Weare Real Food Farmers Market Brings Interests Together
By Sharon Czarnecki

Marek Rivero is enthusiastic about opening the new Weare Real Food Market and states his focus is “all about what we can do for the community.”

Rivero, a graduate of Southern New Hampshire University -- who continued his education to obtain two master’s degrees there -- has a genuine interest in making his expertise available to others and enjoys collaborating on ideas and developing opportunities for business. The market opened on July 25 at the property on the corner of Route 114 and Quaker Street. Fostering this group of local vendors brings several of Marek’s favorite interests together: live music, fresh produce, and home-cooked meals.

THE MISSION: To present a high-traffic venue where local farmers, producers, crafters, and artisans can come together to provide a variety of fresh produce and related products directly to the community.

THE TEAM: An undertaking like this is not a one-person job and Rivero’s good friend, Josh Dick, has helped with research for this endeavor. In addition, Matt Rivero
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Easy as ABC? Not in the 1700s
By Connie Evans

With summer coming rapidly to a close, many children are looking forward to school starting up in September, but it will look and be different for many Weare families during this strange pandemic year. No matter what families decide to do, Weare children will be relieved to know that it will be nothing like the first schools in the 1700’s.

In 1769, the first school was in Jonathan Atwood’s home or barn, not quite in the center of Weare and not an easy walk for many children. They trudged through deep woods, crossed streams, and heard wild animals protesting their intrusion. By 9 a.m. they were sitting on rough benches without desks; some had carried chairs from home to be more comfortable. The teacher didn’t have a blackboard; students copied arithmetic problems and spelling words the teacher dictated. They dipped their quill pens in berry ink and scratched them on birch bark or rough paper. Small children used the New England Primer while the older children read from the Bible.

By 1772, there were six district schools operating in homes with teachers as well as a grammar master traveling from home to home. Some teachers spent half their instruction time administering discipline, a rash of physical punishments that would horrify any parent today. Students arrived home with blistered hands, swollen ears, and black and blue extremities. Other punishments included: holding out a Bible with a horizontal, steady arm; bending down with straight legs and holding onto a nail or peg and getting a whack on the rear if the legs straightened.
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(Marek’s father) is enthusiastically assisting with everything from painting walls to business concepts.

THE PLANS: A major objective is moving the current outdoor operation inside to the first floor of the on-site building once the weather cools in mid-October. However, mindful of the constraints of COVID-19, a pickup window and even curbside pickup for pre-orders are part of the plan. The focus will be on locally grown farm goods. However other items will be featured on consignment as space permits.

THE HOPE: Since Rivero’s primary focus is helping the community, one of his goals is to have a commercial-grade kitchen available for local vendors to rent in order to produce items for sale. This would allow vendors to do so, without the limits of home development, alongside an accessible marketplace to sell the goods.

FUNDRAISING: He will also be considering allowing a local organization to use the grounds to sell Christmas Trees this year to raise money for a needy cause.

VENDORS NEEDED: Currently, there are 12 featured vendor spaces available, but there is space for 24. Craft items are considered as well as food items.

BANDS NEEDED: It is understood this is not necessarily a sought-after gig. However, the citizens of Weare appreciate the lively atmosphere a good band brings to an event. And, after all, the Grateful Dead started somewhere, right?

LOCATION: 65 N. Stark Highway. On-site parking available.

HOURS: Every Saturday, weather permitting, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

COVID-19 Policy: Please wear a facial covering at all times. Please do not ask for free samples or demonstrations. Please actively use hand sanitizer. Please maintain a safe six foot distance from others.

DEADLINE: Vendor applications can be found on the website and are due by Thursday for the following Saturday.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Email: wearerfm@gmail.com
Website: https://www.wearerfm.com/ Facebook: Weare Real Food Farmers Market

Shift to Remote Learning Would Hinge on Cases, Staffing and Supplies

Schools are set to open in SAU 24 on Sept. 9. But if there’s one thing the year 2020 has highlighted, it’s how quickly events can change and cause a major shift to occur.

In preparation for any change that might affect the ability for SAU 24 schools to follow their current plans for school, a decision matrix was created to track each school’s status with COVID-19, community spread, and any cases within the school. Additional categories to be considered are staff and student absenteeism, availability of cleaning supplies, and compliance with protection measures. The status within each of the categories would be a factor in making the decision to shift from face-to-face learning in school, to remote learning, and back to face-to-face learning again.

“Being able to properly staff the building is a major factor in the ability to provide face-to-face instruction,” said SAU 24 Superintendent Jacqueline Coe. “If the instruction is significantly impacted by staff absenteeism, that would require a shift to remote learning. Nursing and custodial coverage are also essential.”

Henniker students in grades K-8 are to return to the classroom five days a week, as will the students at James Faulkner Elementary School in Stoddard. Students in grades K-5 in the Weare School District will also return five days a week after a phased-in opening. Weare students grades 6-8 and all John Stark High School Students will return on an alternating hybrid schedule: two days of the week, they will have in-school instruction with three days of remote learning. Only half the student body will be in school on any given day, based on their last name.

To view the school district’s matrix, go to: https://sites.google.com/sau24.org/sau24continuouslearningplan/decision-matrix?authuser=0

OLD SCHOOL, continued from page 1

The most humiliating punishment, however, was making a boy sit among the girls. Perhaps it was a relief for the children when the Revolution interrupted their public education!
Weare Schools to Open Sept. 9 With Phased Approach

Weare District Schools, which include Center Woods Elementary (K-3), Center Woods Upper Elementary (4-5), and Weare Middle School (6-8), will all begin school on Sept. 9, but with a phased-in approach to allow students and staff to get accustomed to Covid-19 precautions. Precautions include mandatory mask wearing for all and social distancing in classrooms, hallways and lunch areas. During this phase-in, about a third of the student population will be in school buildings with the remaining students working remotely.

Center Woods Elementary and Upper Elementary will be on the phase-in schedule from Sept. 9 until Sept. 22. Once the phase-in period is over, Center Woods Elementary and Upper Elementary School students will attend school in person five days a week. Weare Middle School Students (6-8) phase-in from Sept. 9 to Sept. 11. Beginning Sept. 14, they will follow a hybrid schedule with all students on remote on Monday and alternating schedules the remainder of the week.

Following phase-in, Center Woods Elementary and Upper Elementary School (grades 1-5) students will attend school every day in the cohort they have been assigned to and will remain together with those students and adults each day. Arrival and departure times will be staggered to allow for increased parent drop off and changes in bus routes. Kindergarten students will attend school in person two partial days a week with one day of remote instruction.

The Weare School District will supply students with Chromebooks, math materials and books, but is asking parents to provide specific school supplies in a container to eliminate sharing. Parents may purchase the needed supplies (lists available by school) or purchase a “learning kit” from their school for $25. If financial hardship exists, parents should contact the school.

Help for At-Home Learning

By Melissa Drury

It seems there are many considering homeschooling due to the craziness of our time, and we are available to help support any who choose to do so. If you are struggling to find answers to questions, WeAre Home Educators still exists and is still active.

WeAre Home Educators (WHE) is a support group established in 2005 for New Hampshire homeschooling families. Our goal is to offer support to new and veteran homeschoolers through our unique classes and field trips, and to provide opportunities to create lasting friendships for your whole family.

Our resources include: co-op classes that meet in Goffstown; physical education activities (such as skiing at Pats Peak); parental support meetings; public speaking; social events; yearbooks; year-end certificates for portfolios.

Our website is wearehomeeducators.com. For general questions, we can be reached at thewhegroup@gmail.com. For event questions: admin@wearehomeeducators.com

Absentee Ballots: Mailing Dates and Hand Delivery Instructions

By Beverly Cotton

Unlike the new absentee ballot application, which has a “concern for COVID-19” checkbox, the absentee ballot’s affidavit inner envelope -- the part you sign -- does not. It instead offers you “Absence from City or Town” or “Absence because of Religious Observance or Physical Disability.” If you are voting absentee because of concerns for COVID-19, the New Hampshire Secretary of State and Attorney General say you can sign under “Physical Disability” for the purpose of voting in 2020, even if you do not consider yourself disabled.

Recent issues with the U.S. Postal Service have created concerns that ballots may not be delivered. That is precisely why you must fill out and return your ballot now to allow adequate time for delivery, and for your town clerk to process the ballot. The primary is Sept. 8, and to be sure of on-time delivery, it should have been mailed by Aug 21. However, you can still hand deliver it to your town clerk. The Secretary of State says that a 55-cent stamp is adequate if you are already registered and do not have to include voter registration documents. You may also bring your ballot to your town hall during office hours prior to the election, and hand it to the town clerk staff. Do not, however, drop it in any drop box, unless it is staffed by a town or city election official. Just leaving a ballot could invalidate your vote.

You can get your ballot application in person at the town clerk’s office or on their website at Weare Town Clerk - Ballot or at www.votenh2020.org and at www.sos.nh.gov

Questions? Call the Secretary of State’s voter hotline at 833-776-0034.
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 two candidates for the one open seat for State Representative in Hillsborough District 39, and the two candidates for State Senator in District 8. (See our Aug. 12 issue for additional profiles of the candidates 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.

State Representative, Hillsborough District 39

Name: John Burt
Political Party: Republican
In which town do you live and how long have you been there? Goffstown, 17 years. Occupation: Self-employed and part-time driver.

Contact: Home: 603-624-5084; John.Burt@leg.state.nh.us
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/john.a.burt.7/


2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? Allow the money to follow the child. We have great teachers and we need to remove the roadblocks that do not allow them to teach, like administration and unions, per the teachers that call me. Look at why we are so top heavy with administration. Tens of millions of dollars is spent in this area. We need to look at why New Hampshire is so top heavy and many other states are not.

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. The Constitution is very clear. I will not support any Chicago or feel-good gun bills that go against the words our founding fathers guaranteed to us: “A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? We have done a great job preserving New Hampshire’s natural resources. About 100 years ago, we were 80 to 85 percent deforested. Today, we are 80 to 85 percent forested. Prior to the 1980’s, our rivers were polluted and would be colored depending on what paper was being made that day in a paper mill. Today, our rivers, lakes and streams are doing well per the state officials that oversee that.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? I would not have hurt and bankrupted so many restaurants and small businesses. Small businesses in New Hampshire are the lifeline to our economy. I would have protected the hot spots, like nursing homes, with the equipment they needed and did not have at the beginning.


7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? Not shutting businesses down. Make New Hampshire more business friendly. Lower business profit tax. The times we have done that, more taxes come in because businesses grow.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected. Unconstitutional and feel-good bills being filed at the New Hampshire State House. The ten years I have been a New Hampshire State Representative, there are over 1,000 bills filed every year. Many of them go against the Constitution, or they have no effect, but they feel good so they pass. I would like to see a committee that looks at every bill to see if it is against the Constitution and make it as that. Sadly, the feel-good bills can be filed, as a Representative can file any bill. But better education on filing bills would help.
1. What are your community involvements/affiliations?
School Board, Finance Committee, Weare Dems.

2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? The public schools are supported mainly by property taxes and the state has been handing more and more of the financing onto the town’s budgets. This has created a situation where town property taxes are growing at a rapid pace and taxpayers are turning down school budgets in response. There has to be a way to send additional money to towns for the operation of their schools; there have been several in the past, but the monies often get used for other issues and the schools suffer. An additional tax seems unlikely and unpopular, so I would think that we need some type of income that is absolutely tied to be used only for schools: perhaps sales of marijuana, or a gambling fee or some type of small sales tax.

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. There are about 40,000 gun deaths in the U.S. every year; we outpace all other countries. The suicide rate is very high and especially so in New Hampshire. I would like to see universal background checks for all sales with no loopholes. I think the red flag law that was just vetoed would also save many lives as well as an assault weapon ban. It was very effective when we had it in the 90s and hunters did not suffer because of it.

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? We have a conservation committee and I love the fact that New Hampshire has preserved large tracts of land that cannot be developed. I think existing forests and farms, in many cases, can be sustained and preserved with tax credits and subsidies. No one wants to come to a state that is paved with a Walmart on every corner.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? I think the handling of the issue with nursing homes has been pretty good but that really was left up to them and not the state. Mandatory masks and social distancing seem to be good and every other state in New England has those.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police reform? If so, please give examples. Some. We don’t seem to have a big problem here but I do think choke holds and forced entry without notice are not necessary. Someone dying from contact with the police should be extremely rare and guns should only be used in response to aggression.

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? If it were not for the virus, the economy would be doing quite well. Low interest rates and good wages make for a good economy.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected. The minimum wage is ridiculously low. We need to start raising it each year until we get to something like $12 to $15 an hour. No one can come close to living on that $7.25 wage. I actually was earning that 50 years ago.

State Senate, District 8

Name: Jenn Alford-Teaster
Political Party: Democratic
In which town do you live and how long have you been there? I am a native Granite Stater, and have lived in Sutton since 2012. Occupation: Senior Research Scientist in the Department of Biomedical Data Science in the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth College.
Contact: Jenn4nh.com, phone number: 603-660-6561, email: jalfordteaster@gmail.com

1. What are your community involvements/affiliations?
Currently, I am one of the supervisors of the checklist for Sutton, NH.

2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? One way to provide funding for public education is to close loopholes for large out-of-state corporations that received large tax breaks in New Hampshire but do not create in-state jobs. Additionally, I will prioritize public education as the community investment it is. I grew up in New Hampshire

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as a struggling child in poverty. A public education gave me the tools I needed to succeed as an adult and I want to ensure every child, no matter the location or zip code, has that same access.

3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. Like many Granite Staters, I own guns: a rifle, shotgun and pistol. I am a strong advocate for common sense gun violence measures, which include background checks to ensure gun safety and a 48-hour waiting period. These two measures address a well-studied link between acquiring guns and suicide prevention.

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? I support increasing investments in renewable energy options, clean transportation and “smart-grid” technology. Experts agree this sector could create thousands of good-paying jobs right here in New Hampshire.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? Gov. Sununu did a good job flattening the curve of the virus and ensuring that New Hampshire has a very low rate of COVID-19, especially compared to our neighboring states. However, the school reopening guidance released by the state is vague and does not follow the science of infection control. Effective infection control includes these low-cost measures: frequent hand-washing, masks, and social distancing of at least six feet, none of which are mandated in the state’s guidance. Teachers, students, parents, and staff are being left alone without adequate resources to keep their schools safe, and the state should provide clear guidance and support to school boards so that they are prepared to return to school safely.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police reform? If so, please give examples. I support HB1645, which the Governor signed into law last week. The bill bans chokeholds and requires reporting of police misconduct. I also support de-escalation and crisis intervention training for our police officers.

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? I will work with New Hampshire’s business and education leaders to expand vocational training, apprenticeship opportunities and worker retraining opportunities. I am also committed to strengthening early childhood education, family medical leave and expanding transportation options -- all efforts endorsed by business leaders in the Granite State.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected. As a public health scientist, I study rural access to healthcare and am currently focused on capacity building of telemedicine in the era of COVID-19. If elected, expanding telemedicine and broadband access throughout the district will be one of my top priorities. Expanding broadband connectivity in rural communities will not only increase accessibility to healthcare, but also to ‘work from home’ and distance learning during the pandemic.

Name: Ruth Ward
Political Party: Republican
In which town do you live and how long have you been there? Stoddard, 25 years
Occupation: Nurse, retired
Contact: www.senatorruthward.com

1. What are your community involvements/affiliations?
Member Contoocook/NorthBranch River Local Advisory Board; NH Rivers Management Advisory Board; SouthWest Region Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Board; SWRPC Natural Resources Advisory Board; Appalachian Mountain Club Advisory Board.

2. What is your plan to provide adequate funding for high-quality education at our public schools? Providing a quality education to New Hampshire students is a top priority of mine. I believe that we need to focus on delivering the best education possible by using the funding dedicated to our students as efficiently and effectively as possible. The best way to achieve this is by expanding educational choice and opportunities to students that would perform better outside of our traditional public schools. The money should follow the student, rather than the other way around. Many students, especially those with autism or other learning disorders, learn better in non-traditional environments. This type of competition with our traditional public schools forces more innovation and efficient use of the funds. Property taxes in New Hampshire are too high, and a large portion of them go to educating our children; however, instituting a statewide income tax is not the answer. An income tax will hinder economic growth, disproportionately affect young families and still not result in any property tax relief.

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3. Do you support the expansion of gun rights or gun control? Please explain. I am a strong advocate for our Second Amendment rights. I have always and will always fight to protect our right to bear arms from all unconstitutional gun control measures, including the red flag bill that was recently vetoed by Gov. Sununu.

4. What measures do you support for preserving NH’s natural resources? New Hampshire’s natural beauty is second to none. As an avid hiker, I understand how heavily New Hampshire relies on outdoor recreation to bring tourism dollars to our state. I have always believed that we need to preserve our environment so that our children and grandchildren are able to enjoy it as much as we do. I have been a strong opponent of the Northern Pass Project for many years, and just when we thought that it was dead, we see its proponents making a renewed push to bring it back. I think that this project is wrong for New Hampshire and I will do all I can to stop it.

5. What would you change, if anything, about the state’s handling of the COVID-19 pandemic? I believe that overall, Gov. Sununu did a great job handling the COVID-19 pandemic. The unprecedented shutdown of businesses throughout New Hampshire have unfortunately affected our historically strong economy and continue to have repercussions today. I believe that we need to do more to help our small businesses open safely and get our people back to work. That includes stopping the small business tax increases that are set to go into effect.

6. Would you support any bills seeking local police reform? If so, please give examples. New Hampshire has a strong and very well-respected law enforcement community and I am proud to support them. Most members of the law enforcement community in New Hampshire are good officers that are trying to do right by their community and they would also like to see the small amount of bad officers be weeded out. I think that we can find common ground on helpful reforms, such as the use of body cameras; however, I believe that the radical efforts to defund police departments are simply misguided and dangerous.

7. What suggestions do you have for strengthening our economy? Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, New Hampshire’s economy was historically strong and unemployment was near the lowest in the country. We need to return to the successful model of low taxes and a pro-business environment that got us there in first place. I believe that we should help small businesses get back on their feet, as they are the backbone of our economy, by stopping the scheduled small business tax hike that will be triggered if action is not taken.

8. Identify another issue you feel strongly about and how you would address it if elected. For the past four years, I have been a strong advocate for the prevention of bullying in our schools. I think that with the advent and expansion of social media, children find themselves in a new frontier that many adults do not have the ability to navigate and protect their children in. There has been a dangerous rise in the number of teen suicides over the past few years and many of these are preventable with the right supervision. I believe we should empower our teachers, who spend hours each day with our students, to take steps to fend off bullying when they are -- or should be -- aware that such actions are taking place.

Weare Fire Rescue Offers Bike Event and Family Riding Challenge

Due to COVID-19, the Weare Fire Rescue annual bike rodeo was cancelled for 2020. However, in the interest of bike safety for youngsters, they have decided to have a drive-through event on Saturday, Aug. 29 from 9 a.m. until noon. Stop by the Weare Safety Complex, located at 144 North Stark Highway, for a socially distant event.

Thanks to a grant supplied by the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth (CHaD) and Kohl’s Cares, Weare Fire Rescue will be distributing free multi-sport helmets and bike safety equipment, while supplies last. Each child will receive bike safety information to read at home and a “Fall Family Bicycle Challenge.” Weare Fire Rescue created a list of 20 things for families to find or do while out on their family cycling adventures. Parents and children can accept the challenge and start pedaling to cross items off their list, such as finding the New Hampshire state tree, spotting a park sign entrance, discovering a famous local landmark and more!

Return completed challenges during the month of September and each child will receive a prize. This event looks to bring information and resources to the youth.
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community about safe biking and to inspire families to get outside and ride.

Any questions about the event may be directed to Captain Kristina Houde of the Weare Fire Rescue at khoude@weare.nh.gov.

Annual Rotary Car / Truck Show Switches Gears

By Robin Morrell

It is with a heavy heart that we are announcing our decision to cancel this year's (live) show -- but keep reading! Unfortunately, we just do not have the manpower to adequately plan for this great event and adhere to state guidelines to ensure everyone's safety, which is our number one priority!

We are, however, offering an alternative, and we're hoping you will all consider being a part of it! Here are the details:

-We are inviting you all to upload photos of your vehicle – car or truck - (as many as you'd like - in ONE POST, to maximize your chance of winning).
-Please, give us a complete description of your vehicle: year, make, model, nickname, and anything else you'd like to share, so we can fully appreciate your car.

-We will award three prizes (Visa gift cards), as the People's Choice Award, to the top three posts with the most "likes" at the deadline: $50 for third, $100 for second, and $150 for first.
-We will announce the winners on Sept. 19, the day we had planned for our live event.

We have one rule, which will be strictly enforced: picture uploads can be made BEGINNING Sept. 1 ONLY & ENDING Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. Any posts made prior to Sept. 1 or after the Sept. 18 cutoff will be deleted.

We can make this an amazing online event!

Also, we have 100 dash plaques to give away! (They look like the cover photo of this event page.) Starting TODAY, if you send us a postage-paid return envelope, we will send the first 100 people a free dash plaque! One plaque per person.

Scout Troop 529 Updates

By Marc Payeur

Weare’s Scout Troop 529 has been working on their Cycling Merit Badge this summer. In order to earn the Merit Badge, Scouts must ride two 10-mile, two 15-mile and two 25-mile trips, as well as one 50-mile trip. On Tuesday, Aug. 11, several scouts and adult leaders completed a 15-mile ride on the east side of Concord.

What started out as a sweet ride turned into a pretty difficult loose gravel trail and then a tall grass field. In true Scout fashion, we decided to make lemonade out of lemons and rode into the city of Concord (making a pit stop at the State Capitol) for the remaining mileage. This troop has a lot of mental and physical toughness and I am proud to be one of their leaders. Great ride! Our next adventure will be a 25-mile trek on Sept. 13.

We have a Scout Committee Meeting (adult volunteers) on August 30 at 7 p.m. If you’re interested in joining, please reach out to me and I will get the information to you. We will resume Scout-led meetings in the fall.

Girls are welcome. If you’re interested in joining, please reach out via our Facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/WeareNHScoutTroop529
BSA Troop 24 Goes Virtual
By Lorrie Piper

During the COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing and the inability to meet in groups has not discouraged BSA Troop 24 in Weare. The Troop continues to live by the Scout Law and practice Scouting ideals.

Troop 24 has not met in person for the past few months, but they have gathered online in virtual environments. On May 2, the Scouts participated in a virtual campout as part of the BSA National Camp-In. Many Scouts set up a tent in their backyards and met virtually online to share their campsites and share jokes as a team-building exercise.

The Scouts are still able to work on their merit badges during this time and build their skills to work towards achieving their next rank. Four Scouts achieved rank and two Scouts participated in a virtual Board of Review. The Board of Review is an opportunity for Scout Leaders and the Scout to have a conversation about their experience in scouting and to solidify their plans for their Scouting path to Eagle Rank. Brayden Porth and Richard Desforges earned their Tenderfoot Rank, while Gabe Mathieu and Zane Talbot earned their Scout Rank.

Chris Seaver, who is now an Eagle Scout and also Assistant Scoutmaster, led the Pledge of Allegiance for the John Stark graduation ceremony.

BSA Troop 24 Weare will continue to find ways to keep connected as a Troop this summer and they hope to be able to get back together in person soon.

Scoutmaster Mark Hallee said, “Living by the Scout Law is something we teach and encourage our Scouts to do all year long. This can still be done every day, whether we meet in person or not. Our Scouts are learning and practicing what it is like to be a good citizen, the importance of doing a good turn daily, and how to demonstrate courtesy and kindness to all. These traits are especially important during this challenging time.”

Above: Troop 24 scout and committee members Charlene Provencher, Stefanie Nevins, and Lorrie Piper meet online (courtesy).

Nicklaus Dahl Graduates from RIT
Nicklaus Dahl has graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology with a B.S. in electrical engineering. Some 4,000 degrees were conferred in the 2019-2020 academic year at all of RIT’s campuses. A virtual celebration was held May 8 and can be viewed at https://www.rit.edu/classof2020/

Tips on Using Zoom
By Sharon Czarnecki

GET USED TO IT – Aarrggh! I don’t want to get used to it. “It makes no difference if you want to or not.” (I think I heard my parents say that – way more than once.) Virtual meetings are here to stay for at least a few more months. I guess we might as well make the best of it. I tried to avoid it. I did. But I barely know how to Facetime even one person, let alone a group. Then it was time for my book club meeting. The choice? Give it up or learn Zoom. Then, two of my other groups decided to work together online. Then, my doctor wanted a virtual meeting. (At least my dentist hasn’t asked for one.) So, I HAD to learn Zoom. I won’t say I was kicking and screaming, but I was at least pouting. Therefore, in this two-part series, I will share with you what I have learned so far.

PRACTICE - Did you know you can practice? Once you have downloaded Zoom to your computer, you can click on the icon to start Zoom. Then click the orange image that says, “New Meeting”. Click “Join with computer audio”. You will see a window with your picture – maximize it (click on the square in the upper right-hand corner.) And there you are!!

IMAGE SIZE – Maybe you can’t see your whole face? You will need to adjust your camera which is usually located in the top center of the very edge of your screen. If you are using a laptop, you usually need to move the screen, so it is not tilted back.

DOUBLE CHIN – Well, that’s great. Your image is
centered, but now your double chin – If you have one, like I do - is very prominent. OOPS. No worries, you can raise your computer up onto a set of books or boxes and the camera angle will improve and will be more flattering.

BARKING DOG – If you forgot to put Fido outside before your meeting started, you can quickly shut down the distraction. Just move your cursor to the bottom center of your screen and a whole bunch of icons will appear. Click on the microphone and a red line will appear. This will shut off all the sound from your surroundings. (Just don’t forget, when you want to talk, you will have to click on the microphone again to unmute.)

ANSWER THE DOOR – You can do the same thing with your video. Click on the video camera next to the microphone and the people in the meeting will no longer see you. Instead, they will see a black square with your name in it. (This is a very good feature in case you forgot to change out of your PJ bottoms; and they become visible when you stand up).

I hope this helps somewhat for now and I will bring you more tips in two weeks. Like they always say, “Be yourself – but don’t forget to get dressed.”

Toastmasters – Free Workshop Interviews in the Age of Zoom

By Nita Patel

Join us for a special INTERVIEWING SKILLS workshop! Learn tips for online interviewing and answering tough questions, plus the three p’s: preparation, presentation and poise. The workshop will be held online Thursday, Sept. 3, 6:30 p.m. Instructions at https://4227.toastmastersclubs.org/

Pickleball Club Provides Active Sport for 55 Plus

By Tom Clow

Have you ever heard of pickleball? I hadn’t until the Aug. 12 meeting of the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Apparently, I’ve been living in the dark because the game has been around since 1965, and there has been an active pickleball club in Weare since May of 2019. Pickleball is played on a hard surface like a tennis court, which is why the local program coordinator, Denise Purington, came before the trustees to explore funding for repairs to the Weare tennis court. Purington said that she had measured approximately 550 feet of cracks in the court’s surface.

Several years ago, a proposal to completely resurface the tennis courts was brought to the town from the Parks and Recreation Commission; however, according to Town Administrator Naomi Bolton, because of the cost, the commission was encouraged to seek alternative funding, so the proposal never appeared on the town warrant. PARC later used money from its operating budget to repair the cracks, but since that time the cracks have reopened.

For the uninformed, such as myself, pickleball is played on a court the size of a badminton court but is played with paddles rather than rackets and uses a ball like a wiffleball. The net is about the height of a tennis net. Purington said that the sport is popular with people over 55 but is catching on in colleges and even high schools. When the local club was formed in 2019, there were about 30 members; however, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, that number has dropped to about 15 this year, she said.

The club has arranged with PARC to use the tennis court from 8 to 11 a.m., seven days per week, but has agreed to keep one full court open if someone arrives to play tennis. Presently, the pickleball courts are marked off using colored tape, but Purington hopes to see the lines painted on after the cracks are repaired. The nets are free-standing and are taken down and stored on site after each session.

Purington said that the club is always looking for new members and can be contacted by emailing we.arewpc@gmail.com. There is also a Weare Pickleball Club Facebook page.

At the Aug. 12 meeting, Trustees of the Trust Funds voted to support some funding to repair the tennis courts subject to “substantial and satisfactory bid and scope information.”
Senior Café is Open
By Margaret Bailey
Free lunch for Seniors 60 and older. We are open every Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Drive up and get your FREE lunch while it lasts at 33 N. Stark Highway in Weare!
If the weather is nice, there will be tented, outdoor seating available as well. No more than six to a table, and we will sanitize in between guests!
Please help us out by calling ahead at 603-529-4263. This is a voicemail machine, but we WILL definitely get your message. Please leave your name and the number of lunches you want. Easy peasy!
A plant swap is also happening at Breaking Bread Cafe (outdoors on the front porch). Bring one, take one and it’s FREE!! Here is our Facebook information page:
Breaking Bread Senior Cafe

Senior Wearites Playing it Safe
By Sharon Czarnecki
Don’t worry, you have not missed any events with your favorite seniors. At this time, due to COVID-19, the group is not offering any activities or meetings.
But things have got to get better, right? In January, they will take another look at the options – always keeping their eyes on safety. We will all hope for an update at that time.

Got Extra “Stuff”?
By Margaret Bailey
Bring it to the Ya Never Know Thrift Shoppe. We are now open on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Once we get all the kinks worked out with this COVID-19 virus thing, we will open for even more hours!) All proceeds benefit Breaking Bread Senior Cafe Center.

More Holidays In August
By Sharon Czarnecki
I hope your summer is going “as well as can be expected.” I am sure many of you have had a lot of distractions. Because of that, you may have forgotten to squeeze in some of the more important August celebrations. But, do not despair, you have the rest of the month to make plans for these important categories:
Left Handedness / Creamsicles / Kool-Aid / VJ Day / Feast of the Assumption / Honey Bees / Relaxation / Telling of Jokes / Thrift shops / Bad Poetry / Aviation / Potatoes / Radio / Spumoni / Senior Citizens / Tooth Fairies / Riding the Wind / Vesuvius / Daughters / Banana Splits / Canines / Women’s Equality / Stuffed Peppers / Bacon / Herbs / Toasted Marshmallows / Trail Mix / and appropriately for our times... Eating Outside.
Hope you enjoy the month of August and stay safe.

Al Weatherbee, 83, of Maine “turns cartwheels.” (Sharon Czarnecki photo).
A Summer Fragrance Memory
By Marjorie A. Burke

Put Zucchini to Good Use
with this Pie Recipe

Beach grass in Gloucester, MA (Alyssa Small photo)

Safety, security
I'm a child again
at Sharlie's place in Maine
windows open
smell of sweet grass wafts
throughout the cottage
I run outside
wiggle my toes
in the still moist cut hay
roll in it
take deep breaths
savor the freshness.

Stir in:
1/2 cup chopped parsley or 2 TB parsley flakes
1/2 tsp. salt; 1/2 tsp pepper
1/4 tsp. garlic powder
1/4 tsp. basil
1/4 tsp. oregano

In a large bowl, blend 2 beaten eggs and 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese. Add vegetable mixture and pour into crust. Bake 375 degrees, 18-20 minutes or until mixture is firm. *A “family favorite” recipe, submitted by Connie Evans*

Library Writing Contest
Winners Announced

The Weare Public Library held a writing contest this summer with a $25 award going to each of the winners. The prizes were generously provided by the Friends of the Weare Public Library. Megan Heath, age 8, wrote "Life is Awesome." Grace Meisser, age 9, wrote "Lilianna and Snuggles’ Big Adventure." Lydia Farrow, an adult writer, wrote "When Lightning Strikes." See their pieces below.

Life is Awesome
By Megan Heath

Chapter One: Into a New World

One day, when I was walking home from school, I was still thinking about what Lily was saying at school. “Oh, everyone is invited to my birthday party except Ella,” and I am Ella. It kept on playing in my head and it would not go away. Then, I saw something glowing in the forest. I followed the glowing light. It led me to a bottle with glowing green liquid inside with a picture of a lot of living things on it. I put it in my backpack and ran home. When I walked through the door, I ran upstairs so my mom did not notice and took the bottle out of my bag. So, I looked closer to find out what it was. Then I found a note and it said “drink,” so I did what it said and I drank half of it and it wasn’t so bad. But I was starting to get hungry, so I went downstairs to heat up leftovers. Then I went upstairs to eat them. Afterwards, I felt really tired so I went to bed. Then, I was thinking about what would happen if Lily ran into a lion; she is terrified of lions. So I had a dream about it.

Next day, when I woke up, I stretched out and I saw big furry paws and the paws were mine. I became a LION! I was freaking out. But I was able to calm myself by thinking

See AWESOME, page 13
now Lily wouldn’t tease me anymore. She would not bother me anymore. But what if the zoo catches me!!!!! NO!

So instead of going to school, I spent the whole day panicking. While I was panicking, I made a whole mess of my room. I was running around, scratching my posters off the wall and making lots of chew marks on my toys. I was no longer afraid of Lily because my new fear was going to the zoo. There, kids would yell and scream and bang on my cage and I wouldn’t have any shelter to get away from it. So when I finally went to bed, I was thinking about going back to my regular life. I wished that I had never found the glowing bottle. When I woke up, I was me again! I went to school and said hi to everyone because I missed them all, including Lily. When I got home from school, I was trying to figure out how I became me again. I was spending a lot of time trying to figure out that question. Then I figured out what the bottle’s power was...

Read Chapter Two to find out.

**Lilianna and Snuggles’ Big Adventure**

**By Grace Meisser**

“IT’S SUMMER BREAK AND MY BIRTHDAY!” Lilianna yelled. She rushed downstairs. She heard barking and asked, “What’s that noise?”

Her mom replied, “We have a present for you!”

Lilianna jumped excitedly and said “What is it?”

Her mom said, “Follow me!” Lilianna’s mother brought her outside. It was a puppy! Lilianna screamed. Her mom told her, “This is Snuggles.”

Lilianna asked, “Can I take him on a walk?”

Her mom said “Yes, but be back soon.”

Lilianna said, “Yes, Mommy.”

Lilianna and Snuggles were walking in the woods and found a weird portal. They tried to turn and go back home, but a barrier was blocking them. So they had to go through it and follow a path. Then they met a weird creature. Lilianna said “Hi!”

The creature said, “Hello. I’m Oreo. Are you lost?”

Lilianna said, “Yes. I want to go home. Can you lead me?”

The creature replied, “I don’t know where your home is, but my friend Velvet does!” Lilianna screamed happily. Oreo led Lilianna and Snuggles to the next portal. They went through the portal and saw a crazy place where Velvet lived. They followed him to one last portal and got home!

Lilianna’s parents said, “Where have you been?”

Lilianna said, “We found a portal then we could not go back so we had to go through two other portals and it was weird. You probably don’t believe me.”

Her parents said, “You couldn’t make up a story like that! Welcome home!”

**When Lightning Strikes**

By Lydia Farrow

The snow was gone but the air bitterly cold. Two days earlier when Thelma Knox had arrived in Bretton Woods, NH which is located in the White Mountains, the valley had been blanketed with snow. Now that it was gone, the landscape looked dead, just as her brother was at the age of 32. The manner of his death was ironic and befitting. His life was spent on top of a mountain and it was lost from a fall from one while ice-climbing. That was why she was here. As his last living relative, it was her job to settle his estate, which amounted to a cabin in the woods, a four-wheel drive SUV, a snowmobile and some sparse personal items.

Carl worked as a meteorologist at the observatory, which is located on top of Mount Washington, which is the highest peak in the northeast and known for its dangerously erratic weather. It still holds the wind speed record of 231 mph in both the northern and western hemispheres. It seemed the mountain had held him captive, for it had been 12 years since she had last seen him.

It was the day of their parent’s funeral. They had been killed in a car crash and since then, Thelma tried to maintain contact with him, but after a while, due to Carl’s unresponsiveness, she gave up. They weren’t close growing up either. She was popular and outgoing -- what people called “a social butterfly.” Carl was quiet and shy. He was like a butterfly taking shelter in its cocoon only emerging and taking flight when a weather event occurred. Thelma took advantage of those times. It was during them that she didn’t feel like she was an only child. Carl’s favorite was lightning. He would drop whatever he was doing and run to a window or door so he could watch the bolts strike the earth. Thelma was afraid of it, but she would get caught up in his amazement and would watch with him, neither one saying a word. She also recalled that her friends had thought he was strange and called him “a freak of nature.” Carl would just shrug it off; he

**See LIGHTNING, page 14**
didn’t need or want their stamp of approval. Remembering those moments, Thelma felt as if her heart had been pierced by an arrow. The magnitude of her loss overcame her. Tears fell like rain from her eyes and her body shook with such force it made her teeth chatter. The emotional purge left her drained, but yet she felt renewed. She had been putting off going through her brother’s things, for it made her feel like an intruder or voyeur because Carl had felt like a stranger to her until now.

The cabin, which at first felt cold and alien, had metamorphosed into a warm and familiar place. She was now free to savor reuniting with her brother. She began by going through his desk first. Carl didn’t leave a will so she hoped she’d find some note or letter saying what his wishes were. The only items on the desktop were a computer, printer and a calendar. The calendar piqued her interest, hoping it might provide a glimpse of what went on in her brother’s life. Apparently, not much, as nothing was written down for the present month, February, so she leafed through the remaining months and spotted a splash of ink. She went through it again more slowly until she found it. It was the month of August and written on the square dated the 2nd was Thelma’s 30th birthday. She couldn’t breathe; her legs turned to jelly and she fell into his chair, overcome from the realization that he remembered. When the effects of that shock were over, she moved on to the desk drawers. She had found nothing of interest until she opened the last one.

The only thing it contained was a shoebox with her name written on the cover. Thelma braced herself, then looked inside. It was filled with photographs of her when she was little. Some of her with him, pictures of their parents and a stack of birthday and Christmas cards she had sent over the years. Under them she found a few drawings she had made for him as a child, which were held together by a clothespin she had decorated and given him to use to keep his papers together. Thelma couldn’t believe he had kept it. The last item was a white stationery envelope with her name on it. She steeled herself and opened it. It was what she was looking for, but she was filled with trepidation as to what words awaited her eyes. He had left everything to her, and if she wasn’t interested, he wanted everything to be sold and whatever money was left was hers. Her eyes welled with tears as she read that he loved her and that he had since the day she was born. She was everything he was not. He hoped she was happy and not alone since she was a “social butterfly.” He was fulfilled with how and where he chose to spend his life. He could not have imagined living anywhere else, therefore he wanted to be cremated and his ashes spread from atop of Mount Washington. He included the name and phone number of a friend and colleague that would help her with this.

It was a beautiful summer day and the view from the top of Mount Washington was breathtaking. You could see 100 miles in every direction. Carl’s friends and fellow colleagues all said a few words and shared stories of him; then, Thelma opened the urn and as his ashes took flight, a bolt of lightning could be seen in the distance. At the cabin later on that night, Thelma watched the local weather report and the meteorologist said a patch of stormy weather was headed towards NH. Thelma smiled then turned the TV off and went to bed, with her dog Bolt nipping at her heels.

**Letters to the Editor Policy Update**

Because *Weare in the World* focuses on local news, the staff has decided that opening our “Letters to the Editor” section to political views directed for, or against, individual candidates for office could easily overwhelm our limited space and perhaps even lead to divisiveness in the community. Therefore, we will not accept letters of that nature for publication.

As readers can see from this issue, as well as from the Aug. 12 issue, the newspaper has provided an equal opportunity for all candidates running for offices that directly represent the local community, to introduce themselves and present their views on issues of importance to their constituency. Our intention is to provide similar opportunities in future elections in order to help voters make informed decisions.
**Rock the Boat**

![Crossword puzzle]

**Across**

1. Up a creek without this
2. Flat-bottomed boat good for heavy transport
3. Steers a ship
4. King George wanted Weare’s pines for this ship part
5. Water carried by a ship for stability
6. Palindrome small watercraft
7. Venetian boat
8. Small boat often towed by a large vessel
9. Nautical call for help
10. Oil tanker caused AK oil spill: Exxon ____
11. "Little Big Town" song about a boat on floats
12. "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" author
13. Wreck of this ship kept everyone on "Gilligan’s Island"
14. The Titanic departed this English city on its only voyage
15. "Won’t ya let me take you on a sea ____?”

**Down**

1. Refers to the left-hand side of the boat
2. Jacques Cousteau’s research vessel
3. Tall ships visit this NH port
4. This canal lets ships pass between Atlantic and Pacific
5. Term for when a boat rolls over
7. Carried the Pilgrims to the New World
8. Senior Naval Officer
9. Ship’s kitchen
10. ____ Pinta & Santa Maria
11. Canoe
12. Coordinates a rowing crew
13. Whaling ship in “Moby Dick”

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**A Midsummer Night’s Dream**

![Crossword puzzle]

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