

Weld Free Public Library Association **ANNUAL APPEAL 2023**

President's Notes:

Our Board of Directors tackled the everyday workings of the library to transform it into a center of the Weld community. This publication showcases just some of the library's contributions in 2023. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our retiring board members for their tireless energy and dedication. Bob Withrow, Coval Conant, Lolisa Monroe and Barbara Smith-Baker each labored to improve the physical structure and quality of library programs and events. Also, let me introduce the library's incoming President, Ina Toth. She will be a force to maintain our forward momentum.

It has been my honor to preside over the running of this institution for the past several years. During this time, the library was gifted an exceedingly generous bequest from the estate of Peter Schofield. These funds were used to purchase some adjoining property from abutters, Steve and Sharon Lee. Past board member, Bob Arp and Coval Conant negotiated the sale. Bob also designed the new parking area for maximum efficiency. Drainage work and landscaping were completed in the spring of this year.

As we reflect to take a breath, we are humbled by the support and 'can do' attitude of so many that keep the gem of the Weld Free Public Library up to date but timeless - kindly consider a donation or pledge as we ramp up for the 2024 year.

Anne Holloway



Contributions in check form are always gratefully accepted! If you prefer to make a donation online, please proceed to the library's new website:

weldpubliclibrary.org



Watercolor painting by Nancy Innes, acquired by the WFPL in 2023

2023 WFPL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Anne Holloway

Secretary: Naomi Doughty

Treasurer: Nancy Stowell

Paul Haberstroh

Debbie Smith

Maddy Bujold

Ina Toth

Barbara Smith-Baker*

Coval Conant

Lisa Drapeau

Kris Tyler

Brianne McDonald

Lolisa Monroe

Bob Withrow

Dorothy Conant

* Barbara Smith-Baker (1960-2023) was an avid patron of the Weld Library, an energetic board member, and a woman of great talents which she shared at many library events.

Library Services

- **24-7 WiFi**
- **Free Computer and Smartphone Help**



Paul Haberstroh, Weld resident and library board director represents Franklin County Adult Education. He is present at the Weld Free Public Library on Tuesdays from 3-5 pm for technical help with any

computer or smartphone needs. Computers are available at the library.

- **New Website**

Paul is also responsible for creating the first ever website for the library which includes topics like events, calendar, catalog, services, support, social media and donations.

- **Shade & Seating**

Installation of a new sail shade for some cover over outside patio, newly painted seating, refurbished Little Library, Food Pantry and Book Return.

Capital Improvements

- Improved drainage between the Lee family and library's property by Pratt & Son
- Landscaping also by Pratt & Son
- Addition of shrubbery and tree, planted by Sean Minear and Nancy Stowell
- Extensive shelving for storage behind Library Director's desk and in the basement, designed and built by Bob Withrow.

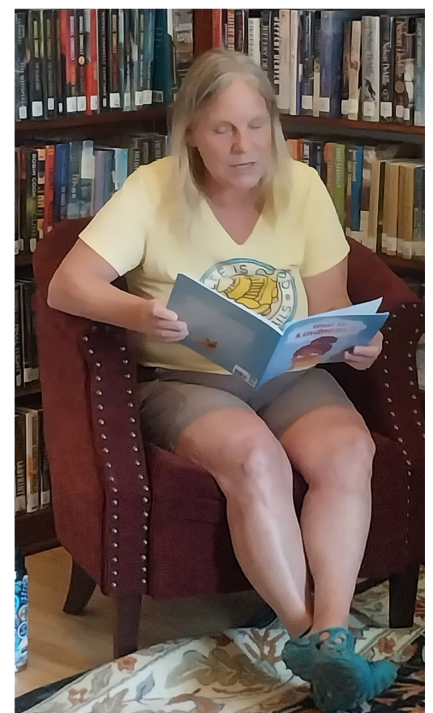


Kids Summer Reading Program

These wildly popular sessions were scheduled once a month in June, July and August. Retiring library board member and children's book author, Lolisa Monroe, was the mastermind behind these sessions. She assembled folders full of activities for each participant to



take home. Professional educators (and also library board members) Lisa Drapeau, Maddy Bujold and Paul Haberstroh read to the children and organized the craft sessions.



Kids! Kids! Kids!



the Weld Free Public Library's
Kids Summer Reading Program

All Together Now 2023



PLEASE SIGN UP AT
THE WELD LIBRARY
TO RESERVE A SPOT!
585-2439
Programs are FREE!
Crafts & refreshments

June 29, Thursday, 10-12 am
'Friendship for All' is the theme of
the day.

July 20, Thursday, 10-12 am
'Kindness' is the theme of the day.

August 3, Thursday, 10-12 am
'Community Connection' is the
theme of the day.

Check frequently on
weldpubliclibrary.org
for latest info!

Programs

- **Bernd Heinrich** shares stories about his running life. This casual conversation with Bernd took place a few days before the inaugural “Raven’s Run,” an event named in his honor at Webb Lake Day. The hand carved trophy is proudly displayed in the library.



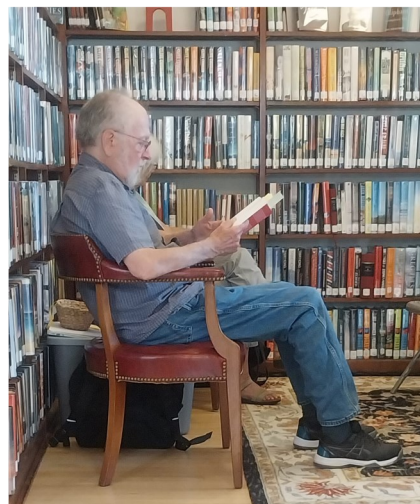
- **Bob Ryan**

Legendary Boston Globe columnist and Hall of Fame sportswriter, Bob Ryan scored a big win with his fans in Weld this summer!



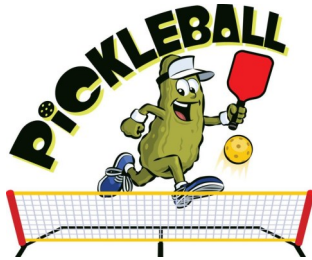
- **Ron Singer**

A summer fixture in Weld, Ron Singer is the author of 21 published books. Here he reads from his latest work, **“Think Local, Think Global.”**



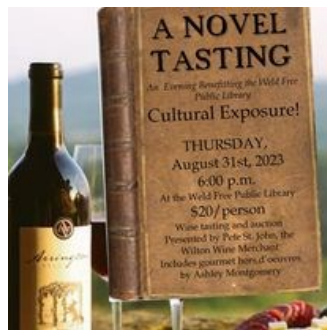
Pickleball Clinic

- The library hosted a **Pickleball Saturday**, complete with nets and instruction by Brittany Maffei.



Wine Tasting

- This special wine tasting and auction was presented by local raconteur, Pete St. John, the Wilton Wine Merchant. Gourmet hors d'oeuvres were provided by Ashley Montgomery. The wine for this highly anticipated social event was donated by the law office of Margot Joly and by Cat Oster, owner of the South Portland Wine Company.



Artist Exhibitions

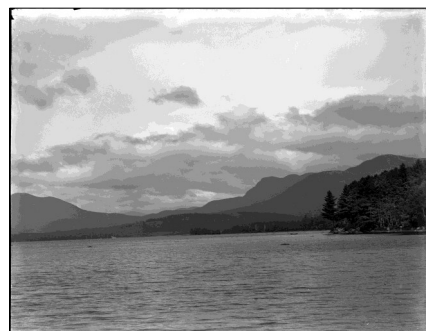
- Jim Knox, locally renowned, award winning wild-life photographer
- Jean Sickles– quilter, founder of the Tumble-down Tackers
- Nancy Innes-watercolor artist
- Barbara Smith-Baker– photos of natural wonders from her outdoor adventures
- Coval Conant– folk art whirlijigs
- Unidentified early 20th century photographer from Kingfield, Maine. The collection of 15 glass plate negatives were gifted to the library by Ginny Hilyard who saved these treasures from the trash bin in the 1970s while cleaning out the attic of a house in Kingfield.

Memorial Day Celebration

- Organized by the Weld Historical Society at the library
- Cleaning of the granite monuments with Sean Minear of the Weld Historical Society
- Year-round maintenance of the memorial area



Dedication of the first of the war memorials





**WELD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
PO BOX 120
WELD, ME 04285**

Library Director: Wendy Ames

Location: 25 Church St., Weld , ME 04285

Mailing address: PO Box 120, Weld, ME 04285

Website: weldpubliclibrary.org

Facebook Page: weld public library association

Email address: wfpl.weld.lib.me.us@gmail.com

Phone: 207) 585-2439

*The Weld Free Public Library's current
brick building under construction in
1930*

