



Walker Road: Looking Ahead

The Walpole Conservation Commission (WCC) is an advisory board established to preserve the Town's natural resources. Protection of these resources improves water and air quality; preserves rare species of plants and animals; provides agricultural, recreational, and educational opportunities, all the while helping to mitigate storm and flooding impact.

In December, 2018, many generous donors - from Walpole and beyond - came together to purchase the Walker Road property, which sits opposite the South Street and Route 12 intersection. The property was then gifted to the town, to be watched over by the WCC. Ten acres of rich wildlife and plant habitat, including 1000' of riverfront, is there for everyone to enjoy.

This beautiful piece of land was named - by residents - "Walpole Gateway".

At the celebratory ribbon cutting ceremony last May, several residents submitted suggestions to the WCC for its use. We (the WCC) have discussed these options, and would like - once again - to have you engage with us. To that end, we put forth our own thinking about present and future use of the property.

Our overarching aim is to keep it as available for future generations as it is for our own. With this in mind, we would not erect permanent structures, nor allow the use of herbicides or pesticides. Neither would we wish to require anyone to have responsibility for any maintenance - other than mowing to enable easy access. That mowing need not be the aegis of any one person.

Some interesting suggestions, which we considered, were not feasible. For example, a boat launch would necessitate our relinquishing all control to the state.



The numbers indicate three separate areas, and levels, of the Gateway. Level 3 can be seen from level 2.

Dates to Remember

February 5

Deliberative Session
for Fall Mountain SAU60 Budget.
Withdrawal Plan will be discussed.
6:30 PM at FMRHS auditorium.

February 11

Presidential Primary
Polls open at 7 AM & close at 7 PM.
Walpole Town Hall

February 12

Broadband Public Hearing
6:30 PM, Walpole Town Hall

February 13

4:00 PM, Broadband Bond Hearing
4:45 PM - 2020 Budget Hearing
5:45 PM - School Withdrawal
Informational Meeting
6:30 PM - Selectboard Meeting
All in Walpole Town Hall

Charlestown Withdrawal

Charlestown's desire to withdraw from the FMRSD has been a topic of discussion. On January 9, 2020, the state board of education voted unanimously to allow the district to vote on this issue. It was the desire of 6 of the 10 Withdrawal Study Committee members that the issue of Charlestown withdrawing be determined by the voters of the district, not by just a small group of committee members. The Select Board of Walpole neither supports nor does it not support the withdrawal of Charlestown from the district. The decision is up to you, the voter.

In March 2019, a warrant article on the Charlestown ballot was passed that directed SAU 60 to study the issue

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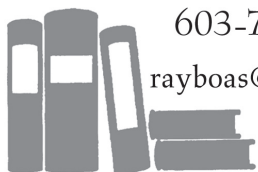
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Fiber-To-The-Home

Walpole Broadband Project

Thanks to new legislation passed in 2018, Walpole now has the opportunity to enter into a public-private partnership with Consolidated Communications (CCI) to build a high-speed fiber-to-the-premises broadband network. The best news is that there won't be any property tax increase to implement this project.

The goal of the project is to bring broadband to the underserved of the Town of Walpole with the benefit of serving all residents.

High Speed broadband has become a necessity for many jobs, and will provide a foundation for allowing many people who can work from home to be able to make a living in Walpole. Realtors tell us that adding a fiber optic network connection to your house will increase its marketability. The proposed joint fiber-to-the-home network will offer a variety of speeds from 5MBPS to 1,000 Mbps, with many options in-between.

Your 'yes' vote on Town Warrant Article 2 at the town meeting on March 14th will allow the town to issue a 20-year bond. Walpole will use the \$1,856,100 bond to contract with CCI to build the backbone of a fiber optic network to serve every resident who wants to be a subscriber to a faster, more reliable network.

Consolidated customers who sign on to upgrade their networks will be charged a Subscriber's Fee of \$9.00 per month. That monthly fee will enable the Town of Walpole to pay back the bond and, if in any given year the fees are not enough to make the bond payments, CCI will contribute enough money to make the full annual bond payment. No taxpayer dollars will be used to build, maintain or operate the network.

Consolidated will contract with the Town to operate and maintain the network, and will pay the Town for using the Town-owned Fiber Network to connect each premise at their expense. Consolidated will own and maintain the connection to the premise. Why would CCI do this? So it can be a viable service provider to Walpole for internet, phone and TV.

If you are satisfied with your current situation, nothing will change for you. No one is required to use the new network.

Please come to our Public Benefits Informational Meeting February 12, 2020 at 6:30 in Town Hall.

- The Broadband Committee

Conservation Continues

Another 42 Acres Conserved

Walpole resident and legend, Jack Pratt, has permanently protected 42 acres of his property by going through the conservation process with the Monadnock Conservancy. Decades ago, when Jack arrived from California with his three dogs in the back seat of the car, he decided he'd found the perfect place to retire. He purchased Sargent Hill Farm, located on a dead-end dirt road, a quiet spot with scenic views of Vermont.

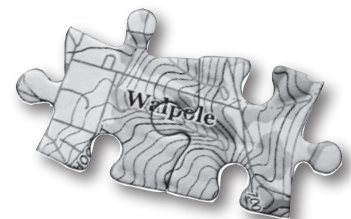
The conserved parcel includes open fields, stone walls, maple trees, forested slopes, a stream and two ponds. It's a place with a lot of country character and charm, and now Jack can relax knowing that future generations can continue to enjoy the beauty and solitude. "[The land's] isolation makes it a dream property," Pratt said. "I had no intention of seeing this land developed. I'm glad to conserve it."

The now-conserved property, located on the west side of Reservoir Road, is mostly wooded, but recently about three acres were cleared to expand the views. "We were so excited about this project because the land is so scenic. It has great views to the west, where you can really see the hills of Vermont," said Monadnock Conservancy Deputy Director Stacy Cibula.

The property abuts Hooper Forest, a 200-acre town property. It is also in proximity to the conserved Watershed Town Forest, the Hubbard conservation easement, the conserved Reservoir Town Forest and the Conservancy's Skofield property.

One of the Conservancy's goals is to expand upon other properties whenever possible. "It's important to us to protect land that is near other conserved lands. This property fits that bill," Cibula said. By linking together conservation lands into blocks of hundreds of acres, or conservation corridors, wildlife benefit from being able to freely roam about with less interference from humans.

To learn more about conservation opportunities in the Monadnock region, please visit www.MonadnockConservancy.org or call 603-357-0600.



Bensonwood Honored

Business of the Year

At its annual gala January 9, before an audience of more than 400 in Keene State College's Zorn Dining Commons, the Greater Keene Chamber of Commerce presented the Windsor Brooks Award for business of the year to Walpole company Bensonwood and its sister company, Unity Homes. Tedd and Christine Benson founded the company in 1973 in Alstead. That office remains, but the headquarters are located in Walpole. A third office opened in Keene in recent years.

Bensonwood manufactures and builds timber-frame homes and commercial buildings using a method in which sections are constructed in a controlled environment and then assembled on site. Unity Homes was launched in 2012 as a spinoff of Bensonwood, using the same technology but focusing on energy efficiency and affordability.

Standing at the podium with his wife, Tedd Benson hesitated before speaking into the microphone. "I don't know if I can do this alone," he said, pausing. "Yeah, would the rest of you come up, please?" He beckoned the other company representatives to the front of the room while the audience applauded. "It takes a village," Christine Benson added.



Tedd Benson and crew

PHOTO: CINDY WESTOVER

The Bensons were joined on stage by Andrew Dey, chief operating officer for Unity Homes; Hans Porschitz, COO for Bensonwood Homes; and Bob Oberlander, the chief financial officer for both companies. Tedd Benson credited his team, as well as the Monadnock Region, for his businesses' success. He compared the sense of community pride to the values that helped literally build the country. He gave the room a condensed version of the history of timber framing, which he said was a common construction practice that got

a unique twist when it came to North America. Here, he said, people worked with their neighbors rather than relying on a few individuals, and together they erected town halls, churches, barns and homes in a growing nation.

"It's that spirit that we tried to mimic to build our company," Tedd Benson said, nodding to the roots in New England. "We couldn't have done it anywhere else."

— Adapted from Keene Sentinel article by Sierra Hubbard



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Bridge Memorial Library Reopens

Walpole celebrated and explored the renovated Bridge Memorial Library in a festive open house on January 4. More than 200 Walpoleans visited during the four hour event, despite miserable weather conditions. Though the library had announced a "soft" opening in late December after its six month exile to Town Hall, this marked the "official" reopening and thank you to the community...complete with cake.

All of this was the culmination of nearly two years of effort by the Library Board, staff, and fundraising committee; supported by generous donors, and brought to completion by Scully Architects and Bellows Construction.

More than \$500,000 was raised from individuals, businesses, organizations and grants which funded the physical expansion of the library: relocation of the open stacks; renovation of the original stack room as the multi-purpose Carol and John Hubbard Community Room; refurbishing of the Ken Burns Reading Room; relocation and enlargement of the Children's Room; and the addition of new spaces, including computer areas, a reading nook, director's office, utility spaces and enclosed vestibule. Critical to the project was preserving the "look" and atmosphere of the original two-room library — a classic example of the exterior's Shingle Style popular in the late 19th century and the interior's Arts and Crafts style.

Part of that effort was acquiring new furniture for the Children's Room (donated in memory of Susan McCullough) and additional pieces for the Community and Reading Rooms — again, in harmony with the original furnishings. In-kind donations brought additional pieces and refurbished one of the window valences which had deteriorated with age. Plaques in the appropriate areas commemorate the most significant donors, and all donors — both monetary and in-kind — are recognized in posters near the circulation desk.

Open House visitors were greeted by staff and board members, offered tours, were shown how to operate the new movable stacks, encouraged to explore at their leisure, and directed to the Thank You cake. The excitement and enthusiasm evident in attendees (both young and old) underscored the special role played by the Bridge Memorial Library in Walpole as a focus of community activity — a role only strengthened by the renovation.

Thank you, Walpole. Hudson Bridge would be proud.

—Jan Kobeski

Clockwise from top: Explaining the movable stacks; enjoying the reading nook; exploring the computer station in the Burns Reading Room; an already busy Childrens Room; the rapidly disappearing Thank You cake; studying the historical images in the Hubbard Community Room.

Continued from Page 1, Walker Road

You may ask, "Isn't the kiosk a permanent structure?" Yes, but we need to provide information to all visitors about the nature of our land. We will post photos to identify its plants and animals, along with a map for visitors to use. We will also post information about "leave no trace" principles.

The Gateway may have more than one use, as it has three fairly distinct areas. One example of multiple usage would be a pollinator garden in one area and a hay field in another.

We urge you to roam about the land to see it for yourselves, and to inspire you to think of how we may best use it throughout all seasons of the year.

This is your land. As such, we urge you to send us your thoughts. We have provided an on-line survey form. See box below. There are suggestions listed for you to check the ones you like, and/or you may use the additional space for your own commentary.

If you have no computer, please call the Town Hall at 756-3672, to get a self-addressed form mailed to you. Your contact information will not be shared or sold.

– France Menck

WALPOLE GATEWAY SURVEY
Suggestions for Using the Land
Visit Google Docs
<https://bit.ly/2N8QpWT>

Along the River

Historical Society Speaker

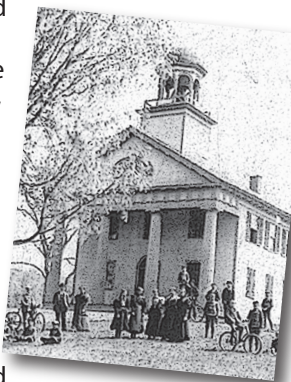
Alan Rumrill, Director of The Cheshire County Historical Society, will talk about three centuries of life along the Connecticut River on Friday, February 21, in the Walpole Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

The Connecticut comprises the entire western border of Cheshire County and has played a major role in the history of the region. Rumrill will share tales about the four towns located on the river: Hinsdale, Chesterfield, Westmoreland and Walpole.

He will tell about the uses of the river, bridges, ferries, disasters, crimes, businesses, famous folks and everyday life along the river for the past 300 years, much of which he has documented in his popular column in the Keene Sentinel.

An author of several books and a native of Cheshire County, Rumrill has been executive director of the Cheshire County Historical Society for 36 years. The event is free of charge and open to all. Refreshments will be served.

– Bill Reed



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Sat., 4PM; Sun., 8:30AM

St. Peter Church, North Walpole;

Wed. 5:30PM, Thurs. 5:30PM, Sun. 10:30AM

St. Catherine's Church, Charlestown

Confessions: Thurs., 4:45-5:20 PM,

St. Catherine's; Sat., 3-3:45PM, St. Peter

St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday Eucharist: 10 AM

Walpole Bible Church

756-4837 • www.walpolebiblechurch.org

Service: Sunday 9:15 AM

Walpole Unitarian Church

Service: Sunday 10 AM

Mardi Gras

Gumbo Gala Planned

WOW! The Women of Walpole organization is pleased to announce the 2nd Annual Mardi Gras Gumbo Gala to be held on FAT Tuesday, February 25, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at the Walpole Town Hall. This festive fund-raising event was such a hit last year, it was the talk of the town and the event sold out!

The year's festive evening will once again feature a delicious array of foods (gumbo, of course! - and other tasty treats) all prepared by the Women of Walpole membership. New this year will be music provided by the Butterfly Swing Band with dancing and plenty of fun for all. Food! Fundraising! Friendship! Frivolity! All for the bargain price of \$25/ticket. Cash bar. Seating is limited and tickets are going quickly for this popular event. Tickets are available from any WOW member, Galloway Real Estate, or by emailing susan03608@gmail.com.

- Susan Wyckoff



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Continued from Page 1, Charlestown

of Charlestown withdrawing from the district, to be done in accordance with RSA 195. A committee consisting of 5 School Board members and 5 Selectmen was established. The committee was broken into three sub-committees. The sub-committees were: Educational Impacts, Liabilities and Assets, and Financial Impacts. The impact to each of the five towns in the district were reviewed and discussed.

The educational impact from PreK to 8th grade and special education in Walpole would be minimal to none. There may be some teacher movement in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, but that is far from certain. At the high school, the impact could become significant if Charlestown does not tuition their students to the FMHS, or the school board elects not to allow them. During the committee meetings, Charlestown expressed that they would like to send at least 90% of their students to FMHS. If this happens, there would most likely will be no impact.

Walpole has always paid for the capital improvements to their schools, and will continue to do so even if Charlestown withdraws. Walpole would not have to assume any additional debt.

There will be a financial impact to Walpole if Charlestown withdraws, at least in the first year. It is important to understand that, if Charlestown withdraws, SAU 60 will become a two district SAU consisting of FMRS and Charlestown School District. This change, along with Walpole becoming the largest of the 4 towns remaining, will add about \$825,000.00 to Walpole's School tax. On a home assessed at \$200,000, this would amount to an increase in taxes of about \$500.00. Please keep in mind that these numbers are subject to change as budgets, state aid, and as a result of final negotiations with Charlestown should the article to withdraw pass.

The majority report and minority report are available on the SAU 60 website. I am also available to answer any questions or attend a small group meeting simply by emailing me your contact information to steve@lakemachine.com.

– Steve Dalessio

Art After School

Art After School is happy to report that, with the help of Mascoma Bank, we are continuing our lively free Wednesday afternoon art program. We have an enthusiastic group of creative young artists and room for more. This past semester we took a field trip to the Historical Museum, and hope to go again. With the guidance of Helen Dahlbeck from the Hooper Institute, we will be doing a unit on the beauty of trees in this new semester! If there are any students or group of students (first graders on up) who would like to join us, they are very welcome! The program is free, non-secular, and open to students from all areas. We have delicious snacks before our activities. Check us out at www.stjohnswalpole.org/after-school-programs for pictures and more details re registration, or call 713-410-7372.

– Marilyn Wilking

The Walpole Clarion ON-LINE

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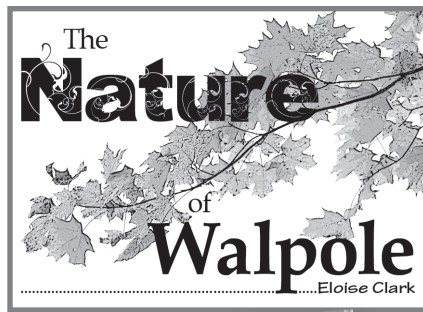


(Please observe the roped off areas)

One thing I really enjoy about winter is being able to see the lay of the land. Once barren of leaves, hills reveal their sculptured shapes. Vistas of distant hills appear on woodland hikes. A blanket of snow sharpens the contrasts between dark and light, boulders and rock faces versus gentler slopes. The prickly stems of trees add texture to these shapes. Fall Mountain is fun to look at this time of year. Have you ever wondered why Fall Mountain has its distinctive shape - the steep cliffs on the southwest side and the gentler slopes to the east and north?

Fall Mountain was created about 400 million years ago, forged by folds and fractures of the Earth's crust. Since that time, the forces of weathering have been slowly erasing its once mighty profile by using water, wind and even acids. Water enters surface cracks between rocks over summer and fall. In winter, it turns to ice and expands, splitting rocks into smaller and smaller fragments. Tree roots will do the same. Moss and lichen release a mild acid that etches the rock surface. Then rainfall and gravity carry away the mountain bit by bit to the valley below. Fall Mountain is but a stub of its former self.

If that's not enough abuse over eons, Fall Mountain was also run over by a glacier, repeatedly! The last one began oozing out of northeastern Canada about 100,000 years ago. It was a time of enduring cold. More snow would fall than melt in a year. The weight of new snowfall turned snow beneath it to ice until it was thousands of feet thick. The weight of the ice caused the layers on the bottom to ooze outward from it. Glaciers were born. These rivers of ice moved



in all directions. With few barriers, the glacier swept across all of New England.

Imagine for a few minutes being Fall Mountain as a mile thickness of ice creeps over you, enveloping you in darkness. With no light, only the sounds endure, the groaning and crackle of heaving ice. The scraping and grinding of rocks embedded in the bottom of the glacier scratches your bedrock. Stones and soil are plucked from your ridge. Rocks on your westerly side are grabbed by the behemoth as the momentum of the glacier pushes onward. The glacier is black with the pulverized debris of its travels. The weight of the glacier is so immense; the Earth's crust subsides. Ocean water levels drop by 300 feet because so much fresh water is now residing in the glacier.

For thousands of years you endure the darkness, the sounds, and the weight until the movement slows. Gradually,

about 20,000 years ago, a new sound becomes audible. It's the trickle of water at first, soon the rush of water, finally a torrent of water as the glacier melts. As it pours over the new landscape, it carries off the sand, silt and clay it's been carrying, letting gravity and the raging waters determine where it's deposited. It might drop your boulders miles away.

A slow dawn emerges as the ice darkness recedes. Finally you feel the

sunshine on your warming rocks. You sense a change, a new look, a makeover of sorts! You've probably had at least a dozen feet of bedrock plucked off your ridgeline leaving a gentler slope on your northeasterly inclines. You're missing large blocks of stone from your southwest flank, leaving steep cliffs facing the Connecticut Valley.

Neighboring Mt. Monadnock and Mt. Kearsarge really display the claw marks of this huge beast. Many millennia later, their scratches and grooves give geologists clues as to where this glacier originated. Geologists give you a name, a classification. You are now considered a "roches moutonnee" or sheep rock. The abrasion or the "stoss" on the upstream side has given you gentle slopes on the north and east. Movement on the downstream or lee side has plucked rocks from the south and west sides. You're new shape is similar to the other hills and mountains region wide. But we'll still know you as our Fall Mountain.



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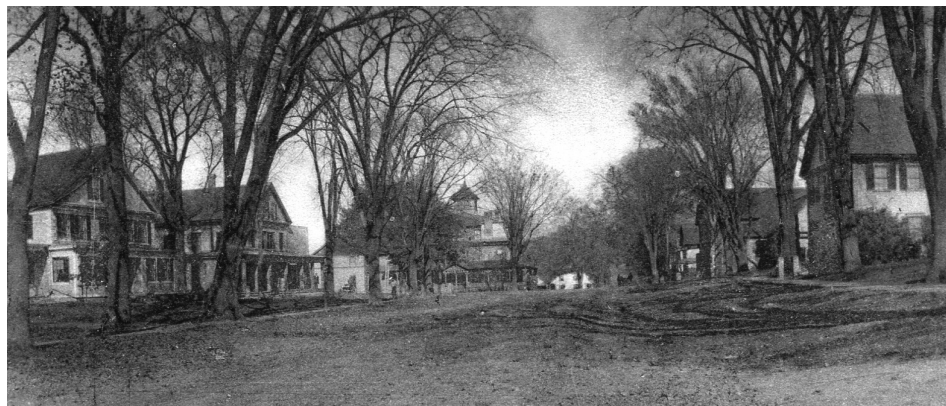
Trees - Planting Ahead

Not Everything Grows Overnight

Each month I spend time reviewing all Town minutes and agendas "gleaning" what I should share with you in the **Clarion**. A couple of sentences in the Selectboard minutes of January 9 stated that trees by the Library, on the Common and by the Town Hall need replacing. Mr. Dalessio said he would prefer larger trees. No decisions were made. But I came to a decision. A "new project" to work on because trees do not grow overnight.

Guy Bemis planted a sugar maple in front of my home in 1969. That twig grew, but sadly, as a large tree, it passed in 2016 - it was huge and prominent. I needed to do something to replace it. Looking over my collection of images of my home and the Common dating from the 1870s, it became evident that "Only the Trees are Different." I wrote a story woven with images of how trees have come and gone around the Common - but basically everything else remained the same. You can find a link to my story from the home page of the **Clarion** website. My "new" 12 year old tree was planted July 26, 2017.

In 1853, the Town voted to give permission to individuals, clubs or companies to set out shade and



Trees on Main Street circa 1904

ornamental trees upon the borders of the Common, the sides of streets and vacant public spots of land in Walpole Village. Currently, at both the south and north ends of the Common, substantial trees, planted by civic groups, stand tall. There are probably many other plantings in the village, on town property, that others may be aware of.

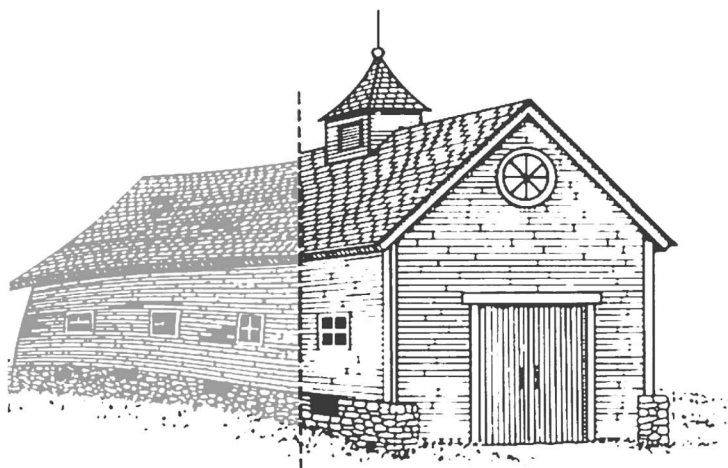
Main Street Walpole has always been known for its tree lined pathway. Both the Common and surrounding properties are proudly green in summer, with changing colors as winter approaches. The library needs replacement trees, and when I went to the post office just moments ago, a large tree was being removed just south of the library. It would be

appropriate for a knowledgeable group to step forward to advise and assist the Selectboard in preparing a logical tree replacement plan.

This is an Old Home Days year. Wouldn't it be nice to dedicate a number of trees during the festivities? I challenge you to step forward and help. Let's form a tree replacement advisory board, see what is needed, and take the necessary steps for tree selection, planting, and fund-raising to lessen tax payers' burden. Donations to the town, specified for such a purpose, are tax deductible. If enough people like the idea, let's get going. And, if this project and donations take off, the **Clarion** pledges \$500 for a start.

— Ray Boas

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Republican Matt Matern Offers Voters the Chance To Send a Message

the campaign trail here New Hampshire since launching my campaign for President at the statehouse in Concord in November.

Another proud tradition that has endured for one hundred years is the Granite State's preeminent role in choosing American Presidents, as 2020 marks the 100-year anniversary of New Hampshire's First In the Nation Presidential Primary. Far more worrisome than horse thievery and pilfered clotheslines is the fact that we are allowing our traditions of democracy, national unity, and common decency to be stolen from us by the current occupant of the White House.

In conversations with hundreds of New Hampshire citizens in dozens of diners, community forums, Rotary Club meetings, in Republican committee meetings, and on the street over the past two months, I hear a common theme. Granite Staters are tired of the President's divisive rhetoric and the drama he constantly creates on Twitter. They are troubled by his lack of character, bothered by his broken promises, and worried about the kind of America they will be leaving for their children and grandchildren. They know, deep down, that the Party of Abraham Lincoln seems to be abandoning the values it once held, and needs to be guided back to its legacy of compassionate conservatism and to its traditions of defending civil rights, protecting the environment, fiscal discipline, and personal responsibility.

After the "Horse Thieves" meeting we stopped in for dessert and coffee at chocolatier L.A. Burdick's, located on Main Street next to the restaurant owned in part by acclaimed documentary filmmaker Ken Burns, before braving the growing snowstorm to make the 75-mile drive east back to Manchester.

Inspired by what might possibly be the best mocha I've ever had in my life, I and members of my campaign team listened to the commencement address that Ken Burns delivered to the graduating class at Stanford in June of 2016 as we drove eastbound through the snow. The filmmaker's criticism of then-candidate Trump was prescient, as he warned against the potential election of an "infantile, bullying man who, depending on his mood, is willing to discard old and established alliances, treaties and long-standing relationships," and describing him as someone "who has never demonstrated any interest in anyone or anything other than himself and his own enrichment."

A President should provide leadership for our nation on the most pressing issues of the day, helping ensure the state of our union remains strong and our traditions of democracy are protected. A President should exemplify the values that reflect the best of what America stands for. And that's why I decided to run for this office -- to raise my voice in protest against a President who is leading us in the wrong direction. The Republican and Independent voters of the Granite State have not only the opportunity but the obligation to send a message to a divisive and self-centered President that he is failing our country.

Tax breaks have benefited the rich while the working class suffers. Totalitarian leaders have been embraced and allies abandoned. We have failed to address the serious threat of climate change. We were promised great healthcare plans that would insure everyone. And we were promised that federal budget deficits would be reined in, but instead the deficit has increased every single year of the Trump Administration -- last year it was nearly \$1 trillion, and this year the deficit is projected to exceed \$1.2 trillion. The ability of the Walpole "Horse Thieves" Society to live within its means while assessing only lifetime dues of \$2 on its members stands in stark contrast to the federal government's wasteful spending and massive expansion of the federal debt over the past three years.

I'm Matt Matern. I'm an entrepreneur and attorney from California. I've spent my career standing up to bullies, advocating for working families, and supporting efforts in my community that serve the homeless and protect our environment. I believe that American greatness comes from empowering working Americans and the middle class. I'm running for President to give the voters of New Hampshire and the country the chance to send a message and vote for a Republican candidate you can be proud of.

Have we given up on expecting our President to keep his promises and reflect our values? The Party of Lincoln deserves better. The American people deserve better. Join me, and send a message of no confidence to this President with your vote in New Hampshire's First in the Nation Primary.

Matt Matern is challenging Donald Trump in the Republican Primary and championing traditional Republican values and a vision of an America At Her Best. Learn more at www.matern2020.com.

The sky was gray and the snow had just begun to fall in the late afternoon as I left Manchester on a Saturday afternoon in late January. The "Walpole Society for Bringing to Justice Horse Thieves and Pilferers of Clothes Lines and Hen Roosts" was convening for their annual meeting as they began their 205th year, and I didn't want to miss it.

It was already dark by the time I reached the Town of Walpole, a small community nestled in the hills above the Connecticut River in Cheshire County. Walpole is just east of the border with the state whose junior U.S. Senator is apparently leading in the latest Democratic Primary polls here in New Hampshire despite the fact that his socialist platform of high taxes and government regulation are the antithesis of those embodied by the Granite State's "Live Free or Die" motto.

It was only a quarter past five and there was time to get a quick bite to eat at Spencer's Place on Westminster Street before the meeting of the "Horse Thieves" Society was scheduled to begin at the Walpole Town Hall a couple of blocks away. The lobster bisque and Reuben potato skins were highly recommended by our waitress, and I'm glad we took her advice.

The election of new officers was ably and efficiently presided over by outgoing Society President (and Selectman) Steve Dalessio. Another gentleman in the audience, explaining that he was a new member and this was his first meeting, asked if the "Horse Thieves" met more frequently throughout the year. No, the annual meeting was the only official meeting, explained newly-elected President Dave Westover. "But if we hear about an increase in horse thievery, or pilfered clotheslines, we might have to call a special meeting."

Apparently the last time the Riders of the Walpole Society for Bringing to Justice Horse Thieves and Pilferers of Clothes Lines and Hen Roosts actually recovered a stolen horse was nearly 100 years ago. But the group has endured, keeping up the New England tradition and embodying the best of the spirit of community, self-reliance, and self-governance I have seen manifest in countless ways as I've been on

WALPOLE SOCIETY

FOR BRINGING TO JUSTICE

HORSE THIEVES AND PILFERERS

ORGANIZED IN 1816.

INCORPORATED 1835.

Horse Thieves

New Officers Elected

It was a dark and stormy night on Saturday, January 18, 2020 when The Walpole Society for Bringing to Justice Horse Thieves and Pilferers of Hen Roosts and Clothes Lines ("Horse Thieves") held their annual meeting in the Walpole Town Hall and elected officers for 2020. Leading the new officers is David Westover as President and Chas Street as Vice President. Other officers are Robert Kimball, Treasurer; Ray Boas, Auditor; and Lewis LaClair as Clerk.

The Horse Thieves will hold their biennial banquet this fall at Alyson's Orchard. A firm date will be announced in a future article here in the Clarion. The banquet is a highlight of the Walpole social calendar, but may only be attended by Horse Thieves and their guests. Steve Dalessio, who led the Horse Thieves for the past three years, was elected to serve on the "Committee" which does the hard work making sure the banquet is a success. Dalessio was also elected to the 2021 nominating committee.

The Horse Thieves honor those who have been members for the longest time. The 12 most senior members are called "Riders," which means that, should a member's horse be stolen, those 12 would ride out to find the wicked thief and bring the horse back to its rightful owner. As you can tell, this is a tongue-in-cheek reference, as most members are in their 70's or 80's before they become "Riders." However, the riders are a hardy bunch, and in many years we have no turnover in that select group, and some of them still ride horses when they reach this exalted position. However, during 2019, four of our riders died, including

Harold Putnam who had been a horse thief for 64 years; Dr. Tucker Burr; Henry Fletcher; and David Chickering. Clerk Lewis LaClair read the list of our current riders at the meeting. Greg Macri, is now the most senior rider; new riders this year are Robert Rhodes, Ed Reardon, Jr., Albert Bushway, Jr., and Paul Galloway.

Three new members arrived early at the annual meeting and joined the Horse Thieves. There was unexpected excitement when three others walked into the meeting just before it started and asked to join. We asked for their street addresses and learned that two are

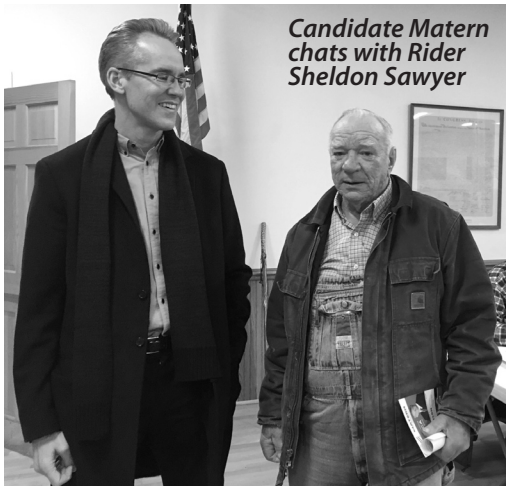
from Los Angeles and the third from Denver; they were Matt Matern, a Republican who is on the primary ballot for President of the USA, and two of his campaign staff. We told them that membership is only open to men who live in Walpole, and encouraged them to purchase

a house in town. They stayed to the end of the meeting, but still hadn't purchased a property in town, and so were unable to join. This may be the first time we've had a presidential candidate attend an entire annual meeting.

For those who are unfamiliar, membership in the Horse Thieves is open to any man 18 years or older who lives in Walpole, pays a \$2 lifetime fee and signs the membership book. If you are interested in joining, please contact Lewis LaClair, Clerk (LLaclair@Advancedrisk.com or 756-0001). The Walpole Horse Thieves were formed in 1816, and is one of the oldest such organizations in the country.

The Horse Thieves thank the outgoing officers and committee for their outstanding service.

- Lewis LaClair



*Candidate Matern
chats with Rider
Sheldon Sawyer*

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Chef Gould brings a new concept and new excitement to The Bellows Walpole Inn.

A graduate of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Academy of Culinary Arts and a 23-year veteran of professional kitchens, Chef Gould is currently the chef-at-large at The Bellows Walpole Inn in Walpole. Gould's love of food was kindled as a youth in his native New Orleans. After attending culinary school and completing his externship in D.C. at Lord Culpeper's, Gould returned to New Orleans and began working for Chef Paul Prudhomme, who spurred the influence of Cajun cuisine. The six and a half foot tall Gould says, "Laughter is brightest where food is best and good food equals good times." With a new concept and a new menu comes new excitement at The Bellows Walpole Inn.

Dinner hours: Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 5-9PM.
Please call for reservations • 603-756-3320



At the Library

Census Information Session

Join local Census Bureau Partnership Specialist, Brendan Drew, at the Walpole Town Library on Monday February 24th at 6:30 PM. Brendan will present some information about the upcoming census and answer any questions. This event is free and open to the public.

Check 'em Out Book Club

Check'em Out, a new book discussion group, will have its second meeting at the library on Saturday February 29th at 9:00 AM. Each month a staff member will choose a book for the discussion and lead the relaxed meeting. If you don't love the title chosen, the staff member will also choose a few read-a-likes so you can still participate in the discussion. If you're a speed reader, you can read a few of the chosen titles! The chosen title for the February discussion is *The Gifted School* by Bruce Holsinger. The chosen read-a-likes that will also be available are *Big Little Lies* by Liane Moriarty and *All We Ever Wanted* by Emily Griffin. This event is free and open to the public.

After School Movies

Join us February 13th at 3:30 PM, 18th at 10:00 AM and 27th at 3:30 PM. Check our website or Facebook as we get closer to

PHOTO PROVIDED



On-going book sale shelves

see which movies we'll be showing. All of our movie showings are free and open to the public.

Winter Break Open Play

Come play at the library on Thursday, February 20th from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM. We'll be closed to the public, but open for families to come read, make crafts and spend time with friends.

Friends of the Library On-Going Book Sale at the Library

In our new John & Carol Hubbard Community Room we have shelves dedicated to the Friends of the Library Book Sale. All books, movies and audio books are \$2 each. The money helps support programs and the book budget at the Walpole Town Library through the Friends of the Library group.

John & Carol Hubbard Community Room Reservations

Our new Hubbard Community Room policy can be found on our website at walpoletownlibrary.org. Library programs take priority for booking times, but outside groups are welcome to contact Justine to reserve the room for 2020. You can email Justine at jfafa@walpoletownlibrary.org or call the library at 756-9806 with any questions or to request the room.

– Justine Fafara



Members of the cast of Walpole Players mystery dinner "Murder on the Vine" set in an Italian winery in the '50s.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Murder on the Vine

Walpole Players to Present Mystery Dinner

The Walpole Players will present an original mystery dinner, "Murder on the Vine", in the newly renovated hall of St. John's Episcopal Church across from the Town Hall in Walpole on February 7th and 8th, with February 21st and 22nd as inclement weather dates. Doors open at 6:00 pm, with appetizers starting at 6:30 pm. Proceeds will go to the Church's fundraising campaign for roof repairs. The audience is encouraged to come in '50s costumes.

An entertaining cast of over a dozen actors will present a mystery set in an Italian winery over the course of an Italian themed dinner that includes appetizers, salad, entrée, and dessert. There will be a vegetarian option. Nonalcoholic beverages will be provided, and guests are invited to bring their own wine. Guests are encouraged to come in 1950s attire as part of the fun. The production has been written by Jeanie Levesque, who will direct, with help from members of the Walpole Players, and of the cast themselves. The audience will be asked to help solve the mystery, and prizes will be awarded for the most creative, the most correct, and the most original answer, as well as a prize for the best '50s costume.

Tickets for the dinner and entertainment are \$35 and are available through the Church. Seating is limited. For reservations and further information please call 603 756-2535 or email WalpolePlayers@gmail.com.

– Bill Lockwood



The Beauty of Trees

An art and nature program for kids from 6 to 12 years old will be presented by Helen Dalbeck of the Hooper Institute and Art after School on three consecutive Wednesdays - February 26, March 4 and March 11, from 3:15 to 5:00 PM at St. John's Episcopal Church, Walpole.

This art and nature series will focus on the village trees close to the church. We will go outside to meet the trees; notice, describe and sketch their unique shapes; and explore together their winter buds and branches. Back in art class, we'll paint a beautiful tree guide over three sessions. Create and learn with the Hooper Institute! Free snacks will be served.

To register go to <http://stjohnswalpole.org/after-school-programs/> or email artinfo@stjohnswalpole.org

Learn more about the Hooper institute on Facebook, www.hooperinstitute.org or hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net

– Helen Dalbeck

Memoir Writing

Group to Meet at the Library

We all have important stories to share. Don't you wish some of your family members and friends had recorded their histories so that you could re-live their experiences and pass on their stories? Your memoirs are just as important. Consider joining the Walpole memoir writing group which meets on the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM to 11:45 AM at the newly-renovated Community Room in the Walpole Town Library. There is no charge to attend. We are a friendly and supportive group with varying degrees of writing ability. We read our works aloud and offer gentle, helpful comments. You are welcome to stop by and share a story or just listen in to see if you might like to join our group. For more information, contact Stefan at 603-756-3290.

– Stefan Stefanko

Non-fiction Book Group

On Monday, February 10, the Non-Fiction Historic Book Group will discuss part three of *These Truths: A History of the United States* by Jill Lepore. This part covers the period 1866 to 1945. The discussion will be held 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the Bridge Memorial Library in Walpole.

– Ron MacLachlan

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Did You Know That...?

Excursions into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

...there was a train wreck in

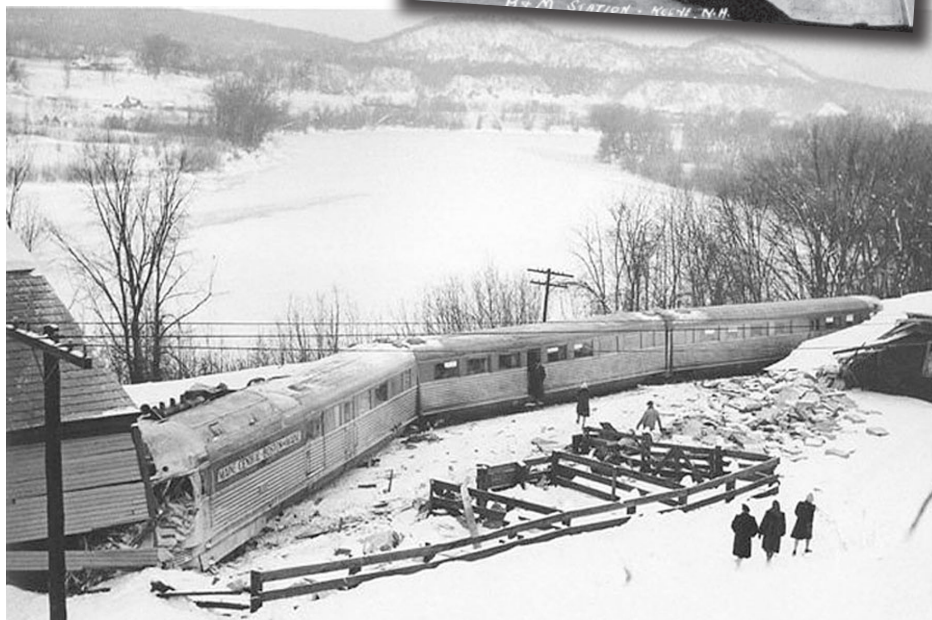
Walpole 75 years ago? En route to Boston, The Cheshire, the Boston and Maine Railroad's streamlined train derailed at Walpole's station on January 18, 1945. There were 60 passengers on board. Two were treated at the Rockingham Hospital for minor injuries.

Still reeling from the Great Depression, in the mid-1930s rail passenger traffic was falling, and railroads were seeking to discontinue unprofitable passenger service. A solution to cut costs and attract passengers was spawned by the Budd Company's introduction of the diesel-powered, streamlined, three car articulated Burlington Zephyr in 1934. The train was so popular more Zephyrs followed, and the Burlington was renamed the Pioneer Zephyr. Delivered February 10, 1935, to the Boston and Maine Railroad, The Flying Yankee was the third streamliner train, bringing the impressive sleek, welded aluminum lines to New England. The train's name changed depending upon its assigned route. The B&M ran the train as The Cheshire between Boston and White River Junction, via Bellows Falls, from December 1944 through April 1952.

The Cheshire was almost half full of its capacity of 132, thirty-two passengers having boarded the train in Bellows Falls. Just four miles later, shortly after 8:00 am, the train derailed at the Walpole station. The passengers "escaped with a shaking up." Details of the wreck were reported in the weekly Bellows Falls Times on January 25. "At Walpole, a housing near the front of the train dropped, causing the train to split a switch and enter a short side track. The side track curved into the Walpole freight house, and, as the famed train rounded the curve, it became derailed, first striking a Hubbard Farms storehouse, and ending by ploughing a few feet into the freight house.

"While no expert opinion of the damage has been given, it is believed that little damage had been done. The front of the cab is badly dented and full of splinters from the freight house, but apparently the motors and undercarriage of the train are unharmed. Both engineer Ernest Roberts of Bellows Falls and Fireman C. E. Gardner of Charlestown suffered slight cuts but were otherwise not injured. ... Both wooden buildings at the Walpole station were badly damaged by the crash. Egg crates and chicken feed, owned by Hubbards, were strewn about the area, while splinters flew in all directions. The

Bellows Falls Times staff photo shows The Cheshire derailed. The Hubbard Storehouse on the right was first hit, the train then stopping in the freight building on the left. Vermont mountains are in the distance over the frozen Connecticut River.



cab, where the engineer and fireman were at their stations, suffered broken windows, as well as being filled with chicken feed bags carried along from the Hubbard storehouse.

"How they escaped more serious injury is beyond comprehension, as can be seen from the picture of the cab in this issue. Engineer Roberts stopped the train in about 100 feet more than the length of the train."

Once the crash area was cleared of snow, debris and feed, the railroad's crews got the train back on the tracks and

moved it to the repair shops in Concord, New Hampshire. The Cheshire was back in service in October. The three car, air-conditioned train continued in service on various routes until retired May 7, 1957, after 2,735,600 miles. On static display at Edaville Railroad for 35 years, the Flying Yankee was moved to New Hampshire in 1993, having been purchased by the owner of Story Land. Now owned by the State of New Hampshire, the train is in Lincoln at the Hobo Railroad awaiting completion of its restoration.

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WOW

About the Women of Walpole

The Women of Walpole is a civic group of women who raise money for worthy undertakings that benefit the community of Walpole and its residents. Recipients of WOW's charitable giving have included Walpole residents experiencing emergency need, groups of Walpole that do not have their own organizational fundraising capability, or other area-wide groups that service Walpole residents. Over the years, recipients have included the Art After School program at St John's Episcopal Church, Fall Mountain Friendly Meals, North Walpole Warming Shelter, Fall Mountain Food Shelf, Swim Passes for needy families through the Walpole Recreational Department, scholarships to Walpole Summer School/Camp, Walpole Middle School Science Olympiad Team, Walpole School Snack Program, and Walpole Christmas/Community Fund. In addition, WOW provides funds for Christmas wreaths at the Town Hall and bulbs for the Walpole Library.

Membership is open to all women who reside or work in Walpole. WOW members enjoy opportunities for enrichment, education, and friendship with other Walpole women. WOW meets once a month in the afternoons from September until May. For meeting days and times, see the monthly Clarion Community Calendar for details.

— Susan Wyckoff



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Brownfield Update...

In November, The Town of Walpole announced the selection of Ransom Consulting Engineers and Scientists as the Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) to work with the Town to clean-up of the former Central Plating site. Steve Rickerich is the Ransom Project Director. He met recently with Peggy Pschirrer, the Walpole Project Director; Sarah Downing, Administrator, Walpole; and Mike McCluskey, DES Brownfield Coordinator; and Joe Ferrari, EPA Brownfield Project Officer to review the Walpole Community Relations Plan and Work Schedule. Once the Community Relations Plan is approved by the EPA, it will be circulated to the Walpole Community. This Community Relations Plan describes the Town's strategy to address the needs and concerns of the community and residents who may be affected by the proposed remediation of the brownfield, the Central Plating Site.

Under the terms of the Clean-up Grant awarded to the Town of Walpole, there will be three public hearings held at Town Hall. A Clean-up Task Force of community partners will provide local support and guidance. The Task Force will be announced next month as the Community Relations Plan becomes available to everyone. The first of three public meetings will probably be in April 2020.

It is my intent as the local Project Director to keep you informed as we move through this clean-up, which will take us into 2020.

— Peggy Pschirrer

You Need to Know That...

Pam No Stick Cooking Spray

Invented in 1957, is believed to be named for company cofounder's daughter.

Can be used to:

- **Speed up a sled**
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- **Help snow or dirt slide off a shovel**
Spray Pam No Stick Cooking Spray on the snow or garden shovel.

- **Prevent tomato sauce stains on plastic containers**

Spray the insides of the containers with Pam No Stick Cooking Spray before filling the containers with any food containing tomatoes.

- **Make cleaning a grater less grating**
Before using the grater, spray it with Pam No Stick Cooking Spray.

*Adapted from: Magic Brands - 1,185
Brand-New Uses for Brand-Name Products
by Joey Green.*

Friendly Meals

The Friendly Meals for senior citizens will hold their monthly dinner on Friday, February 28, at St. Peter's Church in North Walpole. The meal will be served at noon. On the menu will be mild vegetarian chili, wild rice pilaf with vegetables, broccoli Normandy, and birthday cake for dessert.

Friendly Meals are open to senior citizens (60+) from all area towns and are available on a donation basis. Reservations are essential, as seating is limited. Call Gia at 352-2253 by 10:30 AM on Wednesday, February 26.

Arrive early and have your blood pressure taken at the Nurse Is In clinic. A wellness nurse from Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services will be available from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. to check blood pressures and answer questions about home care and general health concerns you may have.

The Friendly Meals and Nurse Is In clinics are programs of Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services, a Monadnock United Way agency.

— Lara Larson



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The Walpole Clarion

Cross Country Skiing

Middle School Team Continues Strong Season

One of the winter sports that the Walpole Elementary School offers is cross-country skiing. Cross-country skiing is a fun and active way to enjoy winter time to its fullest potential. The team of cross country skiers includes eighth graders Ben Frithsen, Ben Tetu, Sydney Palmiotto, Etta Bea Harrison, and Olivia Desolates. Seventh graders on the team include James Paulette, Vaughn DiBernardo, Braydon Patch, Alexis Hill, Caleb Kinson, Francis Aldrich, David Northcott, and Emmaline Cook. Sixth graders include Owen Tetu and Miles Harrison. The ski team just recently earned first place in a race at Waterville Valley.



"The trail was pretty icy, but it was a good race and everyone did great," said Emmaline Cook.

"The trail was flat and skinny, but that's what we're good at," added Ben Frithsen.

Some upcoming races include the paintball race in Gunstock, Skiatholon at Proctor, and the New Hampshire series.

The entire team is ready for the next races. "The upcoming races have got everyone excited, especially me," said James Paulette.

– Francis Aldrich (Grade 7)



PHOTO: Emma Soohoo (Grade 8)

WES Goes Bowling

On Monday, January 13th, 2020, the Walpole Elementary School 6-8 grade classes, went bowling in Keene, NH, at Yankee Lanes.

Most students went on the quick trip. Those who did not go stayed at school and completed schoolwork.

When they got to the bowling alley, students got their bowling shoes and split into groups with their friends, about six people per group. They then had the opportunity to bowl as many games as they could in the hour and a half that they were there.

Sixth grader Riley Beckwith, when asked about her favorite part about bowling, stated, "Just bowling in general, and the food was so good."

This was Walpole Elementary School's most recent Community Day. Each month, our school gets together as a way to continually improve our school climate and atmosphere. Our school does this is to build our community and to allow our 6th, 7th and 8th graders to interact more. It takes only about an hour each month, but it makes our school into a stronger community.

– Kelsey Fillion & Siera King (Grade 6)



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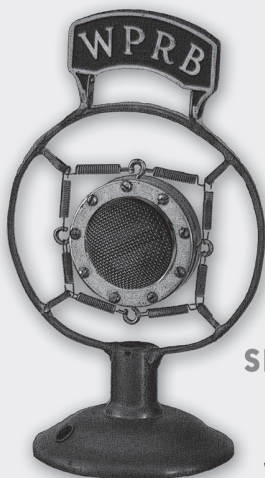
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Movie Review

Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker

With a remarkable 6.9 out of 10 rating, this fantasy, sci-fi film has many great reviews, fulfilling many incredible and creative scenes. The movie is about a discovery, sending many into a shock and panic. When it is discovered that the evil Emperor Palpatine didn't actually die from Darth Vader, the rebels establish a race against the clock to find out where he is. Finn and Poe lead the Resistance to put a stop to the First Order's plans to form a new Empire, while Rey anticipates her confrontation with Kylo Ren.



Released December 20, 2019, director J.J. Abrams is incredibly proud of this film. However, not all people agree. With many mixed reviews, some appreciate the experience itself, such as the lights and fun intense scenes. However, some didn't exactly enjoy the storyline and storytelling.

While the film has had many mixed reviews, this viewer can see both sides. Regardless of how you feel about the culmination of the new Star Wars trilogy, it is an easy film to enjoy with both amazing visual effects and intense action scenes.

— Malesa Seavey (Grade 8)

WES Boys' Basketball

Team Continues Improvement

The Walpole Elementary School boys' basketball team is continuing to improve. They are currently 8-2, with those two losses against Marlborough and Chesterfield.

Walpole has played Chesterfield twice, Marlborough twice, Kurn Hatten twice, Dummerston twice, Leland and Gray twice, and Westmoreland once. The team has yet to play Hinsdale. The team's usual starters are seventh grader Ledger Willett; and eighth graders Aidan Parrott, Zach King, Jacob Hearne, and Porter Willett.

There are several other players that contribute to the team's success. These players include eighth grader Eric Franklin, seventh graders Tyson Patch, Trenten Hill, Zach Conley, and sixth graders Max Wyman, Evan Parker, and Jack Nolan. Walpole has played several strong teams, including Chesterfield, Marlborough, and Westmoreland. The coaches are Jeff Faulkner and Allen Parker. The coaches push the players to work their hardest, and believe that Walpole has a good chance to win the postseason tournament.

— Evan Parker & Owen Tetu (Grade 6)



Annual School Sleepover

On Friday, January 17, the Walpole Elementary School held their annual 8th grade sleepover.

On this day, the 8th graders returned to the school around seven at night and stayed at the school overnight, just as the name implies. Students started off by playing basketball and dodgeball in the gym for a couple of hours. Around nine, students gathered together in a classroom to enjoy pizza and a funny movie. Finally, the students had the opportunity to play full school hide and seek with all the class doors open.

The students then went to sleep in sleeping bags and woke up to a breakfast of pancakes, cereal, and sausage. It is a great tradition and tons of fun. Walpole's eighth graders look forward to this night each year.

— Patrick Manning (Grade 8)



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<https://thewalpolean.org/>

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WALPOLE OLD HOME DAYS 2020

LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

*Walpole Old Home Days
committee needs your
help designing the 2020 logo!*

**THE SLOGAN THIS YEAR IS
"MAIN STREET MEMORIES"**

Entries must be submitted by February 14, 2020
Email to sable@gallowayservices.com

**SHOW YOUR TOWN
PRIDE WITH AN
ORIGINAL DESIGN**

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\$50 &
FREE SWAG!**



Recycling effectively in 2020 revolves around an ability to embrace change. Sixty degree January days are an indicator of the change in our environment; while the recyclable commodity market mirrors change in the way we must approach recycling. In 2019, the market for mixed paper deteriorated to a point where many towns in New Hampshire are now paying to ship this commodity.

Walpole has cleaned up our OCC contamination to meet the highest standards of purity asked of us by mills processing the material. By separating OCC/mixed paper/newspaper, we have been able to avoid paying the shipping cost "penalty" that other transfer stations around the state have been experiencing. The value created by thorough separation has been supporting a free ride for outgoing mixed paper. Although Walpole recycling hasn't yet paid to ship mixed paper, we need to focus on the valuable content within the mixed paper gaylords that has not been separated in order to alleviate the volume of mixed paper going forward.

Office paper is a future commodity at the Walpole recycling center that can fetch value on today's market. It will require more work, space, and time to manage, but this change is looming. The construction of the new and improved Reuse Center should provide us with the space we need to start separating a new commodity.

There have been transfer stations in the region that have stopped recycling plastic, which has prompted an increase in attendance at the Walpole recycling center. Please encourage new attendees to follow the recycling procedures in Walpole, and keep recycling!

To begin 2020, we have a new member of our Walpole recycling center team. Please say hello to new Recycling Attendant and North Walpole native Patricia (Patty) Whitcomb. Patty, Shaena, Greg, and myself (Ben) are available to assist with questions or support in all of your recycling needs.

A quick shout out to my daughter Ella Hoy for playing holiday songs on her ukulele at the recycling center on a cold Christmas Eve Day. She raised \$165 for the food shelf, and told me she had a great time performing for a good cause. Thank you Walpole residents!

Keep recycling Walpole.

- Ben Hoy

Old Home Days

2020 Main Street Memories

As we look forward to warmer weather, it's exciting to remember that Walpole's triennial Old Home Days celebrations are scheduled this summer for June 24-28. The Old Home Day Committee is already hard at work planning a week of fun and festivities that will feature a parade, fireworks, performances by the Walpole Players, a pet show, street dance and the always popular booths and activities on the Common.



Walpole-based community groups and local non-profits serving the Walpole community are invited to reserve space on the Common for the festivities on Saturday, June 27. Local non-profit community groups may reserve space for displays, exhibits, games, concessions and fundraising activities by contacting David and Linda Edkins at dmedkins@comcast.net or calling 756-4249.

- David Edkins

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Gleanings

from the Town Minutes

Selectboard - January 9 - Mr. Tom Beaudry was present to request that the Selectboard support the letter he was presenting at this meeting to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the Great River Hydro relicensing. It can then go to Town Meeting. He travels up-and-down the Connecticut River and tells people the differences between above the dam and below the dam. He displayed a sign that Great River Dam gave to the Town of Charlestown that is posted near their Wastewater plant. The water constantly fluctuates up and down. There are places where the bank has gone in 40-to-50 feet and usually it is prime agriculture land.

Police Revolving Fund Request: A request was received from the Police Department to purchase (4) Ice Rescue Suits (Mustang IC9002v2) for the total cost of \$3,600 (\$900/suit) out of the Walpole Police Revolving Fund. These are the same suits the Fire Department uses.

Walpole Grange

Hosts Meet The Candidates Night

Walpole Grange will host a public Meet the Candidates Night on March 3, at 7:30 PM at the Walpole Town Hall. All candidates for town office in Walpole, as well as candidates for office in the Fall Mountain Regional School District (SAU 60), will be invited to attend. Each candidate will be given an opportunity to make a brief statement and then take questions from the audience. There is no charge to attend this event. Following the candidate presentations, light refreshments will be served by the members of Walpole Grange. For more information please contact Leroy Watson, Vice President, Walpole Grange, at lawatsonjd@aol.com or by cell phone 603.903.9012.

- Leroy Watson

Draft Warrant Articles were reviewed as follows: Article 2: "Bond for the Broadband"; Article 3: "Budget"; Article 4: "Town Buildings - \$200,000"; Article 5: "Truck for Highway Department"; Article 6: "Highway Capitol Reserve Fund"; Article 7: "Vehicle for Police Department"; Article 8: "Equipment for New Fund"; Article 9: "Six Motorola Dual Band Portable Radios"; Article 10: "Police Capitol Reserve Police Vehicle"; Article 11: "Police Station Study"; Article 12: "Single Use Plastic Bags"; Article 13: "Resolution" - Great River Hydro Relicensing - Federal Energy Regulatory Commission - Connecticut River and Erosion.

Zoning Board - January 13 - General Provisions, Section L of the Zoning Ordinance covers Bed and Breakfast Establishments. After some discussion about how many Airbnbs there are in the town and how they are "under the radar," the Board may have to make a slight change to the title of the ordinance to make Airbnbs owners aware that they need to come to go to the Planning Board to get Site Plan approval and be in compliance with the ordinance. It was suggested that Ms. Leclerc get in touch with Town Counsel, Jeremy Hockensmith, as how to proceed.

Walpole Seniors

The Walpole Seniors will hold their next regular luncheon at 12:00 noon on February 17, 2020, at the First Congregational Church. We will welcome William Stahl, a board member of the Fall Mountain Regional School District, representing Walpole. He will discuss the proposal of Charlestown withdrawing from the district. We will also welcome Steven Dalessio, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen in Walpole. He will lead a discussion concerning issues on the Walpole Warrant, specially bringing broadband to Walpole. Guests are welcome. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share with the members. Bring a friend and enjoy some great food and fellowship.

- Jan Martin

Walpole AED Locations

(Automated External Defibrillators)

This information could save a life.

Do you know where to find the closest AED in town in the event of a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) emergency?

Locations:

Walpole School - Elementary
(during school season)
8 Bemis Lane

Walpole Town Pool
(during summer season)
14 Bundy Lane

Walpole School - Primary
18 Primary Lane

North Walpole School
17 Cray Road, NW

Walpole Town Hall
34 Elm Street

Walpole Recycling Center
Rte 123, North Walpole

Dartmouth-Hitchcock, Walpole Clinic
11 Westminster Street

Bensonwood Homes
6 & 10 Blackjack Crossing Road

LaValley's Building Supply
40 Meadow Access Lane

Hooper Golf Course
166 Prospect Hill Road

Congregational Church
15 Washington Street

Chamberlain Machine
14 Darling Lane

Alyson's Orchard
Wentworth Road

Bowman Dental
48 Meadow Access Lane

Hubbard Park
30 Upper Walpole Road

Savings Bank of Walpole
North Meadow Plaza

Police & Fire vehicles in Walpole and North Walpole are also AED-equipped.

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From the Far Side of Walpole

Observations by William Moses
February!

Here comes February, the month of Holidays, celebrated and uncelebrated.

One not widely celebrated is February 18, the "Cows milked while flying in an airplane Day", also known as the "Milk High Club!"

But the one that all humans in a relationship celebrate is Valentine's Day. At least most ladies hope they do, and most males will if they are looking for more than a cold shoulder and a hot tongue for dinner!

It just so happened that on a recent Valentine's Day I stopped by my friend Elwud's house to see what was going on. He saw me coming up the walkway and came out to greet me.

"Whatcha all doing here on this fine day?" he says all smiles. I can see things appear to be in good spirits here, so I says, "Well, I just stopped by to see if you remembered what today was."

"Yessir, I sure did. Got up, got the fire goin' in the stove and cooked Velma up her favorite breakfast!"

"And what might that be?" I asked.

"Why, corned 'possum with sauerkraut, with a side of fried Rocky Mountain Oysters; a large glass of buttermilk, with a shot of Captain Morgan. Get her day off on a happy, positive start!"

I thought I was going to lose the breakfast I had had earlier after hearing that menu! "Good Lord man, and she ate that?"

"Sure did, and had a grin from ear to ear. When I came out to greet you, she said, 'Don't be too long, and giggled as I went out the door."

At that moment, the front door opened and Velma stood there in her best flannel nightgown and in a sing-songy voice said, "Honey, come on in, I've got a surprise for you!"

I didn't want to ask, but the questions must have been all over my facial expressions because Elwud shook his head and said; "Really, you have an evil mind! Velma has made me up my favorite 'coon meat pie with Elderberry wine toppin'. I ain't got time to yap with you. Sure hope your Valintime's day's as special as mine." With that comment he disappeared through the door.

I headed for the store for a box of chocolates and some flowers and maybe some DD donuts just to be safe.

Enjoy February and Happy Valentine's Day!

Walpole Players! Present

Murder

February 7 & 8
St. John's Episcopal Church
Parish Hall
Doors open at 6PM

on the Vine

Mystery Dinner

Tickets: \$35. Limited Seating.
To Reserve, call 756-2535 or email walpoleplayers@gmail.com



FROM THE CLARION...

A sampling of what we've reported after more than 8 years of publication:

One Year Ago (February, 2019) - A group of local residents have been working for the past two years on a way to help seniors continue living independently in their homes longer. Called 'River Valley Seniors At Home' (RVSAH). RVSAH is currently in its launch phase.

Three Years Ago (February, 2017) - After several months of workshops and public hearings, on January 10 the Walpole Planning Board, by unanimous vote, recommended that the current zoning ordinance be modified to allow Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) in all districts that allow single family residential housing

Five Years Ago (February, 2015) - WeddingWire, the nation's leading online wedding marketplace, has named Alyson's Orchard as a winner of the prestigious WeddingWire Couples' Choice Awards® 2015 for Ceremony in Walpole.

Seven Years Ago (February, 2013) - Owned and operated by the Graves family for 251 years, Great Brook Farm is a cherished local landmark in Walpole. It's where locals pick up raw milk, maple syrup and ice cream from the Milkhouse. Now it's also a place that is in part protected forever thanks to a conservation easement purchased by the Monadnock Conservancy.

MILESTONES



Born

**Claire Scarlett &
Ruth Clementine Edkins**

December 20, 2019

**To Shannon Lamb
& Kendall Edkins**

Grandparents:

**David & Linda Edkins
of Walpole**

**Kathleen Lamb
of Lowell, MA**

**Thomas & Nancy Lamb
of Hookset, NH**

Born

Reid Taavi Huoppi

**12:33AM, January 12, 2020
7lb, 5 oz, 20"**

To David & Hannah Huoppi

Grandparents:

**Jan & Jean Kobeski
of Walpole**

**Rich & Marge Huoppi
of Pomfret Center, CT**



Born

Macon Herron Goins

**12:51AM, January 13, 2020
8 lb, 7 oz, 20.5"**

To Hadyn Eseyo Goins

Grandparents:

**Tom & Andrea Goins
of Walpole**



Passed

Doris P. Dustin

August 29, 1924 - January 4, 2020

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:

rayboas@comcast.net

March issue deadline: February 21

Tara Sad: Copy-Editing

Jan Kobeski: Layout & Design

The Walpole Clarion on-line:

thewalpoleclarion.com



PUBLISHER'S CORNER

I have never started crafting my thoughts and comments to share here so early. Deadline is less than 12 hours away, and February's twenty-four pages are packed. So, I can reflect on this issue early.

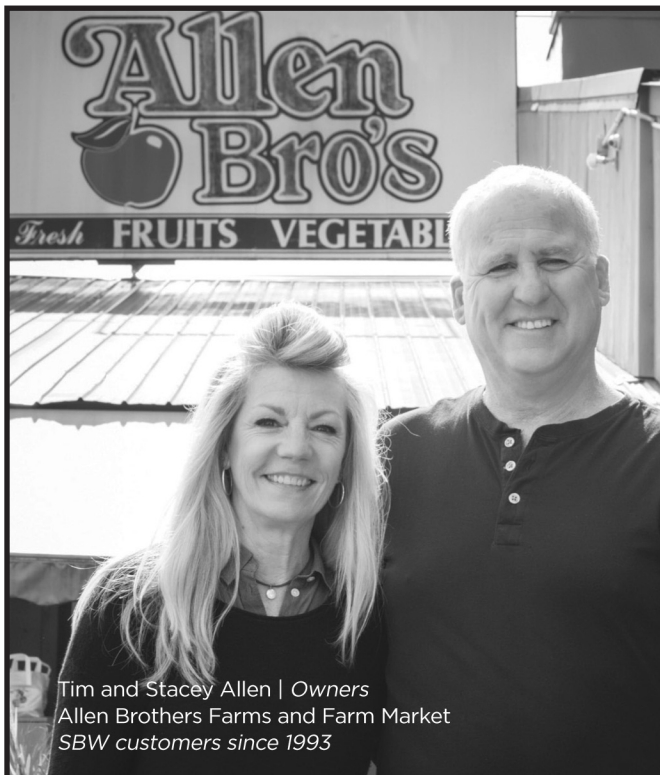
There is much here for you to read, be aware of, and consider. And the March issue will have even more, in all likelihood, as we approach Town Meeting time. The Withdrawal of Charlestown is the "hot issue." Translating the numbers in but another way, I personally could face a property tax increase of about 12%. But moving to the more positive, the Conservation Commission invites you to provide your thoughts on their survey form, broadband is moving forward, and there are many upcoming activities for you to join in on. Just read through carefully.

And, please look at page 9 - *Trees - Planting Ahead*. Reading Selectboard minutes sparked an idea - a beneficial community project. A project looking forward to survey our trees, and plant replacements now for our enjoyment today, and for that of generations of Walpoleans in the future. Sharing this idea with the Selectboard, they liked it. So please contact me, and let's get started.

- Ray Boas, Publisher

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“SBW has helped us sow the seeds of success.”



Trees on the Common circa 1877...Planting Ahead, See page 9