Deadline Approaches for Deciding Back-to-School Plans

Families in town have until Aug. 19 to notify the Weare School District of their enrollment plans for school this coming fall.

After the Weare School Board approved education plans last week, SAU 24 Superintendent Jacqueline Coe sent a community update that included the deadline and framework for each school, plus remote learning plans. More information is available on the school district’s continuous learning website: https://sites.google.com/sau24.org/sau24continuouslearningplan/home

Here are the highlights of Coe’s community update in condensed form.

**Center Woods Elementary and Upper Elementary (grades K-5)**

Students will be assigned to a cohort (class). The group of students and adults will remain together for the day. Students will attend class at the school each day. There will be staggered arrival and departure times to allow for increased parent drop off and changes in bus routes.

As part of the plan approved by the Weare School Board on Aug. 6, there is a phase-in period for grades K-5. Elementary students will be remote from Wednesday, Sept. 9 to Tuesday, Sept. 22. However, during this time, cohorts of students will be brought into the building to get acclimated to the new classroom procedures and engage in academic and social-emotional learning activities.

**Weare Middle School (grades 6-8)** The middle school will have an alternating day hybrid schedule.

On Monday, students will meet remotely at assigned times with all their core content teachers to plan for the two remote independent days. In addition, students will have Unified Arts and World Language classes.

On Tuesday and Thursday, students with the last names A-K will be in the building and will attend classes with their teachers. Students with the last names L-Z will work independently at home on assignments.

See SCHOOLS, page 2

New Police Officer Added; Medals and Awards Presented

By Tom Clow

Thomas Ouellette is the newest member of the Weare Police Department. Ouellette was presented to the Board of Selectmen at its meeting on August 3 by Sergeant Ryan Frisby, filling in for Chief Christopher Moore. After his nomination and approval, he was sworn in by Board Vice Chairman Frederick Hippler.

Ouellette was born in Salem, Massachusetts and graduated from Ipswich High School in Ipswich, MA in 1995. After spending three and a half years in the U.S. Army, he joined the Essex County Sheriff’s Department, where he worked for four years before taking a position with the Manchester, NH Police Department. He accepted the position in Weare after serving as an officer in Manchester for 17 years. He is presently a resident of the town of Bow, NH.

Ouellette was hired at a starting rate of $29.14 per hour with an increase to $30.16 after a six-month probation period. With his hiring, the department has one remaining vacancy.

Above: Thomas Ouellette and his wife Jennifer after he is sworn in as Weare’s newest police officer. (Tom Clow Photo)

See POLICE, page 2
SCHOOLS, continued from page 1

On Wednesday and Friday, students with the last names L-Z will be in the building and will attend classes with their teachers. Students with the last names A-K will work independently at home on assignments.

John Stark Regional High School (grades 9-12) The high school will have an alternating day hybrid schedule.

On Monday, all classes will be held remotely. Students will log-in to a synchronous (in real-time) session with each of their teachers.

On Tuesday and Thursday, students with the last names A-K will be in the building and will attend classes with their teachers. Students with the last names L-Z will work independently at home on assignments.

On Wednesday and Friday, students with the last names L-Z will be in the building and will attend classes with their teachers. Students with the last names A-K will work independently at home on assignments.

More specific information will be provided by the individual school principals over the next weeks.

SAU 24 Learn-at-Home

We will offer a “Learn at Home” program that families will be able to enroll in and remain part of the SAU 24 learning community.

The offerings in the program exist along a continuum and what we will be able to offer in the first trimester will depend on demand and student needs. The program might evolve as the year progresses. We expect to be in the middle of the continuum (asynchronous learning using a learning management tool with minimal teacher interaction, or blended synchronous, or asynchronous learning with increased teacher interaction and daily short synchronous meetings) when we start, with variations based on subject and grade level.

POLICE, continued from page 1

Police Star and Purple Heart Awarded

Again, presenting on Chief Moore’s behalf, Sergeant Frisby awarded medals to two Weare officers. Sergeant Austin Maguire was awarded the Police Star for his actions on August 1, 2019. The Police Star is awarded to a police officer who successfully and intelligently performs an act of extraordinary heroism while engaged in personal combat with an armed adversary under imminent personal hazard to the officer’s life.

Officer William Paul Lewis IV was awarded the Purple Heart for his actions on August 1, 2019. The Purple Heart is awarded to a police officer who is seriously wounded, under honorable conditions, as a result of hostile behavior by another, or posthumously to the family of a police officer killed in the line of duty under honorable conditions.

Referring to a statement prepared for the presentation, Frisby said that both actions came about as the result of a call for service to a domestic dispute between a husband and wife on the August 1, 2019 date. The officers were told that the husband had a history of mental health issues and had a large cache of firearms. Upon arrival, the officers met the wife at the front door of the residence, where she informed them that her husband was armed with a shotgun. The officers inquired about the husband’s location and positioned themselves between the two parties. The officers identified themselves and asked the husband to drop his weapon and show his hands. Instead he opened fire, and Officer Lewis was struck twice in the arm, causing bones to shatter.

Sergeant Maguire returned fire then moved Officer Lewis and the wife back to the patrol vehicles for protective cover. He then applied a tourniquet to Lewis’s arm. When additional units arrived, Lewis was transported to the hospital where he underwent emergency surgery. Maguire remained on the scene and directed incoming officers to secure the area. The husband was later found inside, deceased from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Letters of Recognition

Sergeant Brandon Montplaisir and Administrative Assistant Emily Dauphinais were awarded Letters of Recognition for their contributions to the Weare Police Department’s successful passing of the New Hampshire Training and Standards Council inspection on July 7, 2020. Lieutenant Frank Hebert, who could not be present, was awarded a Certificate of Commendation for his leadership in preparing for the July 7 inspection.

Above: Sergeant Austin Maguire, left, and Officer William Paul Lewis IV display medals received on August 3. (courtesy)

Below: Sergeant Brandon Montplaisir, left, and Emily Dauphinais are presented Letters of Recognition by Sergeant Ryan Frisby (Tom Clow Photo)
Absentee Voting Procedures Outlined Ahead of Fall Elections
By Bev Cotton

Hopefully, some of you have applied for your absentee ballots. For those of you who haven’t, please go to our town clerk’s website or the Secretary of State’s website and do that without delay. The new form is there, which allows you to use a single form for both the primary and general elections. It also has a reason for COVID-19 concerns, rather than needing to use the ‘disability’ reason on the application.

You will notice that on the second page, there are two paragraphs of strikeouts, information that is to be disregarded. Please do just that; this does not need your attention. It has to do with a lawsuit from a couple of years ago and likely should no longer be there. Don’t let that confuse you. You have the right form.

This absentee ballot itself will come with an instruction sheet, but what is enclosed does not address instructions for COVID concerns. There is a special COVID-19 Absentee Instruction Sheet on the Secretary of State’s website at www.sos.nh.gov. Go in under “Voting During the COVID-19 State of Emergency” and the third item is “COVID-19 Absentee Ballot Instructions.”

On the ballot inner envelope, you will see that there is no reference to COVID-19. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General have both said it is ok for voters to declare that they are disabled and sign the Religious Observance/Physical Disability side of this affidavit envelope: the right half of that inner envelope.

This may clarify a couple of areas of potential confusion on the new ballot application and on the ballot inner envelope. Please get your request in now and do not delay; the primary ballots are ready and being sent out once requested.

All of this can be a bit confusing. If you still have questions or need help, you can contact our town clerk, Maureen Bildeau, at mbildeau@weare.nh.gov or the author of this piece, Beverly Cotton, at weareintheworldnews@gmail.com.

Meet the Candidates

The New Hampshire State Primary will be held Tuesday, Sept. 8, featuring several locally contested races in the state legislature. This week, meet the six candidates for the three open seats for State Representative in Hillsborough District 2.

Weare in the World developed the following survey. Candidates were given a 700-word limit. Surveys that came in above the limit were edited and condensed; full versions may be available on individual candidate sites.

Look in our next issue to meet the candidates running for State Representative in Hillsborough District 39 and for State Senator in District 8.

State Representative, Hillsborough District 2

Name: Rachel Cisto  
Political Party: Democratic

In which town do you live and how long have you been there? I moved to Weare in 1998 with my mom, dad and little sister.  
Occupation: Delta Air Lines Passenger Gate Agent, Manchester-Boston Regional Airport; Sales, Torrid, Mall of New Hampshire; Author  
Contact: www.rachelcisto.com, cistofornh@gmail.com, www.facebook.com/cistofornh

1. What are your community involvements/affiliations? Weare Democratic Committee; Weare Area Writers’ Guild; Weare Cable Committee. I run a small craft business, “Wicked Sweet New England,” with my mother; am involved with my sister’s Special Olympics team; spent eight years mentoring the John Stark FIRST Robotics Team (also an alum). Editor of this publication from January-July (I stepped back to ensure no conflict of interest.)

2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? I’m a product of Weare’s public schools (Go Generals!) and spent nearly a year covering public schools in New York City. Good, safe schools can change a child’s entire outcome. The state needs to restore the adequacy grants originally mandated by the courts in the Claremont decision, which would bring more money to schools without forcing towns to raise property taxes. The formula determining “adequacy” should also be re-evaluated.  
See CISTO, page 4

News From Weare Democrats

The Weare Democrats have recently held two “Meet the Candidate” nights via Zoom: first on July 22 and the next on August 4. They include information from Gary Evans, Rob Girard, Dan Feltes, Jen Paveglio, Andru Volinsky, Jenn Alford-Teaster and Rachel Cisto. The video recordings are available at: https://wearenhdemocrats.org/gallery/
CISTO, continued from page 3

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. I do not believe that “gun rights” and “gun control” cannot coexist. These are not mutually exclusive. While not personally a gun owner, I have visited a shooting-range and fired different weapons. I have no problem with the Second Amendment; gun owners have a Constitutional right to own their firearms. I support common sense gun measures: expanding background checks to ensure firearms do not end up in the hands of violent criminals. Measures like this would combat gun violence and needless death, and don’t impede law-abiding citizens from purchasing or owning firearms.

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? We need to look to local conservation commissions and to NH’s robust Fish and Game department. We’re lucky to live in a state that has a wide variety of natural resources, from forests to beaches, lakes and mountains, and the residents of the state should be engaged in its preservation. We need to be environmentally conscious to ensure the beautiful state we enjoy now is preserved into the future.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? Overall, Gov. Sununu is handling the pandemic well: opening in phases, ensuring that Granite Staters were able to stay home, shuttering non-essential businesses. That said, we reopened a little too quickly, especially with no mask mandate. In customer service, I’ve dealt with many people who don’t want to wear masks and who were rude or abusive when we were doing our jobs. The CDC says COVID-19 could be under control within two months if people wear masks; Gov. Sununu should have established a mask mandate when this began. Also, it is unwise to reopen schools without a solid statewide plan that ensures student and teacher safety.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police reform? If so, please give examples. Chief Moore has done a great job of turning the department around. Both communities and police departments would be better served by reducing the scope of what’s considered a “police matter” by creating and funding alternate services like community health and mental health services, using community mediation services and violence interruption programs. I would be in favor of that sort of reform. Departments should have a group of citizens that investigate complaints made by the public against police officers; I would support the creation of Citizen Review Boards across the state.

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? Investing in healthcare and education so citizens can participate in the economy to the best of their abilities; public infrastructure projects like building or repairing roads, bridges or public buildings, which creates jobs and spurs further development and revenue when targeted to lower-income areas; raising the minimum wage, since higher wages improve families’ overall economic standing and allows freer spending; and cleaning up the tax code by asking the wealthiest to pay their fair share and getting rid of special-interest tax breaks. That creates more revenue and opens up more money to fund programs without forcing towns to issue higher tax bills.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected. I strongly believe we need to move to a Medicare-for-All system. I firmly believe that no one should go bankrupt because of medical bills, and that the healthcare you receive shouldn’t be based on your income. I would support bills to strengthen and expand Medicare and work to ensure that every Granite Stater is able to go to the doctor when they’re sick - and that that doctor visit won’t bankrupt them.

Name: Leah Cushman
Political Party: Republican
In which town do you live and how long have you been there? Weare, three years
Occupation: Registered Nurse Contact: www.leahcushman.com

1. What are your community involvements/affiliations? As a visiting nurse, I serve clients in the Weare and Deering community. This spring, I conducted a comprehensive community assessment of Weare by conducting research and talking with community leaders. From that, I created a plan to improve access to mental health and family support services in town and I would like to work further on that when COVID-19 is behind us and in-person support groups are feasible again. I also serve as a Weare Fire Ward and am a member of the Weare Home Educators homeschool cooperative with my children.

2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? Our public schools are funded by a mixture of state and local funds,
CUSHMAN, continued from page 4
but the majority comes from property taxes. It is important to maintain local control over school funding and let the voters decide what is adequate for the needs of the schools as well as the taxpayers, like we do now.

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. I support the Second Amendment as it is written. New Hampshire is a "constitutional carry" state and I believe it should remain so. I support the Governor’s 19 vetoes on bad gun bills this year.

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? It’s important to protect our natural resources. I support the State of New Hampshire’s lawsuits against 3M and DuPont for contaminating New Hampshire waterways with PFAS. I also support continued recreational use of public land, which funds the care and maintenance of our state parks.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? I believe the state should have channeled resources into protecting those over 65 and living in institutionalized settings who are most at risk, while maintaining the freedom for private citizens and businesses to make their own choices. The economy was booming here before the State of Emergency restrictions, which cost thousands of Granite Staters their jobs and businesses. There are still 71,000 people on unemployment in New Hampshire now. I believe that the impact of massive unemployment and poverty on public health and the economy should have been a higher priority in the decision-making by the state.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police reform? If so, please give examples. I support the recent bill signed into law by Gov. Sununu that prohibits the use of chokeholds by law enforcement. I'm glad to see that he has created a commission to deal with the issue of police reform. I also support the April court ruling that the Exculpatory Evidence Schedule, AKA the Laurie List, should be released to the public.

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? The New Hampshire economy was one of the best in the nation before the COVID-19 State of Emergency and its restrictions on businesses. I would like to see all those restrictions lifted from businesses. I support removing regulations that inhibit entrepreneurs from bringing business here, so that we can regain our historically excellent unemployment rate and the New Hampshire Advantage.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected. Right now, we have conflict in Weare and across the state as some parents want their children back in school full time without masks and social distancing, some want remote learning, and others want a hybrid model. It’s important for families and children to have access to quality education that works for them. If elected, I will support legislation that expands education opportunities, such as voucher programs for homeschool and private school. Everyone who owns property pays taxes for education, and I believe that money should be available to children whether they attend public, private, or homeschool.

Name: Keith Erf
Political Party: Republican
In which town do you live and how long have you been there? Weare, 39 years
Occupation: Business
Contact: www.keitherf.com


2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? Our public schools are controlled by our local towns and are funded primarily by them. Local control of education is a hallmark of our country and our state. During the 2019 legislative session, we passed and the governor signed a bill allocating $797,000 to Weare schools and $467,000 to John Stark High School. These one-time funds were allocated from a one-time surplus New Hampshire realized in 2018, partly as a result of a reduction in business taxes during the prior biennium when Republicans controlled the legislature, leading to increased tax revenue. Both schools put this into capital reserve funds for future capital expenses.

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. I strongly support our Second Amendment rights to own firearms. During these past two legislative sessions, I supported the governor's numerous vetoes of bills limiting our gun rights passed by the

See ERF, page 6
ERF, continued from page 5
Democratic majority. These included bills permitting our firearms to be taken away based on a mere accusation without due process, bills imposing a waiting period between the purchase and delivery of firearms, bills requiring locking devices, bills prohibiting large capacity magazines, bills removing limited liability protection for firearm manufacturers and bills requiring background checks for firearms transfers. In many cases, the majority put the exact same bill forward in each of the two years, wasting legislative time and taxpayer money.

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? One of the reasons I came to New Hampshire to start my career is the easy access to skiing, hiking, lakes and the ocean. New Hampshire has good systems for managing our natural resources based on local control of local resources, user-based fees to support state parks and license fees to support our waters and fish and game management. I will support maintaining the public’s access to our local, state and federal lands and waterways.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? We need to work hard to re-open our economy and get our children back to school. It is undeniable that our younger children especially need face-to-face education. It is clear that children are at low risk from the virus and have low risk of transmitting the virus. School is also a place for good nutrition for many students who may not otherwise receive it. We need to give those parents who both choose to work the opportunity to return to work. We need to reduce restrictions on businesses that limit their ability to have a full complement of customers so they can stay in business and hire the many employees who lost their jobs as a result of the shutdown imposed on them.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police reform? If so, please give examples. We are fortunate in Weare to now have a police chief who has been able to turn the department around and provide better engagement with the community. As a member of the Weare Finance Committee, I listened to the chief’s presentations in the capital improvement projects and the finance committees. His presentations were professional and clear and he included members of the department in providing them. I was able to work with the chief in providing him with a connection to the community mental health networks being set up in the state. Unfortunately, this was interrupted by the virus lockdowns but can hopefully resume when restrictions relax.

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? Our economy was the strongest in New England and one of the strongest in the country before the lockdown. This is why we need to push hard to re-open the economy and the schools. We should continue the trend of reducing business taxes started by the previous Republican legislature, which leads to increased revenues to the state and increased employment as more companies are attracted to New Hampshire.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected. During the next two years, the state will face a shortfall in revenues and an increase in expenses. As a member of the House Finance Committee, I became intimately familiar with the state budget and budgeting process. I stand with the governor in the belief that we can address these issues without raising taxes. If I am able to continue on the finance committee, this will be a top priority. This is one reason we need to return a Republican majority to the New Hampshire House.

Name: Robert Girard
Political Party: Democratic
In which town do you live and how long have you been there? I have lived in Deering for 13 years but am a New Hampshire native who grew up in Goffstown.
Occupation: I work at Goffstown Hardware doing a variety of tasks ranging from ordering, receiving shipments, merchandising, and sales floor help.
Contact: Email: rob4nhhouse@gmail.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/rob4nhhouse

1. What are your community involvements/affiliations? I am an elected member of Deering’s board of Trustees of the Trust Funds and an appointed member of the town’s Zoning Board. I am also an ‘at large’ member on the board of the Deering Association, a local non-profit.

2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? The issue of adequate funding for our public schools is one that the state has dealt with for many years. Even now, there is a state-funded independent commission working on a study of the issue, and it is due to submit its final report by December 1. I am hopeful that the commission will have comprehensive recommendations for funding.

See GIRARD, page 7
GIRARD, continued from page 6

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. I believe in common-sense gun control legislation and universal background checks.

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? Our public spaces and parks are vital to our well-being and our economy. I would support any legislation that helps to protect our valuable forests, lands, and parks. I would vote against anything that tries to loosen environmental regulations and standards.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? Our state has been fortunate in terms of the number of positive cases; however, I think it has less to do with the state’s response and more to do with the rural nature of most of the state. I think that the initial “stay at home” order helped slow the spread, but the governor has not taken enough of a leadership role in terms of mask requirements. Instead, he left it up to towns and businesses to make their own decisions which created a disparate response. As of this writing, New Hampshire is the only state in the northeast not requiring a mask in public where social-distancing is not possible. Another issue that needs to be addressed is the ban on evictions that expired at the beginning of July. I think that the ban should be reinstated for renters who have lost their jobs or are not able to work due to the pandemic.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police reform? If so, please give examples. I do not believe in the so-called “defund the police” movement, however I do believe that individual officers need to be held accountable for their actions. Officers are increasingly responding to calls relating to mental health problems. The police academy training program should add more hours of de-escalation training and there should be more comprehensive annual training required for current officers so that those calls can have an appropriate response.

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? New Hampshire cannot have a robust economy if it does not have a population to support it. The average age of the state’s population is increasing and there is little growth in the workforce age range. We need to work on ways to keep college graduates in the state, such as tuition repayment incentives and housing assistance. Ultimately, the state needs to be a place where people want to start a family, and they’ll be attracted to a state with a quality education system. I think of education as an investment for the future because society benefits from a well-educated population. If we invest more money into the education system, it will pay for itself in the long run. When businesses know that we can create a capable workforce, they’ll want to move to or expand in our state, which will lead to job creation.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected. Nothing at this time.

Name: Gary Hopper
Political Party: Republican
In which town do you live and how long have you been there? Weare, 35 years
Occupation: Machinist/Moldmaker
Contact: Cell 529-7728. We can meet for coffee.

1. What are your community involvements/affiliations? I was first elected as one of your State Representatives in 2000. When the kids were young, I was a coach for OM (Odyssey of the Mind) that was fun. I was a Boy Scout leader and am currently a member of Goffstown Fish and Game. When we had a police chief in Weare who had lost his way, it was my wife (Brenda) and I who got a ballot initiative passed to have his position become an elected one. I lost some good friends over that but doing the right thing often has a cost.

2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? Keep it local; the majority of school funding is local. This allows people in town a direct impact on how much or how little is spent. If we go to a broad-based tax, the folks in Weare will lose control of their schools. Under our State Constitution, the legislature cannot mandate anything they aren’t funding. A broad-based tax would mean the state is paying and would allow many state mandates on local schools. Weare does have high-quality education.

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. Our Constitution is fundamentally a system to balance power. Which is why we have three branches of government, so that no one branch would have too much control. We have freedom of speech so that anyone can speak out against the government without fear.

See HOPPER, page 8
HOPPER, continued from page 7
We have the right to bear arms to keep the balance of power in the hands of the people. I do not support so-called “common-sense” gun legislation

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? I have and continue to support legislation that keeps much of our land open to the public for recreation. When I was Chair of the Fish and Game Committee, I co-sponsored a bill that protected land owners from frivolous lawsuits.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? Deaths from COVID-19 have been declining since late April (CDC). In all of Canada, only one child has died. More kids will drown this year than die from COVID-19. We do have to protect the elderly and those who are vulnerable but shutting down everything is not sustainable. This relates to question 2 on school funding. We can’t fund anything with people out of work.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police reform? If so, please give examples. I have been on the Judiciary Committee for many years. I believe I know where the primary problem is in NH: accountability. I will propose a bill to create an independent review board to ferret out bad cops. There are far too many good cops getting abused because of a few bad apples.

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? Open up businesses.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected.
   Article Six of the NH Constitution is titled “Morality and Piety.” The basic idea is a self-controlled population needs little, if any, control by government. We need to encourage strong families.

Contact: www.jen4nhstaterep.com;
https://www.facebook.com/JenPaveglioForStateRepH2

1. What are your community involvements/affiliations?
   When my daughter was in fourth grade at CWES, we organized a bake sale to benefit Haitian earthquake victims. It was her idea, but jointly, we donated over $900 to charity! I promote and patronize local businesses; served on the John Stark Football Boosters Board for two years; and am working with Weare Police Chief Moore to form a Citizens Advisory Committee to keep residents more informed about supporting emergency services.

2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? Education funding is a top priority for me! Good schools help all of us in this community, regardless of whether you have kids in the school system or not. Continued work with the Commission to Study School Funding and further examination of Tax Equity in NH is a logical next step to funding education without adding any new taxes. We need to invest in job training and workforce development to help graduating seniors have more vocations and trades opportunities. I will vote for legislation that will help our community’s schools. The state should be more involved with investing in the education of our students. It should not be left to individual towns to carry the burden solely through property taxes.

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. I fully support the Second Amendment. I am a gun owner and have had conversations with people in our district about this. It is our constitutional right to bear arms. Background checks make sense. Violent criminals should not own guns; If you’re not a violent criminal, I believe you can own any type of gun you wish. Making sure we are not selling weapons to violent criminals is only logical.

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? The best way to preserve our natural resources is to invest in conservation commissions. These commissions help landowners preserve our natural resources (such as wetlands), control invasive species (i.e. milfoil in our lakes), build public awareness about climate change and develop climate adaptation benefits. Giving

   See PAVEGLIO, page 9
PAVEGLIO, continued from page 8

tax benefits to residents who install solar or wind power
for their homes or cars encourage fossil fuel alternatives
and are a step toward reducing our carbon footprint and
preserving NH for future generations.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s
handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? Our state has
handled the pandemic quite well, so far. Shutting down
and slowly reopening has slowed the virus and gotten our
local economy back on track. That said, NH should have
more of a plan to open schools safely. The current
guidelines throw responsibility back to the districts, who
are struggling to make preparations with little help from
the state.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police
reform? If so, please give examples. I don’t believe we
have a problem with policing at the local level. If I saw an
issue, I would speak with Chief Moore and Chief Philibert
to get their opinions. I’m not a LEO, and any legislation
that would make changes to our local policing should have
the best interests of our community in mind; who better
to get feedback from than the people who run the police
stations?

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our
economy? At the local level, we need to make our district
more attractive to businesses. The more businesses we
have in our community, the more it helps our tax base and
attracts more people, which in turn helps our tax base.
This would be something that would be handled by the
town selectmen. At the state level, easing the tax burden
on our small businesses would be a great start. Small
business makes up a large portion of our economy in the
Granite State. We should fight for legislation that helps
them succeed and doesn’t drive them out of state or into
bankruptcy.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how
you would address it if elected. In addition to quality
education, I will fight for fair, living wages. In 2019,
the average annual wage in NH was just over $51,000, more
than $18,000 less than the rent-affordability calculation
-onlyinyourstate.com/new-hampshire). Even working full
time, there is no way a person would be able to afford
rent, utilities, gas, food and other necessities working for
minimum wage. As of November 2018, NH ranks sixth in
highest total utility costs in the U.S. (howmuch.net).

Fire Rescue Moves Toward 24-Hour
Staffing with New Hires

By Tom Clow

With the hiring of Trevor Anderson and James Sylvain as
full-time employees, Weare Fire Rescue moved one step
closer to its goal of having the station
staffed with two
firefighter/EMTs 24
hours a day. The two
new hires, who started
work on July 10, joined
Kristina Houde and
Amanda Charest, who
were hired to full-time
positions in 2019. Chief
Robert Vezina explained
the term EMT refers to a
basic level position. He
said the town is
fortunate to have hired
two advanced EMTs and two paramedics. The department
plans to place an article on the 2021 Town Warrant for an
additional two full-time employees, and the same in 2022,
Vezina said, to reach the goal of 24-hour station coverage.

Prior to 2010, Weare Fire Rescue was strictly an on-call
service, which meant that members had to be called from
home or work to respond to an emergency. As the town
grew and more people committed to work outside the
community, there were fewer on-call personnel available
during the weekday hours. This led to a dependence on
surrounding communities to respond to emergencies in
Weare during those hours.

In 2009, the fire chiefs from all of the surrounding towns
attended a Weare Board of Selectmen’s meeting to deliver
one common message: by covering ambulance services for
the town of Weare, they were putting their own citizens at
risk by not being available when they were needed.
Something had to be done so Weare could shoulder the
responsibility for its own services.

The result was that the Board of Fire Ward, with the
support of selectmen, placed an article on the 2010 Town
Warrant to establish an EMT/Firefighter Revolving Fund
for the purpose of funding per diem EMT/firefighters. Up
to $90,000 would be taken from the revenue received
See FIRE, page 10
FIRE, continued from page 9

from ambulance billing fees to support the revolving fund. The article was overwhelmingly approved by voters and provided coverage from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. All other calls were still covered by on-call personnel.

Previously, all money from ambulance billing fees went into a fund for the replacement of fire department vehicles. In 2016, voters agreed to discontinue the revolving fund and place the wages for the per diem EMT/firefighters in the Fire Rescue’s operating budget, thus allowing all revenue from ambulance billing fees to again be saved toward the purchase of fire department vehicles.

Vezina was hired as fire chief in 2011. The per diem program was in place, but it soon became apparent to him that there was a need for coverage at the station beyond the weekday hours, coverage that on-call personnel alone could not provide. The per diem program was gradually expanded to cover 15 hours a day, seven days per week, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. That covered about 80 percent of their calls, Vezina said.

When asked why the department was moving away from the per diem model, he said that the program could not be maintained. He said that these are part-time workers, and this is not their primary job. They are constantly being called out by their regular employers or for other reasons, and the scheduling is a challenge to keep up. He said that there is a core group that has stuck with the program, but the rest is like a revolving door.

Concerning response times, Vezina said that if people are in the station, they can be out the door in about one minute. If it’s a call shift, it’s from five to eight minutes. With the town covering 60 square miles, the time from the station varies greatly depending on the location of the call. We have the town divided into nine districts or blocks to estimate response times, he said. A call for service on Mountain Road can take 20 minutes from the station.

Vezina said he believes Weare ranks 32nd in the state in population, and all the larger communities have full-time station coverage. A July 2020 posting on the website of the New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives lists the 2019 estimated population of all 234 New Hampshire cities and towns and confirms Weare as the 32nd most populous community in the state.

Garden Club Fall Plant Sale
Get your cuttings ready to sell for Saturday, Sept. 5 starting at 9 a.m. Mostly houseplants and items to plant for next year are wanted, like garlic and daffodils.

Four Public Hearings Result in No Parking Near Chase Park, Requests for More Information

By Tom Clow

After hearing public testimony on July 27, the Board of Selectmen approved the installation of “no parking” signs along Reservoir Drive next to Chase Park. The No-Parking Towing-Enforced zone will extend approximately from Waterman Road to the dam at the end of Horace Lake. Up to 25 signs will be placed on the opposite side of the road from the lake shore but will indicate no parking on either side. Board Chairman Jack Meaney said the spacing between the signs will comply with national traffic standards.

Three other public hearings on July 27 resulted in requests for more information or clarification. After a lengthy discussion of a proposal from the Parks and Recreation Commission to raise parking and boat launch fees for nonresidents at Chase Park, the issue was tabled until the end of the season. Many of those testifying raised questions concerning the impact of the change on revenues at the park, whether it was necessary to limit the number of nonresidents on week days, whether the original deed to the town allowed the changes that were being proposed, and even the need for a clearer definition of who was a resident or a nonresident.

A hearing on whether to reduce the speed on Rockland Road from 35 to 30 MPH resulted in a decision not to make the change due to a lack of information. Rockland Road connects Route 77 near the turn to the Transfer Station to River Road.

After hearing public testimony on a proposal from the Planning Board to change the Building Permit Ordinance as it relates to the calculation of permit fees, the proposal was sent back to the Planning Board for further clarification.

Be part of the
WEARE TOWN WIDE YARD SALE
August 22, 2020
Be on the map. Fill out a form.
Available online:
wearehistoricalsociety.org
- or at the Weare Public Library, Town Office, Post Office
Weare Real Food Farmers' Market Opens in Center of Town

Weare once again has a community farmer’s market! As of July 25, local farmers, artisans, and crafters are offering fresh produce, eggs, honey, soap, and other products under tents at 65 N. Stark Highway (corner of Quaker St) on Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Current vendors include Warner River Produce, Tracy's Handmade Wonders, Lewis Farm & Greenhouses, The Happy Hippie Farm, Clayton's Way Farm Soaps, Slice of Heaven Apiary, Christina’s Jewelry Box, and The Marcotte Farm. If you have any questions or are interested in being a vendor, please call 931-0831 or email wearerfm@gmail.com.

Mylia and Sawyer Small of Weare are excited about peach picking on Aug. 2 at Gould Hill Farm in Hopkinton (Alyssa Small photo)

HOLY CROSS HAPPENINGS

By Marge Burke

Due to Covid-19 international travel restrictions, the used clothes collection shed located in the parking lot at Holy Cross Church is temporarily closed. St. Pauley’s, the parent company that Holy Cross partners with, is unable to ship the clothing donation oversees to the NGO’s they work with. Further, they have maxed out their own storage space for all donations. Both St. Pauley’s and Holy Cross hope this moratorium will be lifted soon. Watch for the return of the yellow sandwich board indicating the shed is once again open for donations.

Anti-racism conversations continue at the Thursday night all parish zoom check-in gatherings. James McKim, President of the Manchester chapter of the NAACP was a recent guest facilitating the discussion. The split plate open offering donations for August and September will be designated for organizations doing intentional work to dismantle systemic racism.

Marge Burke photo

Aunt Fran’s Jam

By Marge Burke

Many years ago, on a Friday in August, my friend Shirin would come to my house so we could make peach jam together using her Aunt Fran’s recipe. Shirin, who now lives in Arizona, would bring her own canning jars and I would have mine ready, along with all the other necessary jam-making equipment, including tree-ripened peaches from Carter Hill Orchard. Our treat, once the several batches of jam were made and kitchen cleaned, was afternoon tea with scone and fresh peach jam. Shirin and I still make jam, just not together anymore. Hers for this season is already made. I will make mine next week.

Aunt Fran’s Jam

- 8 cups of sliced or chopped unpeeled peaches
- 3 tbs. lemon juice
- Heat until juice starts to flow
- Add 5 ½ to 6 cups of sugar
- 3 tbs. butter
- Cook on high heat until thickened,
- When done, * pour into sterilized jars and enjoy

*Freezer test for doneness
Put a small plate in the freezer. When you think the jam is ready, put 1 tbs. on the plate; return to freezer. Check after one minute. If jam wrinkles when you push it, it is done. The jam has a rather loose set and spreads easily.
Michael Bamford on Dean’s List

Michael Bamford, who is majoring in Computer Science and Innovation, has been named to the Champlain College Dean’s List for the Spring 2020 semester.

Students on the Dean’s List at Champlain College have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester. Making the Dean’s List is a tremendous achievement in any year, and the global pandemic added unprecedented challenges for all of the students. Champlain College congratulates its students on this great accomplishment and honor.

McCallum Wins Convention Award


Holidays In August

By Sharon Czarnecki

August is a month known for a lot of things besides the last vacation month of the year. It has also been recognized for Family Fun / International Pirates (presumably of the cinematic variety) / Catfish / Golf / Picnics / Peaches / Romance / & water quality. Furthermore, you are admonished to “Admit You’re Happy.”

Some aspects of summer celebration have an entire week devoted to their pursuit. They are: International Clowns / Simplify Your Life / Smiling / Friendship / and Being Kind to Humanity.

There are also at least 68 daily holidays set aside during the month. Some of them are for: Campfires / Girlfriends / Mahjong / Mountain Climbing / Mustard / Raspberry Cream Pie / Friendship / Forgiveness / Ice Cream Sandwiches / Sisters / Watermelon / Chocolate Cookies / US Coast Guard / Oysters / Wiggling of Toes / Beer / Lighthouses / Professional Speakers / Clowns / Book Lovers / Lazy Days / S’mores / Perseid Meteor Showers / Son & Daughter Day / & Middle Children.

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Contributions should not mix fact with opinion; while being careful to retain the author’s intent, editorial changes may be made prior to publication to meet the policy and address technical or space issues. Send contributions to weareintheworldnews@gmail.com, with your name and contact information.

Selected articles will be published in the print version at the editor’s discretion as well as the online version of the newspaper when printing resumes.
A Midsummer Night's Dream

Crossword by Alyssa Small and Karen Lovett

Across

2. Shakespeare's London Theatre
4. Much Ado About
8. "So shines a good deed in a weary ___".
9. Comedic "Merry Wives" from here
10. The Merchant of Venice's name
12. AKA Robin Goodfellow
14. Spouse: __ Hathaway
15. Capulet foe
17. "El, tu, ___?"
18. "Twelfth Night" twins, Sebastian and
19. "Double, double, toil and ___"
23. City setting of "Taming of the Shrew"
25. City setting of "Romeo and Juliet"
26. Acted in and directed many film adaptations: Sir Kenneth
27. Hamlet's castle

Down

1. "Wherefore art thou, ___?"
3. Nickname: The ___
5. His sonnets written in iambic ___
6. "As You Like It" is set in this forest
7. His poetic contemporary and rival: Christopher ___
11. Comic figure appears in three Shakespeare plays: Sir John ___
13. His King Lear banishes this daughter first
15. They were his actors
16. This planet's moons named after characters
20. Tragic Moorish general
21. "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely ___"
22. His murderous Scottish king
24. Birthplace: Stratford-Upon: ___

Contact Us
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