Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

Lauren Zervos addressed her classmates during the socially distanced graduation ceremony on June 13. She will attend Maine College of Art in the fall. (Patti Osgood photo)

Despite Setbacks, 138 Students Graduate From John Stark

by Rachel Cisto

Between remote learning, the cancellation of both sports seasons and many annual events, this school year was definitely not what the Class of 2020 was expecting.

But in spite of the pandemic, 138 seniors and their guests gathered on the football field for a socially-distant ceremony on June 13. Unlike previous years’ ceremonies, the 2020 commencement was a smaller affair.

The gathered students hear from four of their peers - valedictorian Camryn Plaza, salutatorian Hailey McKillop, and student speakers Avery Forrestall and Lauren Zervos.

Each of the graduates spoke about how the unique challenges of 2020 affected their class.

“We wear the word resilient like a badge of honor,” said Forrestall. “[T]his pandemic, this trial, this will teach us more than any summative assessment. This will be more valuable than any SAT score or any scholarship. This will prepare us for any conflict that will come our way. Because we’ve faced adversity. We’ve faced trauma. We’ve faced being let down. But today we face victory.”

GRADUATION on Page 2

The Town of Weare and the Stone Family

by Janet Benson

Phineas Stone was born in Templeton, Massachusetts in 1775. He moved to Weare around 1803 and settled in the Riverdale part of town. There he built an oil mill, manufactured linseed oil, and also kept a store. The local area around the mill came to be known as Oil Mill Village. In 1808, he married Hannah Jones, the village schoolteacher. They had one daughter and seven sons before they moved to Charlestown, Mass. in 1824.

One of their sons was named Phineas Jones Stone. Born in Weare in 1810, he married Ann Maria Lindsay in 1841 and had three children. Phineas J. was a storekeeper in Charlestown, who rose to become the mayor, a state prison commissioner, and ultimately President of the Charlestown Five Cent Savings Bank. When he died in 1891, he left a legacy to the town of Weare to build a memorial building for the benefit of Riverdale. Those in attendance at the subsequent Weare Town Meeting declined to accept the terms attached to his bequest.

STONE on Page 2

Talk To Us

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GRADUATION on Page 2
GRADUATION from Page 1

The students’ speeches all featured an undercurrent of hope - despite the Class of 2020 missing many traditional rites of passage like prom, they have still succeeded.

“What we do in this next chapter of our lives is important,” said Plaza. “We have the power to fight for those changes we wish to see years from now, as we enter the world. We have the opportunity not just fight for a world that’s our own, but to fight for a world for everyone. Together, we will change the world.”

“We have faced an unprecedented event, and we surpassed it. We are better equipped to face the future than any year before us,” said McKillop. “Whether you enlist, go to a technical school, a college, head straight into the workforce, or just don’t know, you will succeed. Our life is not defined by our grades in high school, or what clubs we were in. It is defined by the obstacles we face, and how we overcome them.”

After the ceremony, graduates participated in a celebratory parade winding through Henniker before making their way down NH-114 to the Weare Middle School.

Groups of friends and family lined Weare Center beginning at 11 a.m., many with signs and balloons, waiting to cheer on the graduates as they passed by.

One thing is certain, according to Zervos.

“We aren’t alone in this. There are students from different towns, states, countries, even continents dealing with this exact thing. What matters is that we did it. We accomplished 12 years of schooling, we did it, no matter how many of us thought it would never end, and suffered through every waking minute. Nothing can take that away from us - even the last three months we completed remotely.”

More Graduation Photos On Page 5

STONE from Page 1

In 1896, Phineas J.’s son, Joseph, a civil engineer living in Boston, responded to Weare’s rejection of his father’s gift by making one of his own in order to “bestow upon said Town of Weare a suitable memorial of my said father which shall perpetuate his memory in said town, do hereby personally offer to said Town of Weare the sum of fifteen thousand dollars in cash upon certain conditions and trusts.”

$5,000.00 was to be “expended in the purchase of a lot of land and the erection of a memorial building by said Town at Weare Center to be known as the Phineas J. Stone Memorial Building.” Joseph also gifted $10,000.00 in cash to be held in a trust now called the Joseph Stone Fund.

The income from the Joseph Stone Fund was to be used to provide assistance to “widows and unmarried women, who are inhabitants of the Town of Weare, entitled and worthy of aid.”

The fund is managed by the Trustees of the Trust Funds. The interest and earnings are distributed by a committee made up of appointed members of the town’s churches, the Welfare Officer, and a representative of the Board of Selectmen, in accordance with the terms of the fund. Current committee members are president Dick Ludders, treasurer Janet Benson, clerk Nancy Stehno, Betty Straw, Dale Chase, and Ricky Hippler.

As of March 31, the principal value of Joseph Stone’s $10,000 has grown to approximately $121,500. In 2019, approximately $3,700 in income was generated on the principal and $1,500.00 was distributed.

To apply to the Stone Fund, you must be a single female resident of Weare. You must complete a new form each time you apply. Applications are available from local churches, the Weare Welfare Department, and online at bit.ly/stone-fund.

Mail the completed application to the Clerk of the Stone Fund Committee, Nancy Stehno, 145 Thorndike Rd, Weare, or email her at Krazykayaker24@yahoo.com.

The Committee plans to meet in early November to review applications. The funds available for distribution are typically a few thousand dollars, so the decisions may be highly competitive. Missing information on the application may hinder an applicant’s chances. The Committee will do its best to determine which applicants are most in need. Preference is given to women who have lived in Weare for many years.

The Stone Memorial Building is the site of the Weare Historical Society museum. (Rachel Cisto photo)
Board Adopts New Fees For the Disposal of Tires
By Tom Clow

A new schedule of fees for the disposal of tires at the Transfer Station was adopted by the Weare Board of Selectmen at its meeting on June 15. DPW Director Benjamin Knapp told the Board that the town was losing money because the current fees did not cover the cost of getting rid of the tires.

The new fees will be as follows: motorcycle tires - $2.00, passenger car and light truck tires - $3.00 (plus $1.00 if the tire is full of dirt or debris), truck tires over 19 inches - $15.00. There will also be a new charge of $20.00 for the disposal of snowmobile tracks. The Transfer Station will not accept larger tires, such as those from heavy equipment.

All fees collected for the disposal of tires as well for other items such as electronics and demolition debris go into a revolving fund. Money from the revolving fund can only be used to pay vendors to dispose of this material.

Selectmen also agreed to keep the Transfer Station open until 7:00 pm on Tuesday evenings through the summer months, with the new schedule starting on June 23. The Transfer Station will be closed on Saturday, July 4.

Reassignment of Inspection Duties

Also, at the meeting on June 15, selectmen gave tentative approval to a plan that would transfer duties for building inspections and code enforcement to the Weare Fire Department. Fire Chief Robert Vezina, Land Use Coordinator Kelly Dearborn-Luce, and part-time building inspector Kyle Parker all spoke in favor of the plan. Town Administrator Naomi Bolton emphasized that the transition would be fluid with a gradual transfer of responsibilities.

Several communities in the area, including Loudon, Franklin, and Merrimack, have their fire departments handle all inspection duties. Weare officials traveled to Loudon, to discuss the procedures in that town. All permits in Weare will still be issued through the Building/Land Use Departments.

Athletic Field Usage Discussed

Parks and Recreation Committee Chair JaNeen Lentsch addressed the board on the condition of the town’s athletic fields, most of which are not being used at this time, and on repairs to irrigation systems. In addition, she said that the committee had been contacted by outside groups asking about using the Weare fields. She asked for guidance from selectmen on whether to allow outside groups, some of which are for-profit, to use the fields, and what to charge if they did allow the usage. Selectman Sherry Burdick cautioned that for several years the Weare Athletic Club has been searching for additional field space for local teams. She was concerned that allowing outside users could interfere with local needs.

No decision was made; however, the topic will be discussed at a public hearing on June 29 at 6:30 pm. The public hearing will also invite testimony on adding fees for walk-ins at Chase Park.

Town Office Hours Adjusted

Town Administrator Bolton announced that Town Office hours have been changed from what was reported earlier. Offices will now be open on Tuesday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There is no change in schedule for the Town Clerk’s office.

Guidelines For School-Owned Chromebooks

Eighth-grade students who have not returned their Chromebooks are asked to keep them safe and in good condition. Students will be contacted by John Stark and instructed on where and when to exchange them for a high-school Chromebook.

All other students will be sent instructions on how to return their Chromebooks. Please take good care of them. Email any questions to Ms. Alison Hathaway-Macellman at alison.hathaway-macelllan@sau24.org.

Edward Carr Graduates from Ithaca College

Mr. Carr received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting & Business Administration as part of the Class of 2020.

Jocelyn Dimond Joins Alexander Graham Bell Honor Society at Curry College

Curry College is proud to announce that Jocelyn Dimond of Weare, has been inducted into the Alexander Graham Bell Honor Society. This Honor Society inducts up to ten percent of the senior class, and up to five percent of the junior class. Jocelyn is one of 39 undergraduate students who has been inducted this year.

The objective of the Alexander Graham Bell (AGB) Honor Society is to promote and recognize academic excellence at Curry College. The Society is named for the famous inventor, Alexander Graham Bell, who was an early chancellor. It was founded in 1971 to recognize and promote academic excellence through a variety of activities.
Five Weare Residents Named to SNHU President’s List
Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the 2020 President’s List: Eryn Bennetter, Cara Easter, Victoria Rizzitano, Jake Silva, and Ryan Waterman.

To be eligible for the President’s List, a student must achieve a GPA of 3.7 or higher and earn 12 credits for the semester.

New “Perseverance Award” Given To Hundreds of Stark Students
John Stark Regional High School faculty started a new tradition this year by recognizing students who have shown perseverance throughout the school year, including during remote learning.

The Perseverance Award recognizes students who worked hard throughout the year, maintained exemplary work-study practices, overcame challenges to complete assignments, demonstrated persistence and determination, showed a continued growth mindset, and sought and applied feedback to improve performance.

348 John Stark students received the award.

Left to right: Weare School Board Chair Wendy Curry, retired Weare and SAU 24 Board Chair Marge Burke, SAU 24 Administrator and retiring Superintendent Dr. Lorraine Tacconi-Moore, Henniker and SAU 24 Board Chair Deb Urbaitis, and John Stark School Board Chair Zach Lawson.

Celebrating SAU 24 Retirements
Community members and staff from Henniker, Weare, John Stark, and Stoddard School Districts gathered for an outdoor reception to honor and say farewell to four long-time members of SAU 24. Senior Accountant Deb Hooper is retiring after 42 years, SAU 24 K-8 Literacy Coach and former Center Woods classroom teacher Kelli Killion is moving out of state after 17 years with SAU 24, Business Administrator Kathleen Sargent is retiring after 9 years, and SAU 24 Administrator and Superintendent Dr. Lorraine Tacconi-Moore is retiring after 10 years.

Concord Regional Technical Center Accepts New Students for Fall 2020
The following John Stark students have been accepted at CRTC for the start of school next year:
Zachary Fifield, Camden Lapointe, and Cody Ugarte in Automotive Technology 1
Thomas Bryant in Computer Engineering 1
Shawn Bishop, Natalie Hebert, Savannah Redman, and Devon Stromak in Cosmetology 1
Noah Brent, Kylie Perrino, and Brandon Perron in Criminal Justice 1
Nathan Nichols in Emergency Services 1
Matthew Mulet in Graphic Design 1
Annabelle Charette,Presley Gaberseck, Jillian Gagnon, Jillian Grant, and Alycia Keane in Health Science 1
Ryan Flaherty, Trevor Marion, and Annabel Poehlman in Theater and Film - Acting 1
Spencer Keane in Theater and Film - Production and Design 1

Delivery Of Middle And Upper Elementary School Yearbooks May Be Delayed
Normally, yearbooks are delivered in bulk directly to the school. However, due to the pandemic, many books are being shipped directly to students’ homes, which can cause delays.

If you have not received your yearbook, call your post office to see if it was held for pick up. The books may not fit in the mailbox.

If you need to reach out to TreeRing directly, you can track your order by using the My Orders page on their website. Customer Service is also available by phone, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST at 877-755-8733. You may also email support@treering.com.

If you need to contact the school, email tracy.rousseau@sau24.org or pam.moul@sau24.org.
Congratulations, Class Of 2020!
The John Stark Class of 2020 participated in a first-of-its-kind partially virtual graduation ceremony and celebratory parade through Weare and Henniker. Below are some photos from the events.

(Ceremony photos by Patti Osgood, parade photos by Rachel Cisto)
John Stark Announces Semester 2 Honor Roll

To achieve high honors, a student must receive an average grade of 92 or better, with no grade below 87. For honors, the student must achieve an average of 83 with no grade below 80.


10th Grade High Honors: Brooke Blackburn, Gracie Bolduc, Kaitlyn Bossart, Grace Caplan, Bailey Carignan, Andre Chabot, Terry Greene, Abigail Guillemette, Jayna Henry, Carina Keirstead, Alyson Kenney, Brianna Langdon, Ian Lavertu, Brianna Lynn, Kaylee Montgomery, Isabella Pelletier, Emily Roy, Andrea Seaver, Diana Stafford, Sunnie Steinbach, Arden Ulmer

10th Grade Honors: Aaliyah Aladegbemi, Taylyn Andrews, Bonnie Bragdon, Noah Brent, Naomi Byers, Annabelle Charette, Patrick Coyle, Jason Crean, Jazlyn Curry, Mason Dion, Brienne Duhamel, Emma Edwards, Nathan Fifield, Brandon Firman, Ketan Fournier, Presley Gaberseck, Jillian Gagnon, Jillian Grant, Nicole Grenier, Lexi Guimond, Maria Hagar, Evelyn Hallee-Cardoso, Paige Hamel, Teagan Hardcastle, Samantha Hartlen, Logan Hinse, Nathan Innerfield, Owen Jones, Alycia Keane, Jordyn Lemay, Sophia Lemay, Colby Lineberry, Alexander Mann, Trevor Marion, Chad Martin, Joshua Moul, Miles Murray, Jaden Nelson, Nicholas Osborne, Patrick Parker, Devin Patterson, Kylie Perrino, Brandon Perron, Logan Pike, Annabel Poehlman, Kyle Provencher, George Reph, Alexys Rinker, Christopher Roy, Ardaie Rustam, Nolan Scott, Terry Seymour, Jackson Souther, Keegan Werner, Cadence Williams, Maddy Wood

11th Grade High Honors: Madeline Aucoin, Elizabeth Barnes, Noelle Barrieau, Nathaniel Boddy, Brianna Bodner, Nathan Chasse, William Connor, Olivia Dame, Elizabeth Downing, Delaney Forrestall, Laura Gasparikova, Margaret Girardet, Lauren Guerrette, Ethan Hauptman, Josselyn LeBlanc, Cody Lucier, Brianna Meisser, Isaac Michael, Brady Philibotte, Brianna Pinter, Sarah Sheldon, Margaret Waligura

HONORS, page 9
HONORS, from page 8


12th Grade High Honors: Elizabeth Aubin, Eli Bryant, Hannah Champagne, Keegan Dunn, Lily Jensen, Arianna Maxwell, Camryn Plaza, Naomi Prevo, Shelby Sizemore, Chelsea Woodsum

Mid Summer by Marge Burke

I set the clock, rise early, it is the summer solstice, I want to flow freely into the dawn, not miss a minute of celebrated sunlight, a cosmic event, sun at its height in the high vault of heaven, sparkling sapphire surrounds the sun sending splendid rays of warmth to earth below, fifteen hours and thirty four minutes of unceasing sunlight, and then a slow setting of the sun leaving us with twilight time, afterglow of brush strokes of dazzling color splashed across the horizon, then dark of night sets in, I rejoice in the glory of the light that lifted me to joyous pinnacle.

Community Dedicates Memorial To Mr. Mike


On the evening of June 18, 56 people came out to the library for a socially-distanced dedication of a lilac bush and memorial plaque to former librarian Michael Sullivan. The bush sits outside the entrance to the Sawyer Room.
Local Reads: Valor Under Fire
By Connie Evans

On June 17, 1775, our Weare men in John Stark’s First New Hampshire Regiment proved themselves to be brave, resilient, and determined, showing the redcoats that dominating the colonists would be no easy task. In April, Connie Evans did a Zoom presentation to introduce her latest historical fiction novel, Valor Under Fire that profiles ten of Weare’s militiamen who participated in the Siege of Boston. The presentation can be viewed at: https://bit.ly/3dW8Eu2. If you would like a copy, the book can be purchased at https://bit.ly/valorunderfire

Register Today for the Weare Library Summer Reading Program
By Karen Metcalf

Registration for the Weare Public Library summer reading program is open. This year’s program is ONLINE ONLY. Go to: http://wearepl.readsquared.com/
Click on “Register Now” to create your account.

You can register yourself and/or your children. You can connect any family members to your account, adults, or children. Fill in the information requested. Be sure to write down your user name & password. Library staff will not have access to your login information. Once you are registered you can sign in to your account.

Keep track of your books read, complete missions, play games, earn virtual badges, and win prizes!
Registration began on June 19 and all logging and missions activate on June 25, our Summer Reading Kickoff Date!

Easily log your activity using the READ squared app. It can be found in your App Store and is free for both Android and iOS mobile devices. Choose Weare Public Library NH from the drop-down menu. Call 603-529-2004 or email childrenspl@comcast.net for further assistance.

Spend June 25 With The Library On Facebook
By Karen Metcalf

Join us on Facebook for these events:
10:00 AM Video featuring Steve Blunt, a NH singer/songwriter, and our very own library staff!!

2:00 PM learn about the month-long writing contest during a zoom workshop with members of the Weare Writers Guild and Weare In the World volunteers.
6:30 PM we encourage everyone to host their own family kickoff celebration with lawn games and BBQ.

Our staff will be sharing pictures of their family fun on our Facebook page. We hope to see your pictures too! Look for all information about Summer Reading on the library’s Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Weare-Public-Library-223558129364 or https://wearepl.wordpress.com/

My Dad – Al Weatherbee
By Sharon Czarnecki

Father’s Day – Since I am in my 70’s, I am super, super lucky to have my Dad still with me. So much of my life is built on things he taught me:

There is magic everywhere, in fireflies, in crystal snow, in dandelions and milkweed, in every seed you ever see and any bud on any plant.
DAD, from page 10

Imagination is absolutely essential. Acorns are fairy boats, there is a baby alligator in the garden irrigation ditch, the car gets a birthday every 100,000 miles complete with cake and song, there are elves everywhere at Christmas and Horton really does hear a “who”.
You must always try to help others who are truly in need if you can. No matter how old you get to be, you can always make new friends and learn new things. Even if a sad thing happens, know you are loved and hold on. Life is what you make it. Enjoy the gift.

My Dad – Burton Kellogg
By Connie Evans

My father, Burton Kellogg, loved people, football, and swimming. He even swam against Johnny Weissmuller, the first Tarzan, while a student at Colgate. My father was truly an excellent swimmer, but he was no match for Tarzan!

I got the greatest piggy-back rides from my dad; no matter how tired he was after working in the Big Apple, he never turned me down. I regret that I lost my father before he had a chance to meet his granddaughters, Jessica and Cassie, but I see many of his strengths reflected in their character and personalities.

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Pests in the Garden:
Part 2 - Companion Planting
By Anne Wirkkala

How does this work? Many plants have natural substances in their roots, flowers, and leaves that can repel or attract insects, as well as providing nutritious supplements. In this way, they seem to enhance the growth rates of and protect their companions from harm. Companion planting is an integral part of natural pest management. You can discourage harmful pests without losing the beneficial ones.

We have our native American ancestors to thank for the best known of these relationships: The Three Sisters, the age-old companions: Corn, Beans and Squash. Here is their story: Plant the Three Sisters according to tribal customs. Plant your corn in late May. It is best if the ground has warmed and is no longer cold and wet. (Iroquois tradition holds that planting begins when the leaves of a dogwood are the size of a squirrel’s ear). Prepare low hills that are 3 to 4 feet apart within and between the rows. Plant three corn kernels evenly spaced to a depth of 1 to 1.5 inches. Cover with soil. (One for the crow, one for the worm, one to grow.)

After young corn plants come up, begin removing weeds. As you weed, gently mound, or hill, the soil around the young plants. When the corn plants are about 6 inches high, pole beans and squash or pumpkins can be planted around the corn plants. After thoroughly weeding, plant four or five bean seeds in each hill. Plant four or five squash or pumpkin seeds in every seventh hill, placing them around the young corn plants. (Planting squash in every hill would quickly overwhelm your site with viney growth.)

PLANTING, page 12
The “sisters” protect and nourish each other as good sisters do. They also provide a complete nutritious diet when eaten together, known as succotash.

**Other companions and their strengths**

**Marigolds and calendula (pot marigolds)**
The best pest deterrent for all pests! They discourage bean beetles, nematodes, whiteflies, rabbits, and even some weeds. They also attract pollinators.

**Basil, bee balm, borage:**
This group improves the growth and flavor of tomatoes. They deter tomato horn worms. They are also said to repel flies, thrips, and mosquitoes. They attract bees and other pollinators. Borage adds minerals to soil.

**Nasturtium**
Plant with radishes, squashes, pumpkins, and cucumbers to deter aphids, squash bugs, and pumpkin beetles.

**The mint family, rosemary, sage, summer savory, thyme:**
Plant with the cabbage family, beans, and carrots to repel white cabbage moths, bean beetles, rodents, and the carrot flies. Mints attract good wasps.

**Petunias:**
They protect beans and asparagus from beetles and repel aphids and tomato worms.

**Tansy, rue, garlic:**
Plant under fruit trees, among cucumbers and squash, roses, and raspberries to deter Japanese beetles, cucumber beetles, squash bugs, ants, and slugs.

**Wormwood (Artemisias):**
Border plant to deter small animal invasions (chipmunks!). Also repels most insects.

There are many other combinations that work. Check these further readings for others:

*Companion planting* - Flowerdew, Bob / *Carrots love tomatoes* - Riotte, Louise / *Attracting beneficial bugs to your garden* - Walliser, Jessica / “Companion planting”

[http://www.ghorganics.com](http://www.ghorganics.com)
crossword by Alyssa Small
and Karen Lovett

Across
2. Pixar’s speedy “McQueen”.
6. VW Beetle nickname.
7. Stephen King’s killer car.
8. Elon Musk’s electric make.
9. “She’ll have fun, fun, fun ’til Daddy takes (this car) away” (abbrev.).
12. Daniel Tiger’s transportation.
13. This Cruz won an Oscar for “Vicky Cristina Barcelona”.
14. Kenicke’s Ford de Luxe is “automatic, systematic and _____”.
21. Chitty Chitty Bang Bang could do this.
22. The Ghostbusters drove this ambulance/hearse.
23. Route 66, aka the _____ Road.
24. Talking car in “Knight Rider”.
25. Author of “Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance”.
26. “No Particular Place To Go” singer.

Down
1. Time machine car from “Back To The Future”.
3. Actress who was an automotive expert witness in “My Cousin Vinny”.
4. The longest highway in the world.
5. Scooby-Doo’s van: The Mystery ____.
7. Stick shifts and safety belts have to go, according to this band.
10. Dukes of Hazzard car: the General ____.
15. Model T inventor.
16. NPR’s Car Talk brothers: “Click” and ____.
17. Prince sang about this “Little Red ____”.
20. Gwyneth Paltrow sang “Cruisin’” with this “News” man.