Graduation Gathering for Generals Class of 2020

By Patti Osgood, SAU 24

John Stark Regional High School seniors will hold graduation as a whole class on the football field Saturday, June 13 at 10 a.m. The rain date is June 14. Students and two guests will be asked to arrive in one vehicle at an assigned time and will be directed to an assigned spot on the field. Graduates will remain in the assigned grid, except when called to the stage to receive their diploma. Guests will remain in their assigned grid throughout.

“Our seniors let us know that they really wanted to graduate as a class,” said Superintendent Jacqueline Coe. “With that as our primary goal, we worked with seniors, parents, and local and state officials to put procedures in place to allow us to safely celebrate the Class of 2020. I would like to thank Principal Gary Dempsey who has worked tirelessly to help formulate this plan.”

Once the ceremony is completed, there will be a staggered dismissal of participants to their cars for parades led by Weare and Henniker police.

“Obviously we hope it doesn’t, but it must be noted that if circumstances change requiring stricter adherence to social distancing procedures prior to June 13th, changes to this plan may be necessary,” Coe said.

Time to Reflect

By Connie Evans

The militiamen in the American Revolution fought for freedom from England’s tight control; the Civil War soldiers fought to preserve the Union the revolutionaries made possible. But it wasn’t until 1868 that the sacrifices made on the battle grounds were commemorated, three years after the Civil War ended. Weare, like all New Hampshire towns, sent many of its young men into service who fought on many of the famous battlefields: Fredericksburg, the Wilderness, Chancellorsville, Bull Run I and II, and Gettysburg to name a few. Some returned home forever marred by what they experienced and endured; several are buried far from Weare.

Weare was well represented in the war between the states as musicians, calvary soldiers, those who fired heavy artillery, and men in the Navy. Many suffered from disease, received mortal wounds, or were captured with subsequent abuse by the confederates. For some, the horrors of war were too much to endure and they deserted. A war in 1861 that was supposed to end within three months lasted until 1865, with 41 Weare men not returning home alive and four unaccounted for.

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In the section he titled The Rebellion, William Little’s “The History of Weare, New Hampshire 1735-1888” lists the names of all those who left our town with courage in their hearts and the desire to protect the Union. We owe them, as well as all who fought bravely in all wars to protect us, a few minutes of pause and appreciation.

Wilson Named to Dean’s List
Kaycee Wilson was named to the Spring 2020 Dean's List at Colby Sawyer College. Kaycee majors in nursing and is a member of the class of 2021.

Weare Students Graduate from the University of New Hampshire
The University of New Hampshire held a virtual graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 16. Among the Class of 2020 were the following Weare graduates:

- **Annalise Blouin** with a M.Ed. degree in Elementary Education.
- **Steven Wuebbolt** with a M.S. degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering.
- **Andrew Porter** with a B.S.C.S. degree in Computer Science.
- **Courtney Flaherty** with a B.S. degree in Human Development & Family Studies.
- **Madeline Ishak** with a B.S.B.E. degree in Bioengineering.
- **Lindsey Beahm** with a B.S. degree in Neuroscience & Behavior.
- **Madelyn Widger** with a B.S.E.E. degree in Electrical Engineering.
- **Lucas Rodriguez** with a B.A. degree in English Journalism.
- **Hannah Erskine** with a B.S. degree in Biochemistry & Molecular & Cell Biology
- **Brandon Loiselle** with a B.S.Civ.E. degree in Civil Engineering.
- **Aedan McCarron** with a B.S. degree in Biochemistry & Molecular & Cell Biology

### JSRHS Drama: The Show Must Go On
*By Patti Osgood, SAU 24*

The John Stark Regional High School Stage Company was just days away from opening their spring production of “Legally Blonde” when schools transitioned to remote learning in March. In keeping with the adage, “the show must go on,” the Stage Company has continued to rehearse “Legally Blonde” remotely with John Stark theatre teacher and director Jen Matzke and production company advisor Jill Pinard.

Last week, thirty members of the cast and crew had a special rehearsal with two talent agents from New York City. As guests of Principal Gary Dempsey and using Google Meet, Greg Uliasz, Jr., creative and talent agent with McDonald/Selznick Assoc., and Eric Leiggi, senior talent assistant with Avalon Artists Group, teleconferenced with the John Stark students. Uliasz and Leiggi talked about their experiences with Broadway theatre, took questions from the students and offered advice and encouragement.

While the stage company is still not certain what the final performance will look like, they have planned June 25, 26, 27 & 28 as new show dates for “Legally Blonde.” Stay tuned!
Students Create Artwork for Local Seniors

By Patti Osgood

Local students have created digital art pieces as part of an effort to bring messages of hope and connectedness to our neighbors in assisted living and healthcare facilities. Joining students from over 65 other New Hampshire schools, the young Weare artists’ pieces are part of the “Art is Love New Hampshire” project, a collaboration of the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and partners. This artwork will be shared with the residents of Hillsboro House, an assisted living facility in Hillsborough.

![Image of Asher Merrill with the “Art is Love” card he made in art class](courtesy)

Above: “Social Distancing” digital art by JSRHS senior Sydney Talbert, a student in Mrs. Travers’ class.

Reaching Out to Those in Need of a Smile

By Sharon Czarnecki

I’m pretty sure you can help with this. It’s so nice to live in a town like Weare, isn’t it? Folks look after each other whenever they can. Of course, if you don’t see a problem, you can’t fix it, right? Well, maybe not.

Nursing homes and hospitals are “no visitor” zones these days. But, we can send cards – pretty, funny, homemade, with pictures of the cat or dog or garden. Or even postcards. If the person is from Weare and you feel really generous, you can even print this newsletter and send it in to them. Remember, little things do make a difference! Go for it. Let’s send cards to strangers.

Just address the card “To Any Patient” at:

- Inn at Parker Station
  46 Parker Station Rd.
  Goffstown, NH 03045

- The Villager
  50 N Mast St.
  Goffstown, NH 03045

- Catholic Medical Center
  100 McGregor St.
  Manchester, NH 03102

- Elliot Hospital
  1 Elliot Way
  Manchester, NH 03103

- Concord Hospital
  250 Pleasant St.
  Concord, NH 03301
Remembering Memorial Day
By Marge Burke

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, was created in 1868 to honor those who were killed fighting in the Civil War. It was a time when families went to cemeteries and placed flowers and flags at the graves of their loved ones. That tradition continues to this day, with the inclusion of honoring the dead from all the wars our country has fought.

My earliest memories of Memorial Day go back to when I was in elementary school during World War II. Every year, there would be a special assembly in the auditorium on the second floor of the Francis School, long since torn down. The front of the stage would be filled with vases of lilacs, lily of the valley and iris. We would sing the “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” listen to brief talks - some by students, most by adults - about the importance of this solemn day.

Most importantly, however, we would honor the Gold Star mothers in attendance, whose sons had attended the Francis School and died in the war. We knew some of those brave young men or their younger siblings. They were our friends and neighbors.

New Town Employees Hired
By Tom Clow

On May 6, the Weare Board of Selectmen approved the hiring of two new employees for the Department of Public Works. Michael Lansford was hired to fill a full-time truck driver position. This is a new position approved by voters on the March 2020 town warrant. Lansford had been serving in the department as a part-time employee. In his new position, Lansford will start at $17.34 per hour with an increase to $17.86 after six months on the job. At the same meeting, the board hired Kristyn Jensen as a part-time DPW employee at a pay rate of $15 per hour. Jensen will serve on an on-call, as needed, basis.

In March, local resident Pam McCurdy was hired as tax collector. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the state has not been able to hold certification workshops for that position. Town Administrator Naomi Bolton, who does hold that certification, has been serving as interim tax collector, in addition to her regular duties, in order to oversee McCurdy’s work.

Did You Get Your Flag Yet?
By Sharon Czarnecki

Flag Day is coming. It’s June 14. On that date in 1777, we decided on the basic format for the flag representing our new country. This date is also the birthday of the U.S. Army in 1775. In fact, there is a lot to be proud of on June 14, isn’t there?

We are lucky enough to have a group of folks in town who can make it easy for us to display that patriotism. For a yearly fee ($50 for businesses and individuals; $35 for people age 60 and over), the nonprofit South Weare Improvement Society (SWIS) will install a temporary, stainless steel ground stake and 3’x5’ flag/10’ pole on your Weare property two days prior to Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, 9/11 Remembrance Day and Veterans Day. After each important observance, SWIS will remove and store it until the next date. Please contact 529-7282 or radbetts@yahoo.com. Proceeds benefit restoration and maintenance of Osborne Hall. Make contact and mail your check at least three days before the holiday.

SWIS  P.O. Box 392  Weare, NH 03281

Gabriel Dempsey, Owen Schofield and Collins Dempsey pick up trash in honor of Earth Day (courtesy)
Legion Activities on Hold  
By Chris Hague  
“On hold, in limbo.” These are the words Charlie McLain used to describe the breakfast fundraiser at Legion Post 65 in Weare Center. As head of this volunteer project at Philbrick-Clement Post, he anticipated opening in May for Sunday breakfasts through the first week of November. Instead, the post is closed to all activities, with no definite re-opening plans, due to social distancing directives from state officials.  
When the Covid-19 virus spread rapidly through the northeast in early spring, the Legion shut down as precipitously as other community institutions. The installation of 2020 officers was cancelled, scouts no longer met in the dining hall, and the pool table remained covered as social gatherings on Thursdays and Fridays ended. The building, a former school house, does not have the luxury of space for social distancing according to newly released guidelines.  
Although there will not be a public Memorial Day service this year, McLain said he and Dick Colburn have assembled volunteers to place flags on veterans’ gravestones in Weare as a way of honoring those who served their country.  
Like many nonprofit organizations that have cancelled fundraising projects, the Legion will experience a decrease in revenue this year. When state health experts put forth a safe, feasible plan for reopening, the post will announce all plans to again involve the Weare community in its activities.

Read Online this Summer  
By Karen Metcalf  
Weare Public Library’s summer reading program is going virtual!  
Imagine your own story and explore everything we have to offer during the annual summer reading program from June 25 to July 30.  
It’s going to look different than in the past, but the staff has been very busy planning amazing, fun activities for all ages! We will have online events and presentations, at-home activity challenges, and lots of reading - whatever you like!  
Follow the Weare Public Library on Facebook or visit our website at wearepl.wordpress.com to stay up to date. We’ll share more details soon!

Important Voting Information  
By Sharon Czarnecki  
As you well know, life has been altered for all of us during this pandemic and that includes voting for the upcoming Primary on September 8th and the General Election on November 3rd. People with concerns over the spread of the virus can now choose to declare party affiliation, register to vote, and cast your ballot by mail.  
Our Town Clerk, Maureen Billodeau, has done a great job of putting links on our town website, www.weare.nh.gov/town- clerk/pages/elections. Here you will find the various forms you need to complete these tasks. Among the options:
-Change your party affiliation (Deadline: June 2)
-Request a state absentee ballot
If you are requesting absentee ballots so you can vote by mail, you need to use the option in Section II where you would check “disability.” That is the option being used for COVID 19 concerns. You do not need to have an actual disability, only concerns regarding the virus, to use this. Please be aware you need to fill out one form for the Primary and yet another form for the General Election.
-Not registered to vote?
Contact the town clerk’s office at mbillodeau@weare.nh.gov or call 603- 529-7527. Forms and further information regarding various election measures and guidance is also available on the Secretary of State’s website: www.sos.nh.gov

A rainbow arching over Horace Lake on May 11, taken from Collins Landing (courtesy)
National Photography Month

May is National Photography Month. The contributions below are by Rachel Cisto.

“Union Station” - Hartford Union Station train platform, Hartford, Conn., fall 2011

“Pandora’s Box” - fireworks in a box, Weare N.H., summer 2011

“Playground” - University of Hartford Magnet School campus, West Hartford, Conn., spring 2012

Car Show Helps Communities

By Robin Morrell

Don’t miss the annual car show. It is on Saturday, Sept. 19, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m..

It will be held at Parson’s Field in Goffstown. Just follow the signs on Route 114. Admission is free for the public. The Goffstown Rotary Club has safety in mind and will be following CDC guidelines for public gatherings.

The Goffstown Rotary Club services the communities of Goffstown, Weare, New Boston and Dunbarton. Funds raised through its various efforts, go back into the community in the form of student scholarships, local grants and other events. Meetings are currently being held virtually, but as always, guests are welcome to attend. Find us on Facebook, or call (603) 606-8758, or email info@goffstownrotary.org

Adopt A Plant

Weare Garden Club Plant Sale 2020

Watch for Signs Starts May 16 to benefit our scholarship fund

(Help a Student With College)

(Or Help a Teacher With Workshop)

Plants waiting for adoption will be social distancing at the ends of driveways.

All grown in Weare

($ donations accepted)

Checks to Weare Garden Club - PO Box 187

Or Leave In Donation Box

Location 1 – 183 East Road

Location 2 – 54 River Road
Crossword by Alyssa Small and Karen Lovett

Across
1. Amos Lee tune (2 words)
5. Comedienne Tomlin
9. Von Trapp brood sings this for dad
11. Shelbi, Truvy, Clairee & M’Lnn: Steel ______
14. Cooney’s “Miss Rumphius”, AKA
   The _____ Lady
16. Harry Potter’s aunt
18. Chinese opera: The _____ Pavilion
21. Car, or yoga pose
23. S.C. vaca city
24. Susan Orlean’s ‘98 biography:
   The _____ Thief
25. This “Princess Bride” loved a farm boy

Down
2. Woody Allen film:
   “What’s Up, ______” (2 words)
3. Golden Girl from St. Olaf
4. Fitzgerald’s leading lady Buchanan
6. Matilda Wormwood’s best friend: ______ Brown
7. “Instant breakfast”
8. Greek mythological hunter
10. Classic Cuban bolero,
    Dos ______
12. Post Malone theme to “Spiderman”
    flick
13. Henkes’ mouse with impossibly long
    name
15. Young “Downton Abbey” daughter
17. Magic carpet rider
19. “Trolls” heroine
20. “Wonka” visitor who turned into a
    blueberry:
    _____ Beauregarde
22. ’98 Goo Goo Dolls hit

EclipseCrossword.com

Star Wars: May the Fourth be With You

EclipseCrossword.com

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