



Scholarships for Fall Mountain Graduates

It's time for the Fall Mountain Scholarship Fund Inc.'s annual fundraising campaign. We had a great 2015 and the Board very much appreciates the support of the Fall Mountain community.

Our mission at the Fall Mountain Scholarship Fund is to provide scholarships to Fall Mountain graduates for every kind of post-secondary education – from college or university to trade schools to certificate programs. Scholarships are available to every Fall Mountain graduate, regardless of the year they graduated.

Since the organization began in 1969, then known as The Citizens Scholarship Fund of Fall Mountain Regional School District, over \$2.2 million in scholarship They laughed when we scheduled the performance for a Friday night.

They laughed when we only planned two rehearsals for a cast of 18.

Рното: Ray Boas

Snow Removal and Ice Control

The Town of Walpole has a comprehensive, detailed written plan for removal of snow and the control of ice. The most important details for residents are in the box on page 3. Snow removal operations begin upon accumulation of two inches of snowfall, but various factors may dictate greater or lesser accumulations. Pre-treatment and ice control may begin prior to the storm itself, depending upon many factors, one being that salt has a slower effect on snow and ice when temperatures are below 25 degrees.

Continued on Page 3

And then the curtain went up... to a full house... and they laughed and laughed.

More on page 13.

Continued on Page 2







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Giving Tree Thanks

Thank you, to everyone who chose a Giving Tree tag and bought a gift for a Walpole, North Walpole or Drewsville child. We helped 39 families with gifts for nearly 85 children. We had over 25 kids and parents help make 300 tags in November. Another big group of teens and moms came to help on December 11 with the shopping for tags left on the

For the first time, we had only eight tags left while we had lots of helpers, rather than the other way around! Everyone kept busy wrapping gifts, sorting and bagging family gifts for pickup, and double-checking and triple-checking to make sure every gift was accounted for and placed in the correct bag - and eating pizza.

Many thanks also go to the members of First Congregational Church, St John's Episcopal Church, the Walpole Seniors, the Walpole Library and the Savings Bank of Walpole for their support of this annual project. We couldn't pull off such a big project without the organizational and computer skills of Mary Schoppmeyer and the support of Laura Snelling, the Walpole school nurse. Walpole is a great community, full of the goodness of neighbor helping neighbor!

- Susan Kershaw

Historic Book Group

The Next read and discussion of the Walpole Historic Book Group will be Tuesday, January 10, 2017, at the Bridge Memorial Library at 7:00 PM. The selected book this month will be The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson. The Library has several copies.

In this epic Best Seller, beautifullywritten masterwork, Pulitzer Prizewinning author Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life.

From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America. Read The NY Times review at: www.nytimes. com/2010/09/05/books/review/ Oshinsky-t.html?pagewanted=all.

For more information, contact Ron MacLachlan, at 756-3695, or email ronmaclachlan03608@gmail.com.

- Ron MacLachlan

Continued from Page 1: Scholarships

awards have been granted to about 1,600 Fall Mountain graduates. In 2016 alone, the Board awarded over \$120,000 to more than 100 Fall Mountain graduates.

The success of the Board is due to the many people who have served on the Board over the past 45 years, members of the community, and the support the Board receives from SAU 60. Without the continued donations from the Fall Mountain community and the support from SAU 60, especially the Guidance Department at Fall Mountain Regional High School, the Board would not be able to grant these scholarships.

We have also been fortunate to have the benefit of a close working relationship with the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation which provides financial support from income generated by Hubbard Family Trusts, which they administer.

The Board remains committed to the main purpose of the organization helping Fall Mountain graduates further their education and career goals. The Board is now kicking off its 2016 fundraising campaign. We encourage everyone in the Fall Mountain community to donate to the scholarship fund. Any amount, no matter how large or small, will help further the education of Fall Mountain graduates and improve our community.

Please send a tax-deductible donation to: Fall Mountain Scholarship Fund, Inc., C/O FMRHS, FMRHS Road, Langdon, New Hampshire 03602

Thank you for your continued

- The Fall Mountain Scholarship Fund Board of Directors: Rich Nalevanko, Greg Macri, Randy Rhoades, Rob Kasper, Chris Wheeler, Nate Chaffee, Heather Gendron, Carol Reller

Be at war with your vices. at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man.

– Ben Franklin

What's Next for Tara Sad?

In case you were worried that Tara was going to be sitting at home regretting her decision to retire from the NH House of Representatives, this will put your mind at ease.

In addition to continuing to do transcription work for filmmakers and doctoral students, Tara has taken a new

position as Agricultural Policy Advisor with the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference. In this position, she will be writing semi-monthly blogs for the CSG-ERC website dealing with issues relating to agriculture in the region, which includes the 11 northeastern states from Maryland to Maine, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Canadian Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Ontario, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Tara is sharing this job with a fellow representative, Bob Haefner, from Hudson, who also served on the House Environment and Agriculture Committee with her for ten years. For eight of those years, Sad and Haefner would switch from Chair to Ranking Member, depending on which party was in the majority. Despite the fact that Haefner is from 'the other party', they are great friends and have worked together in a bipartisan manner for their entire term. So the shared job will allow them to continue working

Town Of Walpole, North Walpole & Drewsville **NOTICE**

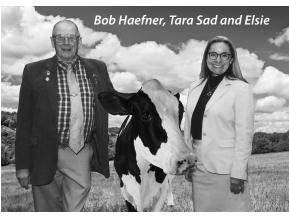
Beginning November 1, 2016, and continuing until April 1, 2017: Notice is hereby given that all motor vehicles parked on any street or highway or right of way within the limits of the Town of Walpole between 11 PM and 7 AM may be towed away at any time during a snow and/or ice storm at the owner's expense and risk, and ticketed.

During a major snowstorm (6" or more), daytime parking on all streets or highways or rights of way shall be limited to two hours. Cars parked for more than 2 hours will be towed away at the owner's expense and risk, or ticketed.

The purpose of this parking ban is to allow winter maintenance crews unobstructed snow removal and ice control routes.

Per Order of Select Board Walpole, New Hampshire together on agricultural and rural issues, and passing along their accumulated knowledge to legislators in the eastern region.

The job also brings with it travel to the various statehouses, where the team will meet with the Agriculture Committees to learn what policy issues they are facing help them find the best solutions to the problems. Other travel involves the



annual conference, which this year will be held at Mohegan Sun in Connecticut. Sad and Haefner will be responsible for the Agricultural Policy Sessions and Site Visits.

'While I loved every minute of my ten years in the House,' Sad says, 'it was time to leave. I am excited to start this new - and yet not so new - part of my life.' She added, 'I want to thank all of the people who voted for me over the years. I was honored to serve you in Concord.'

– Ray Boas

Continued from Page 1: Snow

With approximately 99 miles of State and Town roads to be plowed, the town is divided into six major routes, with equipment assigned to each for simultaneous treatment. The first priority for cleanup is school bus routes during school days. The business district will be maintained as much as possible during regular business hours, and fire hydrants will be cleared out as soon as possible. Residents (pedestrians and vehicles) can help by staying out of the way of removal operations. To avoid creating a hazard, private driveway and sidewalk snow may not be plowed or shoveled into or across town roads or sidewalks.

Quoting the conclusion of the town's policy statement: "Winter weather in northern New England is difficult to predict. There are many variables affecting winter maintenance operations such as type of precipitation, air and pavement temperature, traffic, wind, time of day and day of week. Winter maintenance is considered an art, not a science." For more detail, or for a copy of the entire Snow Removal Policy, contact the Select Board Office.

- Ray Boas

Horse Thieves

Annual Meeting

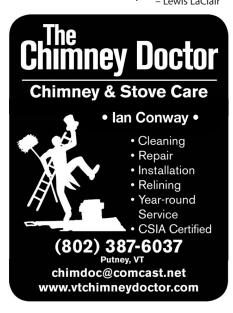
The "Horse Thieves" annual meeting will be held Saturday, January 21 at 6 PM in the Walpole Town Hall (second floor). The Horse Thieves annual meeting is a blend of practicality and small-town traditions. We encourage all members (or those who want to become a Horse Thief) to join us for this event.

This annual meeting will include normal business like reading and approving reports, electing new officers for 2017 and we have recently revived the practice of honoring our longest-serving members. Mr. Harold Putnam has held the honor as the most senior member for several years (he joined in 1955, so 2017 marks his 62nd year as a member) and in that capacity he is the leader of the Riders who are charged with chasing down horse thieves. We will introduce the new slate of Riders at our annual meeting.

We have much to report about our 200th anniversary celebrations last year, but in spite of that, the meeting will probably be ~30 minutes in length... so come early. The Walpole Horse Thieves are one of the oldest organizations in town, and in fact we are one of the oldest Horse Thieve societies in the country, and we celebrated that extensively last year.

As those who follow our Facebook page know... we don't have a Facebook page and frankly don't understand social media. However, the organization is open to any man 18 years or older who lives in Walpole, who pays a \$2 lifetime fee and signs the membership book. So join us for the annual meeting and find out what an old-fashioned men's society was like 200 years ago. Contact Lewis LaClair (LLaclair@Advancedrisk.com or 756-0001) or come early.

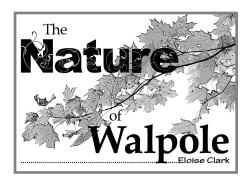
— Lewis LaClair



Starry, starry nights! With the flood of crystal clear Arctic air over us this month, there is spectacular stargazing to be had. While we've turned the corner toward longer days, many long nights are still ahead of us. But you have to really bundle up, of course!

Stars and stories go together. Did you ever play dot to dot? People have been connecting the dots of stars into familiar shapes – animals, figures and family groups – for millennia. While looking skyward is not a form of evening entertainment common to our current culture, stargazing in short increments can yield "awesome" results.

Rising early in the evening is the constellation Orion. The Greeks saw a hunter, some groups of Native Americans saw a great chief. The Tewa called him "Long Sash". Orion is an easy constellation to find in the southeastern skies. It is a large rectangle pinpointed at opposite corners by the striking stars Betelgeuse and Rigel. The former is a red giant star located as the left shoulder of the figure. It's nearly through its nuclear fuel and expanding to huge proportions as it cools. Rigel by contrast is a newer blue-white star with lots of energy left to



burn. It shimmers and twinkles with its immense heat. It's located at the bottom right of the rectangle, his right foot.

The Long Sash cuts across the rectangle in a recognizable belt of three stars. Dangling from its left hand star is the sword. With either good eyesight or binoculars, one can see a swarm of stars embedded in the sword. It's a nebula. These gaseous areas of space are birthplaces for stars where pulses of gravity draw molecules together to make incipient stars. Orion's head, shield and raised club can be imagined by playing dot-to-dot outside the rectangle.

Following Orion close to the southern horizon is his faithful dog Canis Major. Look for the bright eye of the dog. It

is the star Sirius and is considered the brightest object we see in the night sky besides the planets and moon. The rest of the constellation can be fashioned as you look below Sirius. Canis Major is following its prey Lepus the Hare to the right. Lepus is a butterfly-shaped constellation of fainter stars just beneath the feet of Orion.

Looking up and to the right from the right shoulder of Orion is another red giant star called Aldebaran. It is the left eye of Taurus the Bull and anchors the "vee" shaped face of Taurus, also known as the Hyades. Further to the right, almost overhead, look for the Pleiades riding on the back of Taurus the Bull. It looks like a very little Big Dipper. From six stars to the unaided eye it turns into a cluster of myriad stars with binoculars. It's a beautiful area of the night sky!

There are many excellent star gazing references. My favorite guide is *Star Maps for Beginners* by I. M. Levitt and Roy K. Marshall – in continuous publication since 1942. It recounts the Greek myths associated with the constellations for each month. Please be star-struck and enjoy our star-filled nights! Natural beauty is visible from so many directions in Walpole.

Thank You!

Friends of the Walpole Town Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Library would like to sincerely thank all of the many people who helped make this year's book sale such a big success. It takes many volunteers working many hours to organize and run this large annual event. In particular, we would like to thank Teragram Properties for allowing us to use space at the former RN Johnson's facility to sort and pack the thousands of books that were donated to the sale. A big thank you to the Walpole Recycling Center. Thank you also to Fall Mountain Regional High School's ROTC and Interact students. They helped set up and take down the sale at the Walpole School, carrying many heavy boxes and tables. Also, a huge thank you to the many people who donated books, and, of course, to all those who attended the sale and purchased books! The total profit from the book sale this year was about \$6,500!

We would also like to remind the community about the Friends of the WalpoleTownLibraryannualmembership drive. Individual memberships are \$10; families \$15, and patrons \$30, but any membership donation is very much appreciated. You can mail a check to PO Box 965 in Walpole, or stop by the library.

All of the funds raised by the Friends of the Library support the purchase of books and other materials for the library, and various library programs.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our local library!

– Jana Sellarole

Walpole Seniors

The Walpole Seniors will hold their next regular luncheon at 12 noon on January 16, 2017, at the First Congregational Church. We will welcome Dick Hurlburt from the Walpole Fire Department as our speaker. His focus will be on "Safety". Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share with the members. Bring a friend and enjoy some great food and fellowship.

– Jan Martin

Writing It Down

Do you have family stories you keep meaning to write down so they won't be forgotten? Come to Writing It Down, a small group that meets every 3rd Saturday at the Walpole Library. There is no fee for these informal meetings where stories are shared in a more appreciative than critical way. Bring a page or two and hear some other tales.

For more details call Barbara, at 756-3831, or ask at the Library front desk.

– Barbara Dretzin



Current Selectman (2 years Chair)

Alt. Member Planning Board

Co-Director The Grange Walpole Leadership Academy
Member Well Head Protection Steering Committee
Supporter Friends of the Library/Historical Society/Friends of Hooper
Vice-Chair Walpole Horse Thieves/Committee Chair BSA Troop 299

Vice Chair Hooper Study Committee

Library

Netflix & Lunch

Join us each Tuesday, starting January 10 at 11:30 AM, for a lunchtime program. We'll be streaming an episode of Nexflix's original series, *The Crown*, which is about the early reign of Queen Elizabeth II. This show is perfect for any Downton Abbey fans. We'll watch one episode each week. Bring your lunch and a friend and join us for a great show!

Evening Fiction Book Club

We've had a few requests for another fiction book group for adults that will meet here at the library. Join us Thursday, January 19, at 7:00 PM for an interest meeting. We'll discuss a good time to meet and select the first few books to read. Everyone is welcome!

Volunteer Opportunity Meeting

The Walpole Library is extremely thankful for our dedicated volunteers. They truly help to make the library the great place it is. We're looking for a few new volunteers to take on a community outreach program we've been talking about for a while. We'd like to have a group of volunteers who can take books to homebound patrons. We have a few patrons already who rely on others, and we'd like to make their lives a little easier. We'd also love to help other people in the community who have a hard time getting to the library as often as they'd like. If you're interested in helping us with this project please come to our meeting on Tuesday, January 24, at 5:00 PM. We'll talk about the vision of the project, and how you can help us get this idea off the ground.



Special Story Time Series

Join us the last Wednesday of the month from January through May for a special Story Time presented by the Grafton Museum. Story Time is every Wednesday at 10:00 AM. The series presented by the Grafton Museum will have a special topic each month, and include stories and a craft. Check our website for all of the topics being covered! Walpoletownlibrary.org

Cook Book Challenge Group

Our next meeting will be February 28. All are welcome to join us for delicious food and great conversation. Please check the website or e-mail Justine for more information as the date gets closer. Walpoletownlibrary.org, or jrogers@ walpoletownlibrary.org



PHOTO PROVIDED

Maker Play Wednesdays

Our Maker Play program for kids in grades 2 through 6 is going strong! The kids have an amazing time with our science, math and art projects. They also learn great teamwork skills. Our biggest project this year was a Marble Run. We collected toilet paper and paper towel rolls and built a giant marble track in the back room of the library. The kids had a fantastic time!

- Justine Rogers

Auditions

...for River Theater Company's You Can't Take it With You

Looking for a fun activity to make the winter pass quickly that involves snakes, fireworks, artists of varying abilities, an interesting tax scheme, visitors from Russia...and lots of laughs? Auditions for the River Theater Company's spring production of the George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart classic comedy You Can't Take It With You will be held Sunday, January 8, from 3-6 PM and Wed., January 11, 6:30 to 8:30 PM, in the upstairs theater at the Charlestown Town Hall. Performances are April 29, and May 5, 6 and 7 at the Charlestown Town Hall. The production will be co-directed by RTC Board member Jeanie Levesque and her husband, Bill Lockwood, who have both been involved in many area productions.

The much-loved Pulitzer Prize winning play was also made into a film, which won Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director. The story involves three generations of a quirky but loving and very lovable family living under the same roof, and their often surprised and surprising visitors. The cast includes a wide range of 19 characters of all ages from about 18 years old and up (7 women, 9 men and 3 male or female).

A synopsis of the play, as well as a complete description of the characters and a copy of the script, are all readily available online. If you are unable to make these audition dates, please contact Jeanie Levesque @ 445-7037 or breakaleg1@comcast.net to make other arrangements. The River Theater Company is a family-oriented community theater group that has been providing performance opportunities to Connecticut River Valley children and adults for more than a decade. We always welcome new members who are interested in performing or working in technical and other capacities. For more information please email breakaleg1@comcast.net.

– Jeanie Levesque

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What better way to start the holiday season than with a musical treat? During the first week of December, the Walpole Elementary School's musicians put on two spectacular performances. First, Pre-K through Grade 4 students filled the hall with their voices; then Grades Five through Eight presented many exciting pieces to demonstrate their work over the last four months.

The fifth grade band took the stage under the direction of Ms. Anna Johnson. After several weeks of practice, they were able to perform Jingle Bells, Carol of the Bells, and Jolly Old St. Nicholas. It was impressive to hear this successful band whose members have worked so hard. Kudos to Ms. Johnson for all her hard work.

The fifth Grade chorus sang several different selections. There were several highlightsamong the tunes, including old favorites *Oh Susanna*, *Wade in the Water*,

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and *Ode to Joy*. A special part of their performance was the accompaniment by Mr. Meagher on the ukulele.

The sixth, seventh, and eighth grade band (conducted by Mr. Meagher) performed several pieces, including A Hard Day's Night, and Deck the Halls, but the favorite was Carnivore. This song is about dinosaurs – eating each other. The percussion successfully imitatied those ancient, thunderous lizards.

Ms. Johnson led the 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade chorus in *A Wonderful Christmas Time*, *Edelweiss* and the classic *Don't Stop Believin*. The audience loved every moment.

The night concluded with the Jazz Band trio's rendition of *When the Saints Go Marching In, St. James Infirmary Blues,* and *Cantaloupe Island.* The trio was a big hit with the audience.

We are so proud of our musicians who have worked so hard, and their teachers that made this night possible for our students.

- Mary Ronning

WES REPORTER





St. John's

St. John's welcomes the Rev. Peter Coffin as preacher on Sunday, January 1. It's New Year's Day, but it is also the First Sunday after Christmas. Don't forget, there are twelve days of Christmas!

On January 8, the First Sunday after the Epiphany, the Rev. Bruce MacDuffie will be the presider and celebrant. The emphasis is on the baptism of Jesus. We will renew our baptismal vows. The children will have a special Epiphany project during the Second Hour program.

The Parish Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22. A potluck meal follows the 10 AM service. The meeting begins at 12:00. The Vestry will present the 2017 budget adopted at the December 14 Vestry meeting. Items for the Annual Report are due by January 1.

St John's After School Programs

Walpole Art After School begins the Winter/Spring semester on Wednesday, January 4, at 3:15 PM, in the Parish Hall. New young artists who are in first grade or older are always welcome to participate. Teachers Racheal Scott and Susan Kershaw, along with assistants Marilyn Wilking and JoAnne King, are excited about some winter-themed projects (think snow)! A link to the registration form can be found on our website: www. walpoleartafterschool.org. Email Susan Kershaw for more information, info@ walpoleartafterschool.org. There is no fee. Donations to support this enrichment program are deeply appreciated. Checks can be made out to St. John's Episcopal Church, Art After School on the memo line, PO Box 179, Walpole, NH 03608. All funds donated are reserved for use only by the Art After School program.

Narnia After School begins Thursday, January 19, 3:15 until 5 pm, in the Parish Hall. Please read the first chapter of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, in which* Lucy finds a wardrobe, before the first session. This is a great project for families. Wardrobes are the theme of the first session – we'll use crafts and discussion to imagine we have walked through the Wardrobe into Narnia. Any child who is in first grade or older is welcome. There is no charge for the program thanks to a very generous donation from the "Our Kids" fund of the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire. Racheal Scott and Susan Kershaw look forward to welcoming Narnia enthusiasts.

If you haven't read the books, this is a great way to enjoy them. Parents can register their children by using the same form as for Art After School, available on the www.walpoleartafterschool.org website. Questions? Email Susan Kershaw, info@walpoleartafterschool.org.

- Rev. Susan Kershaw

Walpole Unitarian

January at the Church

- January 1: No service -New Year's Day
- January 8: Family First Random Acts of Kindness, led by Wendy Harty and Pam Blair. Light brunch provided!
- January 15: When I Was the Only White Person, led by Rev. Kitsy Winthrop.
- January 22: Mission Statements, Affirmations, and Who We Are led by Antonia Andreoli
- January 29: Come, Sing a Song With Me – a service of song led by Jared Stolper. Come help make a joyful noise!

Join us at the white church on the corner of Union and Main Streets on Sundays in January at 10:00 AM. Call Antonia Andreoli at 756-9036 for more information.

- Antonia Andreoli

CVTC

Welcomes New Volunteer Drivers

Volunteer Drivers are the life-blood of CVTC. Without them, the organization would not exist. They give their time to take people to medical and social service appointments, grocery shopping, banking, and to the pharmacy. In 2016, drivers will clock in over 84,000 miles.

The new drivers join our team of 61 active drivers: Barbara Plumley, Walpole; Michelle Burnham, Keene; Judy Gilmore, Swanzey; Sara Lybbert, Francestown; John McNealy, Rindge; Harry Megens, Stoddard; Susan Stover, Dublin; Jim Vander Wiel, Swanzey; Dave Whatley, Keene.

Higher volumes of trip requests are coming in across the region. Please consider becoming a Volunteer Driver and give us a call.

CVTC serves those in the Monadnock region who lack access to transportation for non-emergency medical appointments. Visit our website at www.cvtc-nh.org and "like" us on Facebook. For more information call 1-877-428-2882 ext. 5, or email info@cvtc-nh.org.

– Leah-Kristin

HCS Wellness Clinic

HCS will hold a Nurse Is In clinic in Walpole on Friday, January 27. An HCS wellness nurse will be at Applewood Senior Housing from 10 -11 AM to check blood pressure and answer health questions. Screenings are open to the public and free of charge. No appointment necessary.

Nurse Is In clinics are sponsored by HCS, a Monadnock United Way agency. For more information, visit www. HCSservices.org or call HCS at 352-2253.

– Susan Ashworth

Hoop Shoot Results

Bellows Falls Elks Lodge #1619 sponsored their annual Hoop Shoot at the Walpole Middle School Gym on December 10. It proved to be another spectacular basketball event.

The fun-filled contest, which consisted of 25 free throws per player (boys or girls aged 8 to13) attracted nearly 50 players from the Bellows Falls - Charlestown region. Trophies where handed out to the top three shooters in each classification.

The first place foul shooters (who are elligible to shoot in the district event at Windsor High School on January 7) are: Age 8-9, Cora Buswell and Augustine Smith; Age 10-11, Donna Blagrave and Walker James; Age 12-13, Shea Pickering and Tristan Parker.

Walpole's Shea Pickering receives her trophy from Smokey Aumand



PHOTO PROVIDED

Everyone is invited to attend and support their favorite players from our region. The first place shooters at Windsor will be invited to compete at the Vermont State Event on January 28 at Spaulding High School in Barre.

If you have any questions, please contact the Elks organization directors, Ric or Smokey Aumand 802-463-4555.

– Ric Aumand

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Police Log

When I received the Walpole Police Department statistics for November 16 to December 13, I first compared them to the previous month. Jumping out was the decrease in the number of calls by 107. This number coincided with the decrease in Motor Vehicle Calls - particularly "Stops." However, "Criminal Investigations" were up during this period by 15 calls - a 22% increase. I believed I knew the reason for the overall drop in calls.

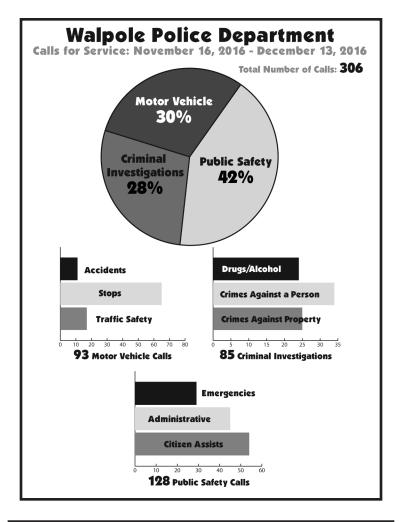
Meeting with Sgt. Justin Sanctuary December 19, he confirmed my supposition. "Drug related calls, DWI, and Crimes against a Person were way up," he stated, "and, are very time consuming. As a result we have less 'time on the road." Sgt. Sanctuary explained that, during routine patrols throughout the business districts and residential areas the officers make vehicle stops. While on patrol, our officers are making a visible presence for everyone's safety. They are not waiting along the side of the road looking for infractions. Because of the 22% increase in Criminal Investigations during the past reporting period, and the resulting times spent on the investigations, our officers were not able to patrol the community, and make the normal stops for obvious infractions.

Consuming the most time during this period were drug related incidents which included three suspected drug overdoses in the Walpole Village. One overdose resulted in death (remember, New Hampshire has the third highest drug related deaths per capita; and, Walpole is not immune). The department is awaiting the toxicology report to confirm that finding. Car break-ins were also on the rise. Unlocked cars are the target. Home surveillance cameras captured individuals trying door handles. If opened, in they went. "They mainly want cash," the Sergeant told me, "and, wallets often are in cars." He continued, "they pull the cash and toss the wallet, it is the lucky victim whose wallet we find so they do not have to replace all credit cards and licenses."

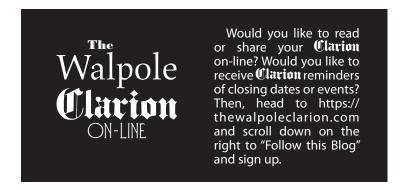
Lastly, I was told that with the coming of snow, weather-related accidents were down as compared to last year. Sgt. Sanctuary attributed this to the greater care and preparation our residents have taken, and the fine efforts of the Walpole Highway Department.

I should not editorialize, but I would be remise if I didn't. The statistics show an adverse impact on routine patrols for the public safety. I appreciate the "visible presence" our officers provide. Given the increase in drug and other related criminal activities, it may be time to evaluate the needs of our police department.

- Ray Boas







Did You Know That...?

Excursions into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

...the Town voted to buy a farm in 1844 to house and employ the town's poor? In 1846, rules were made for the "Government of inmates of [the] house at [the] Town Farm." Every "inmate" had to be "diligently employed under the supervision of the overseer," and could not leave the grounds without permission. Spirits of any kind were not

permission. Spirits of any kind were not allowed, and for breaking any rules, the punishment was "hard labor and such reasonable correction as a parent may lawfully inflict upon a refractory child."

England's Poor Law was passed in 1601. Taxes were imposed for the maintenance of the poor, with no distinction between the "vagrant, vicious poor" and the "honest, but helpless poor." Care of the poor, and that responsibility, came to America with the Pilgrims. Recognizing the seriousness of poverty, the New Hampshire Legislature in 1718 required all towns to meet the needs of indigents through taxes on all residents. The selectmen of New Hampshire towns approached their responsibility in a number of ways. Often assistance would be provided at a resident's home. Some indigents were auctioned off to the lowest bidder for care - those poor then working for the successful bidder. And, towns built poor houses and workhouses for their poor.

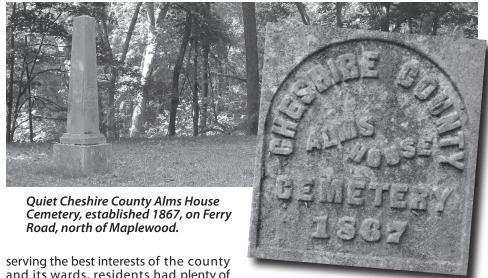
William W. Graves sold his property on the north side of Walpole Valley Road, just east of Maple Grove Road, to the Town in 1844, to be used as a "poor house." A Mr. Jenkins was hired as "overseer of the poor" to manage the indigent grownups and children who lacked a means of support. They worked on the farm to earn their keep.

A committee was established in 1862 to investigate the poor farm, and what should be done with it. Town operated Poor Houses, farms, and Alms Houses were by this time seen as uneconomical. A change in laws was moving the burden of support to the county. Originally, Walpole voted against the establishment of a county farm; but, residents voted to close the Town Farm, and the property was sold in 1867.

With the shift in responsibility, in 1866 the Cheshire County government bought, for \$13,000, the Sabin farm in Westmoreland to utilize as a county farm. The county report of 1869 indicates the Alms House was built for \$22,710. There were many classes of inmates in the early years, including poor inmates, the insane, tramps, and prisoners. But



old Walpole Town Farm as pictured by Howard S. Andros for the 1963 History of Walpole



serving the best interests of the county and its wards, residents had plenty of food, warmth, comfortable clothing, and "kindly care." In 1907, the institution became known as the Maplewood Home.

Establishment of county facilities did not eliminate individual town responsibility in providing support to its less fortunate. As elsewhere, Walpole has a Welfare Department. The 2015 operating budget for this department,

supported by taxes, was \$30,700. Twenty-six of thirty-four applications for assistance were approved, with \$22,262 in assistance provided. The majority of that, almost \$18,500, was for rental assistance. Helping those less fortunate has been a priority of both governments and individuals for centuries, and we all must help those less fortunate.

FLORENTINE FILMS

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Christmas on the Air

Overwhelmed is the operative word just overwhelmed. The Helen Miller Theater was packed to capacity Friday night, December 16, for The Walpole Players' first Christmas On The Air. The Cabin Fever Radio Follies have "aired" for four years, but this was the first time this performance was tried at Christmastime as a fundraiser for the Fall Mountain Food Shelf and Our Place Drop-In Center Those two worthy organizations will share \$1675.

The audience was invited to arrive an hour before air time with their food and beverages, and then to enjoy the radio broadcasts at their tables. During the dinner hour, a flute choir, organized by Players' member Lisa Bryan, provided delightful holiday music.





wisely had chosen it also. Christmas Hallelujah was inspirationally sung, and Our Miss Brooks (featuring Tara Sad and Joan Balla) made an appearance. The audience found that while the Bickersons (Carolyn Norback and Ray Boas) were celebrating Christmas Eve, that they really do care about each other in spite of the constant bickering. Judy Epstein recited Snow in Chelm, a classic Wise Men of Chelm tale by Isaac Bashevis Singer. Burns and Allen (Tom Durnford and Barbara Kasper) kept the audience in stitches. Lucy (Becky Pearson) and Ethel (Kathy Reilly) hysterically found the

> Mike Delaney recited 'Twas the Night Before Christmas to the assembled cast and audience.

> The next day, many cast members were stopped by show attendees praising the evening's performance - enough so that there may even be a repeat performance. But, in the meantime, the fun will continue with Cabin Fever Radio Follies on March 18.

> > - Ray Boas

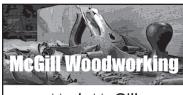


PHOTO: RAY BOAS

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W.R.A.P.

When you open this issue of the Clarion, it will be a New Year – 2017. It's a time to look over the past year, noting our successes and achievements, and where we need to focus our attention and effort in this new year.

This is also the time of year when we pause to give thanks for the many blessings we have received in the year gone by. We give thanks for our town government, our town police and those who teach our children in school. We give thanks for our state government, the state police and their crusade against opioid addiction.

We give thanks for our national government, and especially for the soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who protect us, many of whom are now far from their homes and families. When I hear from a stranger, "Thank you for your service" it really means a lot to me, and to other vets with whom I have spoken.

We give thanks for our citizens who volunteer their time and effort to make life better for us and for our children. How about our Cub Scouts who put on the Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn of the Historical Society each year? They go to great effort to fill the eggs with treats and prizes so that anyone can come,

have fun in the hunt and get a prize. How about our Girl Scouts who put together Thanksgiving Boxes for those who might not otherwise have a nice treat for Thanksgiving Dinner. Both the Cub Scouts and the Girl Scouts volunteer for the Toys for Tots program to permit some of our young kids to find something under tree, which would otherwise have been impossible.

If you are interested having your young one learn more about the needs of others, and in having them experience the satisfaction of doing something that is fun and really rewarding, call Deb Pawelczyk at 445-5475 for information about Cub Scouts or Girl Scouts.

And how 'bout the 61 folks from Walpole and the surrounding towns

(including two from the other side of the river) who volunteer to help at the Recycling Center. It takes forty (40!!) volunteer hours every week to make the Recycling and ReUse operations possible. Consider for a moment what would happen to our town taxes if we had to fill those 40 hours with the wages and benefits of town employees!!

We say thank you to Paul Colburn and the Town Council who have worked hard to manage our recycling program and keep its costs under control. We especially want to thank our volunteers who make all this possible. "Mother Earth" thanks you too – without your volunteer hours, all that trash (much of it re-usable or recyclable) would end up in our landfill – thus spoiling the Mother Earth where we live and raise our children.

Now, in this new year, we focus on our volunteers. Look for a way you can find just two hours per month to volunteer at the Recycling Center. Call Maggie Kyle (445-2323) or Paul Colburn at the Recycling Center (445-5197) for more information on how you can help our town as a volunteer. Our town, we all need you!

– Charles Blount



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One of the things we're most proud of at the Walpole Grocery is our butcher shop, where we carry locally raised meat from farmers we know. This month we're featuring lamb, which is pasture-raised at Sunledge Farm, in Putney. Free of added hormones and antibiotics, the lamb arrives whole and is butchered in the Grocery. Feel free to ask for specialty cuts, as well as for cooking advice.

Lamb is delicious grilled or roasted. But in winter, there's nothing like a stew to warm the soul. Moroccan lamb stew, called "tagine" after the conical cooking dish in which it is traditionally made, is especially warming because of all the spices that are used. The aroma from the tagine, cooking slowly in the oven, will transport you to the sunny streets of Marrakesh.

Don't be intimidated by the long list of instructions. After the first few steps, you put the pan in the oven and let time and temperature work their magic.

Lamb Tagine with Apricots and Toasted Almonds (makes 4-6 servings)

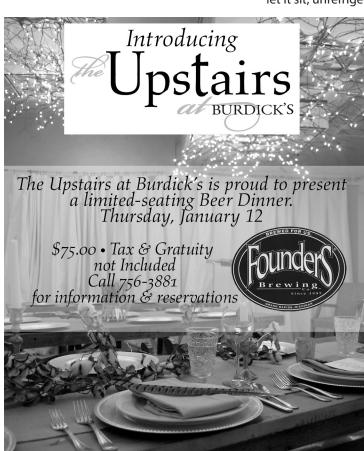
Ingredients:

- 2 pounds boneless lamb shoulder, cut into 1 ½" cubes
- 1 ½ tablespoons Marrakesh spice blend (available at the Grocery)
- ½ teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 ½ cups diced onion
- 3 large garlic cloves, mashed into a paste or minced very fine
- 2-3 cups good quality chicken broth, divided
- 2 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 cup dried, pitted apricots, coarsely chopped
- zest of 1 lemon, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 tablespoon honey
- freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- ½ cup chopped fresh cilantro, divided
- ½ cup slivered almonds, toasted **Method:**
- Preheat the oven to 350°F.
- Combine the spice blend and ½ teaspoon salt in a large bowl.
- Add the lamb to the bowl and toss to coat with spices. Cover the bowl and let it sit, unrefrigerated, for an hour.

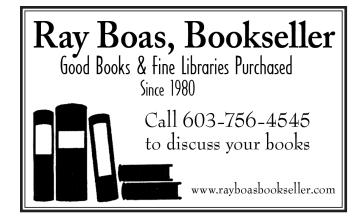
- In a Dutch oven or deep frying pan with tight-fitting lid, heat the olive oil. Add the lamb and cook on mediumlow heat for about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. (You do not need to brown the meat.)
- Remove the lamb from the pan and put it in a bowl. Add the onions to the pan, and sauté for 3-4 minutes.
- Add the garlic and cook 1 minute more, then stir in the tomato paste.
- Gradually add 1 cup of the chicken broth, stirring well.
- Return the lamb to the pan, along with any juices that have accumulated, and stir to coat with the sauce. At this point you may need to add some more chicken broth (about ½ cup). The liquid should come just halfway up the meat.
- Cover the pan and cook in the oven for 2 hours. Check the tagine after
 1 hour. Stir in ½ cup of broth if the liquid has reduced.
- After the 2 hours, stir in the apricots.
 Cover the pan and return it to the oven for 45 minutes more.
- After the 45 minutes, turn off the oven and move the pan to the stove top. Stir in lemon juice, zest, butter, honey, and ¼ cup of the cilantro. Simmer uncovered for 5-10 minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste.
- Garnish with toasted almonds and remaining cilantro.
- The tagine is traditionally served with couscous.

Stay warm!

– Paula Burdick



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I was born in my parents' bedroom on January 16. The World Almanac says it was 1909. I say it was 1912. But what difference does it make as long as I feel 33?



WES Hunger Games

This year's annual "Hunger Games" competition, hosted by Walpole Elementary School, proved to be another success. This competition helped raise hunger awareness for the Fall Mountain Food Shelf in Alstead, with homerooms bringing in non-perishable food items (including cans) for donation to help support both their community and whichever competing eighth grade "tribute" they chose to support in the competition. Ultimately, 144 cans were

The top sponsor was Mary Ronning with 27 cans. Just like in the real "Hunger Games", factions fought against one another to claim victory as the ultimate survivor. Eighteen 8th graders ducked, dived, zigzagged, pounced, cornered, snatched, jumped, and circled one another in a specialized outside arena designed by Mr. Gagnon and Ms. Silverwood. Each round lasted about 10 minutes with roughly four student casualties per round.

Sponsored students received a special advantage: silly string! At the sound of the start of each round, students ran towards the cornucopia filled with foam noodles and goggles. Just like in the book series, it was not what you know, but rather whom you know. "I feel that many of the students already had an alliance before the games even began," said eighth grade competitor Grace Beliveau. "There were three big alliances and a fewer smaller ones."

As the game progressed, the small alliances were extinguished and only the bigger ones remained. By the end of the game, it was clear that the factions had separated into a classic rivalry: girls versus boys. Alex Flynn, Tyler Swain, and Nick Peltier went noodle to noodle with Grace Beliveau, Hillary Berry, Maeve Perron, Shea Pickering, and Morgan Beauregard. It was a herd mentality with the Y-chromosomes versus the X, but ultimately there could only be one winner! After 45 minutes of survival tactics, Hillary Berry emerged as the Hunger Games Champion, bringing justice, truth, and creamed corn and peas to all! Who will next year's champion be?

- Enrique Ingram

Book Review:

The Three Doors Series by Emily Rodda (Jennifer Rowe)

The great trilogy The Three Doors is a wonderful, thrilling adventure series that kids love. The series is written by Emily Rodda, but that is a pseudonym for Jennifer Rowe. Rowe uses her real name for her more adult crime fiction books. and this pen name for her younger readers. This series includes three books: The Golden Door, The Silver Door, and finally The Third Door. I have read all of her works, and each has its own greatness, writing style and storyline.

The Golden Door is about a boy who lives in a village called the Weld surrounded with thick walls and beasts (Skimmers) that are afraid of light. Sent by some mysterious force, the Skimmers come at night to terrorize the town. The protagonist, Rye, has lived there ever since he was a baby. In the beginning, he is about 12 years old and has a crush on the prettiest girl in town named Faene.

At night, they have to turn on all the lights or else the Skimmers will come and try to take down everything. The main Warden, or the leader of the Weld, is taking heroes to go find the source, and none of them come back. Rye is officially too young to go, but his two brothers are among the lost, and he must find them.

On his journey through the First Door, he meets Sonia, and they almost die trying to find the mystery of the Skimmers.

In The Silver Door, Sonia and Rye have

made it out of the Golden Door and back to the Weld, where they start their next adventure by entering the land behind the Silver Door. Sonia is determined to find the person sending the Skimmers, and Rye is still on the hunt to find his remaining brother. They find themselves in a world that is dark and gloomy, where a dark lord rules with his horrific bird beasts. The bird beasts attack those who oppose him in the Fell Zone.

They set out in this gloomy world to find Rye's other brother. When they stop at the town of Fleet so that they can visit Faene's parents' grave and say goodbye, they find an encrypted message that leads to more adventures in the Fell Zone.

In *The Third Door*, the reader follows Rye and his brothers as they search for the one who is sending the Skimmers. Weld is under attack and the town is in panic. The attack has left many injured. The four heroes set out to find the source of this chaos in the last adventure through the Third Door.

These books are a great read. If you like adventure, then they are for you.

- Maddy Manning





Black Friday

When many of us think of major holidays in November, we think of Thanksgiving, the time of year when we gather with family and stuff ourselves with food. However, a very interesting "holiday" comes the next day: Black Friday. This is when many of us wake up much too early and get amazing deals while losing or gaining our faith in humanity at the same time. However, many take it for granted, and do not think about its origins, the myths and history of Black Friday.

A myth that has surfaced recently puts an unnerving twist on the generally happy day. Some claim that back in the 1800's, Southern plantation owners could get sales on slaves on the day after Thanksgiving. This has led to calls for a boycott on the name. This claim, however, has no basis at all.

Today, "black" is used in business to represent profit, and "red" is used to represent loss. However, the first documented use of Black Friday was to a financial crisis on September 24, 1869. Jay Gould and Jim Fisk, Wall Street financiers known to be quite cold-blooded, worked together to purchase as much gold as they could. They hoped to drive the price extremely high, so they could sell it for a huge profit. On that Friday, the conspiracy was revealed. This sent the stock market into free-fall, and bankruptcy for many.

The true origin of our Black Friday is actually quite dark. In the 1950's, this term was used by Philadelphia police officers to describe the chaos that took place on the day after Thanksgiving, when many items went on sale. Locals and tourists flooded into the city, most of them to watch the Army-Navy football game. Police could not take the day off, and had to work extra shifts to control the influx of people and traffic. People would also take advantage of the maelstrom in stores to steal merchandise.

With endless newspaper, magazines, and blogs explaining how to get the best deals, and tips and tricks of Black Friday, it seems like more and more people are going earlier and earlier every year. At this point, it seems like it would be better to go in the middle of the day, as everyone I know seems to have gone anywhere from midnight to four in the morning. I have talked to two people, both of whom went to Kohl's in two different cities, Lebanon and Keene. Both went relatively early, and in both places, the line completely wrapped around the store. This is the current, and somewhat unsettling, Black Friday as we know it.

- Jacob Bradley

Hanukkah

As the Christmas season approaches and the local churches put up their Nativities, everyone seems to be getting in the holiday spirit. Keeping this in mind, it is also important to remember that this time of year is not just home to Christmas – it is also home to other holidays. Hanukkah, for one.

Hanukkah, while not the most important holiday of Judaism, is still a holiday. It celebrates several things one, the defeat of the Greeks when the Jewish people had an incredibly limited and less than optimal army; and two, the miracle that was the oil in the sacred flame burning for eight nights instead of the one it was meant to.

The reason that they only had enough oil for one night was because the Greeks absolutely trashed the Jewish temple, destroying the sacred oil that took an incredibly long time to make. They managed to find one final vial of oil, but it was only enough to last one night. Despite the odds, the oil lasted for eight nights through the divine power of Adonai.

In such a Christian society, it can be hard to be Jewish. While goyim (non-Jewish people) may not notice it, as a Jewish person, it can be readily apparent. From Christmas decorations on doors to being told to have a "Merry Christmas" by literally everything and everyone, we live in a Christian society. Even Hanukkah has been warped by the Christian media - it's a really minor holiday that really isn't that interesting or important in comparison to the others.

This Christmas, give the best gift of all, and be aware of other cultures and religions.

- Lillia Wilson

Plant carrots in January and you'll never have to eat carrots.

-Gardening Saying

AHT

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

On November 1, four 8th grade students at Walpole Elementary School had the honor of laying the wreath at The Tomb Of The Unknown Soldier. The Tomb Of The Unknown is the final resting place for the unidentified soldiers. It is the tomb of an unidentified soldier who died while serving in World War I. It has come to symbolize all unknown American soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

The fourth eighth grade Walpole representatives were Grace Beliveau, Kaitlin Faulkner, Charlotte Briggs, and Hillary Berry. This special event was a part of the American Heritage Tour. AHT is a week-long trip for 8th graders. They go to places such as Boston, Amish Country, and much more, as a way to learn more about America's history. Being able to place the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was a huge honor for the rest of my classmates and me, and a moment I will not soon forget.

- Charlotte Briggs

Door Decoration Contest

Walpole Elementary School held a door decorating competition to celebrate the holiday season. Each homeroom had to present a holiday-themed door by December 9. Doors had to meet requirements set out by the Student Council (including Santa Claus, snowflakes, Rudolph, presents, and more).

Kindergarteners from the Primary School judged the competition. They each chose the door they liked the best. While the doors were all holiday-related, some doors had specific themes, such as Rudolph, or an ugly Christmas sweater. Others included snowmen, candy canes, trees, and Santa. Mr. LeBail's door placed second, while there was a tie for first with Mrs. Mulhern's door and the LEAP Center room's door. Although my homeroom didn't win, it was still a fun competition in which the whole school got to participate.

– Kaitlin Faulkner



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Space limitations last month prevented us from sharing images from the Historical Society's A Night of Music with Two Old Friends. Emery Hutchins (on left) and Jim Prendergast displayed extraordinary virtuosity on instruments ranging from the banjo to the bodhran while rendering traditional Celtic tunes and American country music.

MILESTONES

Passed Betty L. Mack

September 13, 1936 - November 17, 2016

Jacquelin (Jacque) Bowen December 3, 2016, age 93



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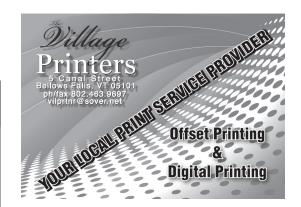
PUBLISHER'S CORNER

I do not write this until I go over the drafts Jan has prepared for my final review. After having seen this final draft, all I can say is – I Love It! Packed into January's twenty pages is a diverse range of things that have happened in town, or are about to happen. Our images tell even more stories. We have some wonderful young student writers, and this issue brings you important Town news concerning snow removal, and the work our Police Department faces.

If you have ideas for articles or columns, I would love to hear from you. And, remember to help me keep the community informed about your organization's events. Finally, thank you to my advertisers showing their support of the Walpole community by advertising here. Please thank them for that support.

Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.

– Ray Boas, Publisher



The WALPOLE Clarion

published monthly for the Walpole community.

Ray Boas, Publisher PO Box 757 Walpole, NH 03608 603-756-4545

Submissions about community events and achievements are encouraged for both the calendar and features.

Submit ads, articles & photographs to: walpoleclarion@gmail.com

February issue deadline: January 23

Tara Sad: Copy-Editing Jan Kobeski: Layout & Design

The Walpole Clarion on-line: thewalpoleclarion.com



North Walpole Resident's Career Ends in Downtown Bellows Falls

In November, Newton Business, formerly Snow and Lear, closed its satellite store, leaving downtown Bellows Falls without a stationery store for the first time in recent memory.

Longtime North Walpole resident Nancy Staniszewski had been Manager of the store since May 2, 1984. Nancy says, "32 and a half years to be exact." She remembers Snow and Lear selling and repairing typewriters before it became the stationery store she managed. Newton Business considers it a consolidation with their Brattleboro store, and they will still be delivering orders in our area three times a week. For Nancy, who had become as much of an institution as the store and was noted for her personal service, it also meant the end of her job in Bellows Falls.

Nancy has actually worked in the Vermont downtown, crossing the Old Arch Bridge and its replacement every day to work, for all those years. While a high school student she was behind the stationery counter at Newberry's Five and Ten Cent Store, then right across the street from the final location of the Newton Business store. She remembers well that the Newton Business location was once the Bellows Falls firehouse. It was later the Common Man Restaurant then a tattoo parlor before the Stationery business moved there. She also worked at the Shopper News Review next door to the present day Elks Lodge near downtown.

"All good years," Nancy says. "Lots of wonderful people." Three and a half years ago, she was robbed in her store at gunpoint during the day by a loan bandit. Nancy was overwhelmed by the outpouring of community support after the frightening event. She says people came to visit to see how she was doing. Nancy has also seen the ebb and flow of businesses in the downtown. Many have come and gone in her time there. Besides Newberry's, she remembers Sam's, A. J. Hinds, Bristol Shoe Store, Fletcher's that once had a soda fountain, Ernie's Discount, and the Pin Cushion where Works on Paper is now located.. There were grocery stores, and the hardware store has had a number of owners, Celtic Corner, and Oona's Restaurant that burned down and is now an empty space.

So what now for Nancy? She wasn't ready to retire. What's she going to do now? Nancy doesn't know. But she does know one thing, "That's something I'll really miss, the people."

WHS Speaker Series

Mines of the Monadnock Region

From mica to feldspar and eventually the addition of beryl, the Monadnock Region has had its share of world famous mines. On Friday, January 13, join Jim Pecora, the Southwestern New Hampshire Mines and Mining Historian for a fascinating and informative look at over 200 years of mining history, a history that is unfamiliar to most of those who live here. Pecora's "Show and Tell" multimedia presentation will open doors to a world full of hard work, often by crews of immigrants, who mined within some massive subterranean tunnels beneath our region.

For over a hundred years, mica was the money-making mineral in Monadnock.

Learn about mica's many ordinary and WWI and II top-secret uses. In addition, the audience will learn some amazing information about South Acworth's famous Beryl Mountain and the world renowned Big Mine in Alstead. Spend an evening learning something new and interesting about your region.

This Speaker Series *Mines of the Monadnock Region* is free, and the public is invited to attend on Friday, January 13, 2017, at 7:00 PM at the Walpole Town Hall

– Andrea Goins

Does your Civic & Business Directory look as tired as this one does?

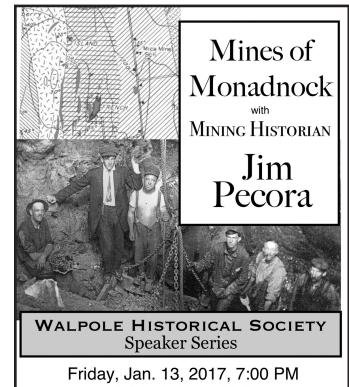


Then it's time for a new one!

The River Valley Seniors At Home Committee is updating this helpful directory, adding a new section for services for seniors

If you have a business or provide a service and you would like to be listed in this updated directory, call **756-4861**, or email **tara.eric@gmail.com** by January 20, 2017, and we'll include you.

There is no charge for a listing!



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