Weare PD Hires New Officers
By Tom Clow

The Weare Police Department has added two new officers, Barry Charest and Laura Purslow.

According to Police Chief Christopher Moore, both are fully certified, and because of their experience, they will only require a couple of weeks of field training to become familiar with local procedures. Each has been partnered with a training officer and that process has begun.

Because of competition with other police departments and a shortage of applicants, Weare has struggled to fill vacancies. After the hiring of Charest and Purslow, the department still has two openings. Moore said.

Barry Charest started his career in police work in Weare in 2012, but later took a position with the Manchester Police Department. He returned to the Weare department last month, first being sworn in as a part-time officer on March 18 and then assuming full-time status on March 30. Charest is also a member of the US Army Reserves where he holds the rank of Sergeant First Class.

Laura Purslow started her career in 2001 as a full-time officer in Portsmouth before taking time off to serve as a full-time mom. She returned to police work as a part-time officer in Dunbarton. She was sworn in as a full-time Weare officer on April 6. Purslow earned a BA in Criminal Justice from St. Anselm’s College. According to the Weare Police Facebook page, she also has special training in Crisis Negotiations, Active Shooter Response Model Instructor, and Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events.

Join In Our April Celebrations!

We may all be staying home, but there’s still plenty to be glad about this time of year.

In recognition of National Poetry Month, Weare In The World solicited poems from our readers, and our staff also contributed a few poems of our own for you to read. The poems begin on page 4. We’re also observing Earth Day this month. The celebration of all things environmentally-friendly is on April 22. More is on page 7.

The Weare In The World staff would like to thank you for your continued support. Stay safe and stay healthy. -- Staff Reports

We Want Your Submissions!

- Mother’s Day is May 10. Kids, in one sentence, tell us why you love your mom.
- Teacher Appreciation Day is May 5. Tell us about an awesome teacher! Be sure to include your name and their name.

Email us at weareintheworldnews@gmail.com

Deadline for the May 13 issue is May 8.
School News

Remote Learning: A Teacher’s Perspective

By Corey Sulzen, CWUES fifth-grade teacher

Nothing compares to being in the classroom: the instant support based on a student’s puzzled or “I understand” face; high-fives as positive reinforcement to success; cooperative kinesthetic activities - these things are gone, but in their place, new routines have developed, and we continue to thrive where possible.

We are lucky to be a remote classroom with 100% participation. I think it shows my students’ drive for education and being a “Super” team and strong communication with their parents. Students seem to appreciate the Google Classroom structure where work is neatly presented, easily accessible, and includes a check-off list of tasks to-do daily and for the week. This routine allows them to have less technology and “how-to” questions, and more questions focused on academics.

We still say the pledge each morning and continue our Series of Unfortunate Events Reader’s Theatre using a PDF copy of the book during our Morning Meeting - a continuation of in-class routines. For other assignments, students have enjoyed having a choice; whether it be the choice of science projects, math practice options, or Fantasy Book Club book choices. I’ve strived to provide assignments that let students pick related topics they are interested in, and present them in ways that are meaningful to them. I’ve received - and they’ve presented - writing, hands-on projects, pictures, videos, and more! Some things I would have never been able to see inside my classroom.

A downfall to remote learning that students encounter (besides technology bumps) is missing peers outside of their classroom. Some workarounds have included phones, social media, and gaming, but students agree that it’s not the same as being face-to-face. Some student engagement is also tough. “We can only lead them to water, we can’t make them drink,” is a great analogy because we can only hope that students want to take education on with this support during remote learning. We can’t reach everyone at every moment, but hopefully, we’re providing enough support and interesting assignments to keep students coming back each day.

Superintendent Interviews JSR Senior

SAU 24 Superintendent Jacqueline Coe interviewed graduating senior Jillian Labrecque about the transition to remote learning and what it means for seniors like her. You can view the video at bit.ly/3akvJO5

Submission Guidelines for the Eleanor Campbell Scholarship

The Eleanor Campbell Charitable Fund Scholarship Committee has announced an extended deadline of May 4 for high school seniors and college students to apply for 2020 scholarships. Mail applications must be postmarked by that date.

Eleanor Campbell Charitable Foundation scholarships are awarded to students who will be attending post-secondary school full-time who attend Hillsborough-Deering High School, John Stark High School or other accredited secondary schools as well as homeschooled residents of Deering, Hillsborough, and Weare. Students are eligible for up to two scholarships.

Applications for graduating high school seniors and those in college are available to download and print at eleanorcampbellcharitablefund.org. The committee understands the complications distance learning has created and will be flexible during the submission process while still maintaining confidentiality. Special directions have been added to application forms. Applicants may scan and email forms to either address on the application or use the postal service. Faculty references should be submitted separately, with the student’s name at the top. Class standing and test scores will be provided to the committee by the schools.

Continued on page 3

A “Weare Strong” sign sits outside the Stark House Tavern on NH-114. (Rachel Cisto photo)
SAU 24 offers free meals to families

A waiver approved by the State of New Hampshire and the United States Department of Agriculture last week now allows schools to offer meals to all children under the age of 18 free of charge.

To access these meals, families do not need to fill out free and reduced applications for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. This program does not expand into the summer break.

Since the waiver, schools in Henniker, Weare, and Stoddard have seen requests for meals double in a week. “This began in our schools on Monday, April 6, and we continue to see more requests for the program every day,” said Business Administrator Kathleen Sargent. Sargent’s department oversees all food service in SAU 24.

“Some of our schools are in-house food service, like John Stark, and some of our schools are contracted food service, but it all works the same. The school district provides the food and the meal preparation, and we will be reimbursed by the federal government,” she continued.

SAU 24 schools deliver the meals to homes via school bus.

“The expansion of the meal plan to offer food for any child under the age of 18 in the community they live in is one more way we can support families in these most difficult days,” said SAU 24 Superintendent Jacqueline Coe.

Specifics of how the free meal program works at the Henniker Community School, John Stark Regional High School, Weare Middle School, Center Woods Upper Elementary School, Center Woods Elementary School, and James Faulkner Elementary School is available on the SAU 24 website at https://www.sau24.org/ -- Patti Osgood

**Weare Middle School Science Class Complete ‘Act Of Green In Your Backyard’**

Seventh-grade science teacher Debbie LeBlanc was looking for something to get her students outside and engaged from home - especially as the 50th anniversary of Earth Day approaches.

LeBlanc came up with four options for her students - identifying trees, bird watching, calculating their own carbon footprint, and spotting “signs of spring.”

Students who choose tree identification are required to keep a journal listing the type of tree, its scientific name, and daily observations about the changes in the tree, including bud formation, flowers, seed production and pollen production.

Students who choose bird watching will also be keeping a journal - listing the types of birds seen each observation session and making a data table of how many birds of each species were seen.

Students calculating carbon footprint will either make a birdhouse, make natural bird feeders, make a compost bin or plant a garden. Those who choose the birdhouse or bird feeders will record the types of birds seen using them, while the students who choose the compost or garden will look at natural fertilizers, which plants introduce nitrogen back into the soil and choose plants that they would have a specific use for.

Students looking for “signs of spring” will keep a daily journal of observations such as birds changing color, salamanders emerging, peep frogs calling and the return of robins.

Students were provided with resources to help them in their task. They were also allowed to design their own “backyard experience” proposal for approval.
**Weare In The World** Celebrates National Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month, and we’re celebrating by sharing some poetry written by local authors. If you’d like to submit something to be considered for future issues, email weareintheworldnews@gmail.com.

“April Flower” by Marge Burke

Early bloomer
andromeda
graceful clusters
bell shaped flowers
cascade down like
a waterfall
foamy and rushing,
an eyeful feast.

“Rosebud” by Shirley Hewitt

We are but a rosebud at the time of our birth,
Needing rain and sunshine to grow on this earth.
But if only a bud, we choose to stay -
Never opening and blossoming more each day
Then a failure are we, for trying to hide
The love and the beauty we all have inside.

“Young Spring” by Randal Dixon

Her eyes were stars
Bright wise with twinkle
And hair of auburn flow
With lips and curves
And warm caress
Touched to make her glow

But time is time
And on we go
And Shakespeare said it best
I miss those times
Of warm caress
When Daffodils bloomed in snow.

“The Mustache” by Tom Clow

I stood in front of the mirror,
cippers in hand, ready
to detach the gray mouse
that lounged above my upper lip.

Was this the day that he should go,
this beast that appeared in full
at twenty-nine, dark and bushy,
and ready to define - my identity.

If I ended his existence,
would my upper lip be pasty white,
from so many years of shade
beneath the sleeping rodent?

Would those who have never
seen me without this closely
attached companion comment
on the empty space he left behind?

I remember when he first emerged,
light and fluffy, and easily
dispatched with the single pass
of a Gillette Blue Blade once a week,

Then I let him stay awhile, but then
he wouldn’t leave. When he blocked
the feel of kisses, I should have
ripped him from his perch - but no.

He has turned from the bushy brown
of youth to the wrinkly gray of age,
as I have carried him with me for so long.
Or is it he - who has carried me?

I put the clippers back on the shelf.
I will let you live another day - or
two or maybe more - my friend -
my foe - my aging companion.
“Rain On My Parade” by Al Weatherbee

The drums were a muffled beat.
There was a sloshing of many feet.
Flags were hung drooping down,
With crepe paper on the ground.

I huddled beneath a maple tree.
The driest site from which to see,
My parade of life go marching by.
It was enough to make one cry.

I waited there until the parade had passed
Then I dashed into the street at last.
I strutted down the center line
And made a parade all mine, all mine.

I lifted my arms up to the sky
And sang a song from long gone by.
And now the crowd all joined with me
Their heads held high and spirits free.

You can lead in your parade
Or follow one already made.
’Tis how we face the rains in life
That helps us overcome the strife.

So laugh and sing and strut your stuff.
Do it now while times are rough
Let’s lift our spirits and set them free
And we’ll march right out of misery.

“Quarantine” by Rachel Cisto

do not believe them
eyou will tell you
if you don’t
lose 50 pounds
write that book
learn a new language
you’ve been saying you’ll do “someday”
while we’re quarantined
that it was never about the time
they’ll tell you that if you don’t do it now
you’re making up excuses
if you don’t do it now
you’re lazy
but I’m here
and I’m telling you
DO.
NOT.
BELIEVE.

the entire world is going through
a collective trauma response
and not everyone’s response is
“do EVERYTHING immediately”
if you have to adjust your goals
you should
it’s okay
it doesn’t make you any less
remember
sometimes
“make it to tomorrow” is a perfectly reasonable goal

Residents all over town have put out signs reminding us what’s really important, like this one in NH-114. (Rachel Cisto photo)

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the History of Weare, New Hampshire: 1735-1888, Meadow Brook got its name by winding through William Dustin’s meadow. It once had seven mill sites along its four miles: a tannery, two grist mills, a sawmill, a carding machine, a cabinet shop, and a blacksmith shop. Each used the power of its water. -- Connie Evans
Community News Briefs

Local Author Gives Virtual Book Talk: June 17, 2020 marks 245 years since the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Weare militiamen’s participation was extraordinary.

Valor Under Fire is the story of ten young men who risked their lives for the liberty we enjoy today. Connie Evans, the author of Ebenezer Mudgett and the Pine Tree Riot and Tales of Survival, will be speaking about her third book on Weare’s historical contribution to the Siege of Boston, from Weare’s minutemen to Britain’s evacuation from Boston.

Join this Zoom presentation on Tuesday, April 28 at 10:00 A.M. It will be recorded for a future time as well. If interested in an invitation, email Connie at cke1@comcast.net.

Eagle Scout Project Complete: Visitors to Weare parks will have some extra places to sit and spread out, thanks to the hardwork of young resident Chris Seaver.

Seaver, an 18-year-old JSRHS senior and member of Scout Troop 24, chose to build six picnic tables as his Eagle Scout project. After years of learning about tools alongside his dad, Seaver also drew on his experience in FIRST Robotics and knowledge from shop classes at school.

After his project was given the green light in January, Seaver raised about $1,200 for materials by making and selling keychains during voting in February, along with collecting other donations. Friends, family, neighbors, teachers and troop members helped Seaver along the way, he said, with everything from getting materials, planning, making angle cuts, routing, building, and finally with painting. The project now done, Seaver is awaiting review and approval in order to achieve his official Eagle Scout rank. This fall, he intends to major in mechanical engineering. -- Karen Lovett

Breaking Bread Cafe Opens Food Pantry: After closing the cafe space last month, Breaking Bread is now offering additional support to our Weare Seniors. A Weare Senior Food Bank, for those who are 60 and older, is now available at our Breaking Bread Cafe location. Please contact Hand In Hand Ministries at 529-4263, leave your name and number. For those who can not pick up, delivery will be an option.

A Message From Brian Smith, The Lead Pastor at Christ Community Church

These are unprecedented times for our country and our world. All of us have been affected by this pandemic in one way or another. As the church, we still desire to love and care for our members and our community in this time. While our weekly gatherings cannot happen in person right now, we are gathering via Facebook live at 10 am each Sunday on our Facebook page Christ Community Church Weare, NH. You do not have to have a Facebook account to view these live videos. We are also providing resources and other links on our Facebook page to encourage your family in this time.

If you would like prayer or encouragement in these difficult times please reach out to us at hello@christcommunitynh.com

As always we are grateful for the way the people of Weare are caring for one another and we are here to love and support you with the hope of Jesus no matter what the days ahead look like.

Easter At Holy Cross Church: Lilies that usually decorate the church on Easter Sunday were placed in the gathering space for parishioners to pick up so they could make their own altar. Holy Week services were held via Zoom. -- Marge Burke
Seed Starting With Kids
By Heidi Colburn

Do you love to garden? Or maybe you’ve always wanted to try. Well, now is the time! While it may seem intimidating, seed starting can be a great activity for the whole family. And what better time to start than right now? Let me give you a few pointers to make seed starting with kids a great family tradition.

First, gather all of your materials. I highly recommend purchasing a good quality seed starting mix. These are soilless and are less likely to grow fungi/mold, leading to healthier seedlings. They are also the appropriate consistency for proper drainage. Next, you will need something to plant in. You can buy seedling pots, or you can use everyday objects around your home. You can make little pots out of toilet paper rolls, milk cartons, or strawberry containers, for example. Make sure you wash out the containers and poke holes in the bottom for drainage if they don’t have any.

Then place your pots in a tray. I would also recommend a spray bottle, especially if you are working with little ones. This allows them to water the seedlings, without the worry of drowning them. Lastly, you will need seeds. Pick things that your family enjoys eating. Read the labels, because not all seeds need to be planted ahead of time. Some may be planted directly in the garden.

Once you have all your materials, set up your workspace. Prepare to get messy! If you can do this outside on a nice day, that is ideal. The seed starting mix needs to be moistened before you begin. I recommend putting some of the seed starting mix in a bowl or bucket, adding some water, and letting the kids mix it up. You want it to be the consistency of a well wrung-out sponge. Now you can add the seed starting mix to your pots, filling them most of the way. Read the seed packets to determine the appropriate depth for planting. Place your seeds in your pots and sprinkle with a little more seed starting mix. Kids can help with each one of these steps. If the seeds are really small, you may have to assist with handing them one seed at a time, but with larger seeds, they can do this step on their own.

The last thing you need to do is to find a warm, well-lit space to keep your seeds. Most seeds prefer temperatures between 70 to 80 degrees, but they will do fine at room temperature in your home. You can purchase seed starting heat mats to help with germination if you want. The seeds themselves do not need light, but as soon as they sprout, they will. While there are many varieties of plant lights out there, you can get away with regular fluorescent lights. Once the pots are in their spot, check daily and mist as needed. Kids love watching their plants pop up!

If you and your family have any questions, you can reach out to the Weare Garden Club at gardenweare@gmail.com. Happy Gardening!

Ways To Celebrate Earth Day

Now is a great time to practice Earth-friendly habits or try an environmentally beneficial project with your family. Here are some easy ways give back to our planet on April 22nd – and all year long!

*Plant a tree, perennial flowers, herbs, or your own little vegetable garden. Check for great guides and tips at UNH Cooperative Extension https://extension.unh.edu or Cole Gardens of Concord www.colegardens.com


*Join a food co-op or local CSA (Community Supported Agriculture.) Local options include Local Harvest (https://www.localharvestnh.com) and Middle Branch Farm (http://middlebranchfarm.com).

*Compost your kitchen scraps to use in your garden.
*Measure your “foodprint.” Calculate the environmental impact of your food choices and plan more Earth-friendly menus.
https://www.earthday.org/foodprints

*Pick up trash along your local roadways; separate the recyclables.

*Go on a walk or hike. For little ones, add a nature scavenger hunt challenge! Or, bring supplies to clean up debris along the way. New Boston Rail Trail (https://www.nbrailtrail.com), Goffstown Rail Trail (https://goffstownrailtrail.org) and Buxton Forest / Elizabeth Simons Preserve (https://forestsociety.org/property/buxton-forest-elizabeth-simons-preserve) are great nearby options.

*Avoid single-use plastic, such as water bottles, straws and bags. Whenever possible, use reusable food containers, lunch totes, coffee cups and thermoses.

*Make a bird feeder using elements from the woods.

*Switch to online billing.

*Print on both sides of your paper, or tear used paper into scrap pieces.

*Turn lights off when you leave a room; turn off electronics you’re not using.

*Turn thermostats down two degrees in winter and up two degrees in the summer; it can reduce your carbon footprint by 2,000 pounds.

*Turn water off while brushing teeth or washing dishes; take shorter showers.

*Go car-less! For every mile you carpool or ride a bike, you can reduce your carbon footprint by a pound.

Information compiled by Alyssa Small and Karen Lovett.

Earth Day 1970: A Personal Memoir
By Tom Clow

April 22, 2020 marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day celebrations in the United States. Perhaps celebration is the wrong word, with climate change becoming more of a threat every year, perhaps it should be a day of atonement, because no one should treat their mother the way that we have treated Mother Earth.

On the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970, I was teaching junior high school in Walpole, New Hampshire. Having read books such as Silent Spring by Rachel Carson and The Frail Ocean by Wesley Marx, I was anxious to embrace the concept of saving our planet and to share that enthusiasm with my students. Looking back, our efforts were simple and naive, but hopefully they lit a spark in the young minds.

There were activities planned throughout the Fall Mountain School District, but my focus was on my school and the students in my social studies and English classes. Our plan included posters, cartoons, and stories that would be displayed in the gymnasium at an assembly for parents on the evening of the 22nd. A small group in one class also wrote a skit to perform that evening. I asked students to explore the town looking for examples of pollution so we could take pictures to use as slides at the same assembly. They led me to sites where raw sewage poured into the brook that flowed through the center of town and to an area where a local hatchery dumped their excess product on a riverbank.

I also challenged the students to ride their bicycles to school on Earth Day rather than taking the bus or getting rides from their parents. I pledged to do the same, but I lived in the town of Swanzey, south of Keene, and about 20 miles away. The road from Keene to Walpole had some major uphill sections, and the only bicycle in the family was an ancient three-speed that my wife’s parents had given to her used when she was in her early teens. I bought a child seat for the back of the bike and toured the side roads of Swanzey with my preschool son aboard to prepare for my Earth Day ride. My students had clearly shared the news of my riding a bike to school with their parents because as I huffed and puffed from Keene to Walpole, parents on their way to work tooted horns, waved and gave me thumbs up.

The lawn in front of the school was lined with bicycles that morning, and the evening program also went well. No one complained about seeing pictures of their sewage flowing into the brook, and the hatchery owner, a major employer in town, did not threaten to sue the school.
I had always ridden a bike as a kid, mostly old clunkers, so the Earth Day ride was not a totally new experience for me, but I like to think that it was one of the experiences that set me up as a cyclist for life. Today, even as I approach age 77, a 20-mile ride on my lightweight 24 speed Trek is not a big deal. I have no illusions that my cycling in and of itself is going to do much to extend the life of Mother Earth. I can only hope that it helped deliver a bigger message to my students 50 years ago and that it will perhaps add a few years to my own life.

Silver Linings

By Sharon Czarnecki

Maybe some of you remember the movie “Pollyanna”. It was a Disney film released in 1960 about a 12-year-old girl who was always thinking of things to be glad about. Her indefatigably cheery attitude could certainly be annoying, but she did always rise to the occasion even when things seemed pretty dismal.

They do say that every cloud has a silver lining. With that in mind, I’m thinking many of us have probably found surprising advantages to the recent changes in our lifestyles. So, by way of keeping our spirits up, we will be happy to list those items in this column if you want to share them.

For instance...

- Now that my family is home, we have gone for a walk every day except 3 since March 17 and have taken our two very happy dogs with us.
- I am learning how to use online conferencing programs
- There is way less pollution from cars and planes.
- Doctors and patients are getting more comfortable with remote treatments in many areas of medicine.
- I am writing actual snail-mail letters.

From Alyssa Small

- We are getting many house and yard projects done.

From Marge Burke

- I have “seen” more extended family than usual through the wonders of modern technology like Zoom and Face-time during this stay at home time. That has been a true gift.

From Rachel Cisto

- I’ve been able to slow down considerably from the pace I had been keeping.
- I’ve been able to start some new projects and get back into some old ones.
- I’ve started painting again!

How about you? What has changed for the better? Write to us at czar5@comcast.net.
Across

1. Location of our largest glacier.
7. Ecuador is named for this geographical feature.
8. This river caught fire and sparked the Clean Water Act.
9. From the sun, Earth is _____ in order.
11. This largest lake is called a sea.
13. Above the core.
15. Led the charge into the Alaskan Wilderness.
16. Rachel Carson’s famed book “_____ Spring”.
20. Our highest peak.
22. Signed the 1963 Clean Air Act.
23. Located in this spiral arm of the Milky Way.

Down

1. Our biggest rainforest.
2. Driest place on Earth.
3. Atmospheric makeup - oxygen and _____.
4. Change of seasons in summer and winter.
5. Covers 71% of the surface.
6. Our deepest ocean.
10. Tallest waterfall: _______ Falls.
12. Earth’s other major force (not gravitational).
16. Our largest desert.
17. Change of seasons in spring and fall.
18. Our longest river.
19. Proposed Earth Day concept in 1969: Gaylord _______.
21. “Father of the National Parks”.

Wouldn’t you know it? I’m a ...


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