2018, he wrote and published a dystopian novel.

Before that, for several years, Clay Kriese was a radio DJ—spinning his favorite new wave tunes—and he has recorded several songs of his own.

Previously, he operated the message board at Clemson football games during a season when they went 3 and 8. He went to college there, too.

For his work, Kriese is the recipient of awards such as: The Grand Prize Egg at Mrs. Horton’s Easter Egg Hunt, Second Place at the Northeast Elementary 4-H Biscuit Making Contest and Performer of the Week at Big Mama’s Karaoke Café.

Kriese begins his role as the Director of the Weare Public Library in November.

Will Your Vote Be Counted?

By Beverly Cotton

With the election right around the corner, it seemed like a good idea to speak to the reasons why ballots are ‘set aside’ as incomplete during the ballot processing activity.

Starting Oct. 29, town clerks are able to start processing absentee ballots by opening the outer envelope ONLY and making sure the inner envelope is signed. Then they are brought to the polls on election day and the inner envelope is opened and they are run through the voting machine. There is a lot of name checking with the voter checklist and such at several points along the way.

Reasons for ballots to be set aside as incomplete:
1. The inner envelope is not used and the ballot is placed in the outer envelope only and submitted.
2. More than one ballot is placed in the inner envelope—such as a married couple. (You must each use your own envelope and inner envelope).
3. The inner envelope is not signed.
4. The ballot is received late.

For reasons 1 -3, the town clerk will attempt to reach you so you can correct the error. Please call the town clerk or check the Secretary of State’s website if you have questions at www.sos.nh.gov or go to www.votenh2020.org.

Let’s review the ballot submission process to make sure we don’t miss a thing:
1. Complete your ballot by coloring in the oval space next to the candidate of your choice using black ink. Use the space on the far right if you wish to write in a candidate. Be sure to complete both sides of the ballot.
2. Place the ballot in the inner envelope and seal it.
3. Sign the inner envelope on the right side if you are voting absentee for the reason of COVID concerns. If you are voting absentee for another reason, please read this inner affidavit envelope carefully and sign the appropriate side. Then print your name underneath.
4. Place the sealed inner envelope in the outer envelope that is addressed to your town clerk. Mail using a single standard $0.55 stamp. Do this as soon as you can- time is running short. You can also hand deliver your ballot at any time before the election to the town clerk. You can See VOTE, page 3
Welcome New Teachers!

Center Woods Elementary School

Linda Handley
Guidance counselor

Center Woods Upper Elementary School

Hanh Doan
5th grade teacher

Paula Oliveira
School counselor

Philip (PJ) Powers
5th grade special education teacher

Morgan Zifchak
4th grade teacher

Weare Middle School

Shelly Gray
Special education teacher

Eva Quill
8th grade language arts teacher

VOTE, continued from page 2
also deliver the absentee ballot to your polling place by 5pm on election day.
5. You can track your ballot on the Secretary of State’s website.
https://app.sos.nh.gov/Public/AbsenteeBallot.aspx
Not registered? It’s not too late! The town clerk can send you a registration packet or you can go in person. You will need an ID and proof of citizenship and of where you live. If you do not have these, you will need to sign a form.
Make sure your vote counts!

CIP Committee Wraps Up
Review of Requests for 2021

By Tom Clow
The CIP Committee wrapped up its work on capital improvement proposals for the 2021 town warrant at its meeting on Sept. 22. There was one new request presented by Town Administrator Naomi Bolton on behalf of the library. The library would like to replace the mini-split air conditioning units with new units that are more efficient and would decrease electricity usage. The proposal calls for $29,000 to be placed in the Government Building and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund to pay for the purchase and installation of the new units.

There were also changes made to two previous requests. Police Chief Christopher Moore presented a revised explanation of the asset lifecycle management program he is proposing for vehicle purchases and once again explained that the Chevy Tahoe is being recommended because of increased clearance, more storage space and ergonomic features that will help reduce injuries. The committee voted to recommend the purchase of one Chevy Tahoe Police Interceptor for an outright purchase price of $61,000. The committee also recommended that the communication propagation analysis be presented as a Board of Selectmen proposal, since radio communication improvements will benefit all three major departments: Police, Fire/Rescue and Public Works.

The committee then went through all the requests that had been made over the course of its meetings and voted in support of each of them with the changes indicated above. Chairman Jack Dearborn will now schedule a presentation to the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen summarizing the CIP recommendations. It will then be up to the Board of Selectmen to draft warrant articles based on those recommendations.
Welcome New Teachers!
John Stark Regional High School

Theresa Carbonneau
Special education teacher, with a friend from Special Olympics. (Photo taken pre-COVID)

Faith Crowe
Special education teacher

Lexi Ferraro
Director of Connections

Gabrielle MacIver
Social studies teacher*

Jillian Randel
Spanish teacher*

Theresa Risdal
Director of Student Pathways

Andrea Tonken
Special education teacher

*JSRHS alumnae
(Courtesy photos)

New School and District Leadership Positions Announced

Superintendent Jacqueline Coe announced the appointment of Martha LeMahieu as Director of Student Services for SAU 24 schools, and the appointment of Allison Peterson to serve as Interim Teaching Principal at James Faulkner Elementary -- both effective Oct. 19.

LeMahieu has been the Principal of James Faulkner Elementary School, an SAU 24 K-5 school located in Stoddard, since 2014. Beyond her principalship duties at James Faulkner, she has also handled aspects of Student Services, including serving as Special Education Coordinator and Homeless Liaison for all pre-K-12 Stoddard students and as the 504 Coordinator and Title I Coordinator for all pre-K-5 Stoddard students. LeMahieu also provided direct instruction to K-5 students.

Before serving as principal in Stoddard, LeMahieu was a classroom teacher at two SAU 24 schools, first teaching for one year at Weare Middle School prior to teaching at Center Woods Elementary School for 14 years. She holds a Master of Education with School Principal Certification from New England College and a B.S. with Teacher Certification K-8 from Plymouth State University.

“Martha’s deep knowledge of both the SAU 24 organization and all aspects of Student Services will allow her to step into the position seamlessly,” Coe said. “Her hands-on experience as both a teacher and a principal within SAU 24 gives her an important perspective and great advantage as an administrator at the SAU level. She is a wonderful addition to our team.”

When asked about her new role, LeMahieu said, “SAU 24 has been home to me for 20 years. I look forward to continuing my work in supporting students and parents and empowering teachers across all of the schools in SAU 24.”

Coe’s nomination of Peterson was approved by the Stoddard School Board at their meeting on Oct. 5. Peterson will replace LeMahieu.

Peterson comes to Stoddard from Weare, where she is currently a Dean of Teaching and Learning, serving students in grades 4-8. Prior to moving to New Hampshire in 2019, she served in a variety of leadership positions in Connecticut and Washington D.C., including an elementary principalship.

See LEADERSHIP, page 5
LEADERSHIP, continued from page 4

Peterson brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the position.

“Mrs. Peterson is committed to both the academic and social-emotional development of children,” Coe said. “We are thrilled to have Allison join us in Stoddard. Her educational philosophy and beliefs in an individualized approach to student learning is a perfect match for James Faulkner.” Peterson will work with LeMahieu planning a smooth transition.

-Submitted by Patti Osgood

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The outdoor “Clue” board at JSRHS (courtesy photo)

JSRHS Forensics Students Get a “Clue” Outdoors

At John Stark, forensics teacher Heather Brady creatively solved another hurdle teachers are facing in this new era of teaching during COVID-19. She had to figure out how to make her introduction class for her forensics students COVID safe.

“I always begin each new session of forensics having the students play the classic board game of Clue,” Brady said. “It is a great exercise in deductive reasoning, players collect clues and eliminate suspects, rooms and weapons as they play. You learn to solve the puzzle of the game similar to how forensic investigators may use deductive reasoning to eliminate suspects and determine means and motive.” Brady quickly deduced that students couldn’t sit that close to each other and play the traditional game, so she made another plan.

“The students have always loved “Clue” and I didn't want to give that up,” said Brady, who got the idea of making a giant board on a tarp so the kids could play and be socially distanced -- it worked. Instead of small character pieces, color-coordinated soccer cones were used to represent “Colonel Mustard,” “Miss Scarlet” and the others. The students were only allowed to touch and move their own character. Each student had their own dice and the cards were dealt out and sanitized ahead of time so there were no shared items.

“It took me several days and a lot of duct tape, but we were able to play the same game I’ve always used to introduce forensics to students,” Brady said. “It was worth the extra effort and the bonus was during good weather the students could hone their deductive reasoning skills outside in the wonderful open, fresh air.”

-Submitted by Patti Osgood

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Matthew Caputo

JSRHS Teacher Matthew Caputo Wins National Mathematics Award

John Stark Regional High School Math Teacher Matthew Caputo has been awarded a 2020 Edyth May Sliffe Award by the Mathematical Association of American Mathematics Competitions (MAA MCC).

This national education prize is awarded annually to middle and high school mathematics teachers for their outstanding work to motivate students through participation in the MAA American Mathematics Competitions. This year, 20 teachers received the Sliffe Award. Caputo is one of only two recipients of the award in New England.

“MAA AMC is delighted to recognize and support the dedicated teachers who host our competitions, and most importantly, who encourage their students to develop their mathematical thinking in new ways beyond the classroom,” said Michael Pearson, MAA Executive Director.

As one of the winners this year, Caputo will receive $500 and free registration, housing and travel expenses to the MAA MathFest in Sacramento, CA, in August 2021. This is an annual conference that features the latest in mathematics education and research and draws mathematicians from across the country.

-Submitted by Patti Osgood
JSRHS Photography Students Create Digital Works of Art

Photography students at John Stark Regional High School could not work in the darkroom this fall due to COVID-19 precautions, so art teacher Tracy Travers and her students figured out a way to create digital photograms. Photograms are photographic images created by projecting light through translucent and opaque objects instead of using a camera. Here is some of their work.

-Submitted by Patti Osgood

Left column:
Madison Porth; Madison Osborne; “Ferns & Flowers,” by Bella Pelletier; “Coca-Cola Bottles,” by Megan Rousseau.

Right column:
“Two Hands,” by Mia Hutchinson; “Lace,” by Arden Ulmer (Courtesy photos)

Nikias Graduates
Amanda Nikias graduated from Hofstra University in May of 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a virtual ceremony was held in August of this year. Nikias earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Legal Studies in Business.

Lemay Graduates
Sawyer Lemay has graduated with the spring class of 2020 from Stonehill College in Easton, MA.
Get into the Spirit of Autumn
By Alyssa Small
Fall in New Hampshire is glorious, so why not get out and enjoy some fresh air and sunshine at a local farm? Here are a few spots offering autumnal activities and goods:

Apple Hill Farm
Pick-your-own apples, hayrides, pumpkins, mums, apple crisp, cider
580 Mountain Road (N.H. Route 132), Concord; 224-8862
www.applehillfarmnh.com

Beech Hill Farm
Two corn mazes ($6/per person, weekdays 2-8 p.m. and weekends 12-8 p.m.), ice cream, farm animals, mums, pumpkins, nature trail
107 Beech Hill Road, Hopkinton; 223-0828
https://www.beechhillfarm.com/

Carter Hill Orchard
Pick-your-own apples, cider, cider donuts, country store
73 Carter Hill Road, Concord; 225-2655
www.carterhillapples.com

Devriendt Farm
Mums, pumpkins, produce, ice cream, hay bales, corn stalks
178 S. Mast Street, Goffstown; 497-2793
www.devriendtfarm.com

Dodge Farms
Pumpkins, hayrides, produce, ice cream, farm animals, antique tractors
NH Route 77 at Dodge Rd, New Boston; 487-3339

Educational Farm at Joppa Hill
Hiking trails, farm animals, tours, “Family Trick-or-Treat” on Oct. 25 at 1 p.m./3 p.m./5 p.m., tickets $5 per child 3+
174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford; 472-4724
www.theeducationalfarm.org

French Pond Orchard
Pick-your-own apples, cider, pumpkins
334 French Pond Rd, Henniker; 428-3000
https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=110954048968108&_tn__=C-R

Gould Hill Farm
Pick-your-own apples, carriage rides, cider, cider donuts, live music, Contoocook Cider Company tastings (Fridays 12-5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays 11-5 p.m.)
656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook; 746-3811
www.gouldhillfarm.com

Trombly Gardens
Corn maze ($5/per person, 8 a.m. - dusk), hayrides, pick-your-own pumpkins, ice cream, live music Sunday mornings, “The Dark Woods” (haunted activity) opening Oct. 9 and continuing weekends through October
150 North River Road, Milford, 673-0647
https://tromblygardens.net/blog/fall-forecast

An Early Fall Fragrance Memory
By Marjorie A. Burke
East wind off the ocean
Belonging
distinctive essence
blows in from the ocean
from the east
centuries old pattern
wind shifts
tide flows
I’m connected to
something beyond myself
Belonging
October Holidays
By Sharon Czarnecki

Professions we appreciate: The stresses of 2020 make us especially grateful for supportive clergy this month. We are fortified as we move into flu and COVID-19 season by the skills of all our trained pharmacists – and we appreciate our retired pharmacists too.

Serious issues we grapple with: We remember those we have lost to breast cancer, honor those who have survived it and hope to prevent many cases with screenings. We also focus on domestic violence intending to make home a safe place for all.

Food we enjoy: October is cookie month, but keep those crumbs away from the keyboard. It’s also a month for serving country ham (a Southern style), eating lots of pizza or snuggling down with a movie and popcorn. We don’t forget seafood this month either.

Of course, too much food can lead to issues, as we all know. One of the things we take note of this month is diabetes and we are grateful for everything that can be done to manage it now. Maybe it is no coincidence that it is vegetarian month, too. With all the plants being harvested now, it is a great time to try your hand at some of those filling recipes.

We set aside the whole month for recognizing the rewards of bringing a shelter dog into our lives. And maybe because it is pervasive, we take the whole month to appreciate computer learning. How spot-on is that one this year?

And for this month only... we recognize sarcasm as its own art form.

Some of our undertakings get their own week assigned, like getting organized, and customer service – week one. Fire prevention, earth sciences and pet peeves we recognize in week two. Week three is devoted to pastoral care.

Some of us are so passionate about certain things, we have managed to get a whole day devoted to them. Scan the list and see if yours are here. If not, don’t worry. There is always next month.


Upcoming Fall Yard Sale to Benefit Osborne Memorial Hall
By Sylvia Beaupre

The nonprofit South Weare Improvement Society will hold its annual fall yard sale at Osborne Memorial Hall, 16 Deering Ctr. Rd., Weare, on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Items for sale include Christmas decorations, pet cages and accessories, toys and puzzles, linens and clothes, and many interesting odds and ends. All proceeds benefit the maintenance and restoration of this historic community meeting building. To rent Osborne Hall for your event or for “Weare Flags Fly,” please call 529-7282.
Weare Area Welcomes “Marcus” and 350 Others Like Him – So Far

By Sharon Czarnecki

Cathy Bailey traveled from Weare to Puerto Rico on vacation (with a friend and business co-founder) when they met an emaciated dog who could only hobble due to fractured hip bones. Despite the difficulty, he followed them everywhere, asking only for a little attention. The small town he lived in had been ravaged by Hurricane Maria several months before, and many pets were left to fend for themselves when their owners had to evacuate. Sadly, vacation came to an end and they had to leave their new friend behind.

But once home, Bailey couldn’t stop worrying about the dog. His impact on them was so great they ended up going back four weeks later to search for their canine pal. After looking everywhere for two days, they finally found him lying with another dog on a street corner. His condition was still bleak, but they resolved to restore his health. After months of treatment, they were able to bring “Marcus” home.

Marcus is now living happily with the Champagne family here in Weare. After months of physical therapy, he now walks two to three miles per day with no discernable limp. But, most importantly, before he moved to his new home in 2018, he inspired the formation of the local non-profit: Hearts and Tails Alliance (HATA). This wonderful dog, Marcus, was destined to make a difference in our little town and connect it to the rest of the world in a big way.

In the past two years, (HATA) has placed about 350 dogs (not all in Weare, of course) with 40% from Puerto Rico, 5% from Kosovo and the remaining 55% from southern US states. In addition to rescuing dogs from natural disasters, the group has expanded to include freeing dogs who are waiting on “death row” in kill shelters. According to ASPCA statistics, around 5,500 animals are put to death every day!

Hearts and Tails Alliance is an all-volunteer group with six people on the regular staff, but more are always welcome. Getting these dogs ready for adoption involves a huge commitment. Most of them spend time in foster homes for socializing. It is important to be confident they are ready to be part of a family environment. The full history of the dog is always disclosed to his/her new family.

In addition, all health issues are dealt with and all of the dogs are spayed/neutered, microchipped and have all of their required vaccines, including rabies, DHLPP (distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parvo, and Pan-Influenza) and Bordetella (kennel cough). The cost of all this, as well as food and shelter, is very significant and barely covered by most adoption fees, which range from $500 to $550.

Although it rarely happens, HATA will also take a dog back if the placement does not work out. They explain that they put their hearts and souls into each dog, and want to know the animals who got a rough start in life are safe and well-loved for the remainder of their days.

October is “Adopt a Shelter Dog” month, so think it over! You can get more information about the non-profit business Marcus inspired at: https://www.heartsandtails.org/

Dedication of “Jack’s Little Library”

By Brenda Cannon

The Friends of the Library will be honoring Jack Davis, past president, Oct. 15 at 2 p.m. At that time, the dedication of “Jack’s Little Library” will take place on the lawn at the Weare Public Library front entrance.

Jack was a tireless worker for the Friends. I am sure many of you got to know Jack as he spent many hours preparing for the Friends’ annual book sale. Jack always played a big role in meeting and greeting patrons as they brought in their books for resale. With his dry humor, he was fun to work with and his tireless energy on the day of the sale helped a long day go by quickly. Like myself, Jack and his family migrated to Weare after retirement. An avid reader of military books, Jack joined the Friends and brought many new ideas to the group.

See DAVIS, page 10
DAVIS, continued from page 9

At the time of his death in September 2019, Jack was serving as president, a position he had had for several years. Jack has been greatly missed and the dedication of this little library is one small way to remember the contributions he made to the Friends group.

Volunteers Make It Happen

By Karl Messner

Greetings and salutations from Hand in Hand Ministries Inc. This being the second article of our new monthly feature, we'd like to focus on who we are and the volunteers who make it all happen. But first we'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the folks carrying out the great work that Mike Sullivan began several years ago. Thank you for giving us space in our local paper.

As mentioned, we have several wonderful volunteers who give their time and efforts to make sure we are running on all cylinders each week to not only provide a delicious FREE lunch every Wednesday to seniors, but equally run the Ya Never Know Thrift Shoppe. To start with, the entire idea behind this project is the brainchild of Margaret (Peggy) Bailey. Through her vision and leadership, our little motley crew enthusiastically lends their hand each week to tirelessly pull it off. As you have probably guessed, in today’s environment, volunteers are rarer than a rotary phone. They are, after all, front line workers in this pandemic still making things happen safely for others.

Although I prepare the lunch of fresh homemade soup and a hearty sandwich, I could not swing the shift solo. Shirley, Donna and April make up the team with their hospitable talents. Each team member meets, greets and serves lunch with a warm smile and jovial conversation. Of course, my recurring nightmares of time working the scullery onboard ships when I was a younger lad, basically bars me from the cleaning duties. So I am blessed that our team handles the cleanup too, while I load the sink with as many pots and pans as possible.

But lunch is not the only feature we offer. As the Café is a social environment, there are board games, cards, books and social chat with each other to pass the time. Equally, we are planning ‘activity days’ of knitting classes, chair caning and cooking classes (light stuff). And hey you GUYS out there take notice: this is not gender identified, as we will welcome anyone interested in volunteering their time to demonstrate homegrown hobbies such as fly fishing, knife and axe sharpening, and more. We are open to all ideas.

And of course let’s not forget that the Thrift Shoppe is open and functioning in line with all CDC guidelines. Stop by and say hello to either Doreen, Mary, Pauline, or Peggy and check out the wonderful items for sale. Check our website for times: https://www.facebook.com/ThiftyShopper03281

So give us a shout and stop by our little Breaking Bread Senior Café Center in Weare and remember, the soup is on...come on in. Bon Appetit, Karl

Boston Post Cane: Honor or Omen?

By Connie Evans

As a publicity stunt in 1909, the owner of the Boston Post, the most popular New England newspaper of its time, distributed 14-karat, engraved gold-knobbed canes to 700 towns in the paper’s circulation area. The board of selectmen of each town presented a cane to their oldest living resident, a tradition that continues to this day, even in Weare. But some recipients are not so keen to receive the award.

One town clerk claimed that people started to fear getting the cane; within a week, the person would pass away. That might explain why canes were refused, found in the dump, broken in two or for sale on eBay. Nantucket stopped the tradition in 1998 when residents felt it was not a good omen. But, the majority of recipients feel getting the cane is an honor and a testimony to a life well-lived.

Last November, Selectperson Sherry Burdick presented her mother, Esther Mary Hadley, with Weare’s cane, and the WMUR video of the event showed Esther Mary giving a jovial thumbs-up. She was 96 at the time and remains the owner today. Good genes run in her family: Esther Mary is the fourth family member to receive a cane. Good humor is another ingredient to her secret: in joking about her birthday, she quipped if she didn’t have one, she wouldn’t be here.
Farmers Market Changes Hours
By Marek Rivero
As fall comes around, we have cooler mornings, but with good luck the day warms up nicely. As of Oct. 10, the market will now open at 10 a.m. every Saturday. We will still be providing a place for our quality local food and goods to be purchased. Additionally, the market will be hosting events for Halloween on Oct. 31, including a costume contest for adults and children and trick-or-treating. Additional details can be found on our Facebook page @Wearerealfoodfarmersmarket. We also have space for additional vendors at no charge and a canopy is provided. To reserve your space, please email us at wearerfm@gmail.com.

Every Little Bit Helps
By Sharon Czarnecki
Are you planning to open a new bank account sometime soon? I know there are a lot of aspects to consider. BUT, if all other factors are equal, I want to let you know about the Affinity Program, at TD Bank here in town. It also applies if you have an account with them now.

The bank has a program that provides $50 to Weare in the World when you open a new account with them. If you already have a checking account with them and ask for the Affinity program with our paper, they will give us $10. There is also money provided for savings or CD accounts so don't forget to inquire about them too.

As you know, our local paper is run by volunteers and the costs we incur for printing (once we can resume) are covered entirely by grants and donations. So, like the title says: every little bit helps.

Exit Poll Taker Wanted
Edison Research is seeking someone to conduct voter surveys at Weare Middle School on Tuesday, Nov. 3. The duties will be to get voters’ attention as they leave a polling location and ask them to fill out the Edison Research survey. Three times during the day, the pollster calls in information from the questionnaires to the Edison Research phone room and remains after the polls close to call in actual results once posted. There is also a short mandatory online training and a five-minute rehearsal call prior to Election Day. Payment for the day is $300. Social distancing will be in place to limit close contact between pollster and voter, and Edison is also providing a mask (for the pollster), single-use pencils, gloves and hand sanitizer. Edison experimented with this model during summer primaries and response was great. Edison Research has been the sole provider of exit poll data and analysis to the National Election Pool (currently ABC, CBS, CNN, NBC) since 2003. If interested, contact Greg Taylor: 908-323-1537 gtaylor@edisonresearch.com

Letter to the Editor
Dear Editor,
New Hampshire – the “Live Free or Die” state, defenders of First Amendment rights, replete with ‘Don’t Tread on Me’ flags – is supposed to be better than this.

On Saturday, Oct. 3, I placed a political yard sign outside my home in Weare. Within three hours, it was stolen. I wish this were an anomaly, but that, sadly, is hardly the case. In total amongst five local candidates I have spoken with, 48 of their signs have been stolen or defaced. This includes large 4’ x 8’ signs that are well-anchored and would likely take a coordinated effort between two or more people to quickly steal.

Stealing, defacing or improperly removing signs is NEVER acceptable. It is cheating, it is cowardly and it is a crime. According to the NH Department of Justice, “In addition to the available criminal penalties for violating RSA chapter 664, the Legislature has established a civil penalty of up to $1,000 per violation for "removing, defacing, or destroying political advertising on private property." RSA 664:21, VI (a)-(b).”


More importantly, it is simply wrong and immoral, no matter which candidates you support or oppose. It is a patriotic and unselfish act to run for political office at any level. Candidates often spend a tremendous amount of their own time, effort and whatever money they can scrape together to perform this civic duty. They should not have to deal with this insanity.

Let’s all work together and stop the theft and defacing of political signs.
-Derek Winsor, Weare

Voters! Check out our essential local candidate coverage:
A Passion for Pumpkins

Across
3. Brewer of Pumpkinhead
6. Guts
8. Peter, Peter, Pumpkin ______
9. He believed in the Great Pumpkin
12. This state's official fruit (abbrev.)
13. It is a member of this family
14. MA poet who wrote "The Pumpkin"
15. Almanzo Wilder fed this to his award-winning pumpkin
17. Pumpkin seeds, i.e.
20. The Horseman threw a pumpkin at him
22. Dried little pumpkin
23. Cinderella's coach changed back at this time

4. It feels like fall when Starbucks serves this (abbrev.)
5. Pumpkin chunking uses this device for hurling
6. Field of pumpkins, i.e.
7. He sang "Daddy's Little Pumpkin"
10. Square-shaped pumpkin character who saves the day
11. Pumpkins are 90% this
16. Mathias Willemijns of this country holds the record for the heaviest pumpkin at 2,624 lbs.
18. Jack O'Lanterns originated here
19. Current host of NH's biggest pumpkin festival
21. Goffstown pumpkin festival

Down
1. Pumpkin pie spice main ingredient
2. Ray Villafane carved these largest-ever recorded characters out of pumpkin