

Walpole Runs on Volunteers

From Peggy's Desk

On a sunny Wednesday in mid-October on my way into Town Hall for a Community Power Committee meeting, I was caught by the appearance of a young women roller skating up and down the newly paved Elm Street. There was a soft breeze, no traffic as I stared in awe of her grace as she glided up and down the street. Ah, to have the energy, the speed she exhibited. And, best of all, she was on new asphalt – no mud, no dusty road. The last details of the street will be completed by the time you read this. Yes, it took longer than expected, but the memory of inconvenience will fade. Thank you everyone for your patience and good humor.

This morning I woke to the sounds of the arrival of enormous trucks pulling into the Brownfield site to begin hauling all the dirt under those mountains of cover to Pennsylvania. We are slightly behind schedule because it took longer than expected to find the trucks -which came up from Guilford, CT, to haul the contaminated soil. All the concrete on the site will be hauled to Canada. The next step is to fill the empty site with clean soil and level the area. In March, I will present a warrant asking the voters to approve the paving of the site for about forty parking spaces and the addition of three electric charging stations.

We are actively seeking federal funds for mitigating the damage done in Town on July 29 by torrential rain. Some of the most hazardous areas, such as Mill Road and Cold River Road, have already been repaired or are in the process of repair. We too have been hit by delays in receiving necessary goods such as culverts.

Continued on Page 4



PHOTO: KRISTIE LISAI

Marya and Terry Holcombe and their dog, Cash, after receiving the 2019 Charles Albert Dickinson Award

Kurn Hattin Honors Terry and Marya Holcombe

On October 8, Walpole residents, philanthropists and longtime Kurn Hattin supporters, Terry and Marya Holcombe, were belatedly (due to COVID) honored with the 2019 Charles Albert Dickinson (CAD) award.

The CAD Award, established in 2013, is given annually in recognition of an organization or individuals whose philanthropic commitment embodies the mission of New England Kurn Hattin Homes for Children. Named for founder Reverend Charles Albert Dickinson, the award recognizes those who make a significant contribution to the field of child

Continued on Page 3

Walpole Town Clerk's Office

NEW HOURS!!!

Effective October 31, 2021

Monday	7-12 & 1-6
Tuesday	9-12 & 1-7:30
Wednesday	9-12 & 1-5
Thursday	8-12 & 1-4:30
Friday	CLOSED

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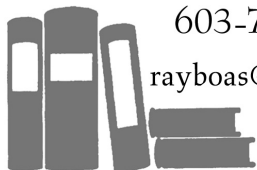
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Library Board

Jeanne Ramey and Shirley Capron Leaving Library Board

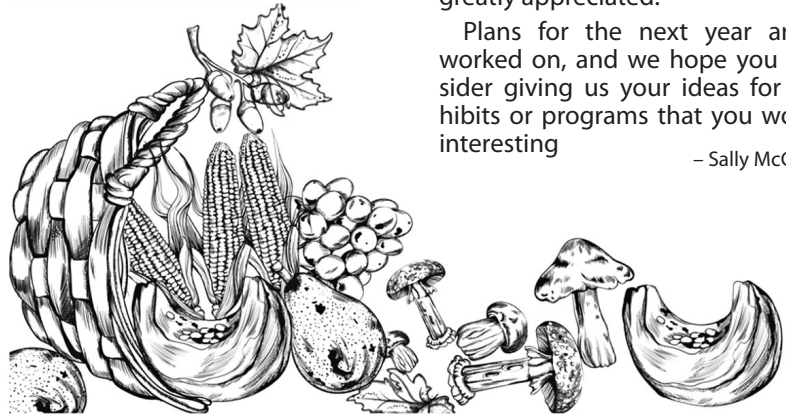
Jeanne Ramey and Shirley Capron both resigned from the library board in September after extensive service. The board would like to thank these two ladies for their tireless contributions to the library and to the Walpole community. Jeanne and Shirley both cared deeply for the library and it showed in their work.

Jeanne Ramey is moving to Hingham, MA to be closer to her daughter. Jeanne was elected to the board in 2006. As leader of the buildings and grounds committee, Jeanne kept a keen eye on the building and the gardens and, most recently, was instrumental in the selection of décor for the expansion.

Shirley Capron has served as a volunteer board member for the library for over 50 years. For most of those years Shirley was the Secretary for the board, submitting timely and detailed minutes for every meeting.

The Library Board of Trustees will be recommending new trustees to be appointed by the Walpole Selectman to serve the remainder of both of their terms.

— Amy Howard, for the Board of Trustees



Historical Society

The 2021 season for the Walpole Historical Society has come to a close. This was a "shortened" opening for us but we feel it has been very successful and satisfying to all. Our nine weeks brought in about 150 visitors and many positive comments on the appearance of the museum, the fresh exciting exhibits, and the appearance of our piano-forte looking so beautiful and waiting for its debut in 2022. The gift shop offered many values for gift giving or for our homes.

We thank all of the people who visited us, and especially those volunteers who staffed the building over these past nine weeks. To coin a popular phrase, "We couldn't do it without you". You are greatly appreciated.

Plans for the next year are being worked on, and we hope you will consider giving us your ideas for new exhibits or programs that you would find interesting

— Sally McGaffigan

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Continued from Page 1, Holcombes

welfare and help to transform the lives of children and families forever.

A beautiful cast crystal relief sculpture, which features an image of Reverend Dickinson, was presented to the Holcombes. The sculpture was designed and created by Vermont artist, Robert DuGrenier who has worked in collaboration with architects and designers to create custom glass sculptural installations in locations around the world. "We are thrilled to present the 2019 CAD award to Terry and Marya Holcombe for their unwavering dedication to, and support of, Kurn Hattin," said Sue Kessler, Assistant Executive Director.

Over the years, the Holcombes' generous support of Kurn Hattin has included: providing essential classroom equipment, sponsoring student trips and campus events, installing crosswalks for safe access between the upper and



PHOTO PROVIDED

Unveiling the award

lower campus, serving as Trustee and Incorporator, volunteering, and offering tutoring support for many of our children.

The Holcombes commented that they became connected to Kurn Hattin after making a memorial gift in 2000. Later, they found a business card in their door thanking and inviting them to visit campus and have been enthusiastic ambassadors and supporters ever since. The Holcombes said that they will continue to financially support and share news of the wonderful work Kurn Hattin does with children with their friends and family.

Since 1894, Kurn Hattin Homes for Children has helped thousands of children and their families by offering a safe home and quality education in a nurturing environment. Its mission: Kurn Hattin transforms the lives of children and their families forever. Follow their journey: kurnhattin.org

The week before Halloween saw the Common play host to a delightful platoon of scarecrows (including a cow) courtesy of the Pinnacleview 4H.

PHOTO: JAN KOBESKI



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The 2021 Turkey Trot 5k is Back



On November 25th – Thanksgiving morning - gather your flock and come run before you gobble! The Thanksgiving morning run is a replacement for its predecessor 'The Run for the Wax', a long-time fundraising event for the Fall Mountain Cross-Country Running and Skiing teams. The funds raised over the years have helped supply wax, equipment, team clothing and trips for the team.

Currently, there are 35 skiing and running athletes between the middle and high school programs. Fall Mountain has a long legacy of athletes competing at the top level of NH running and skiing. In the past several years, the high school boys' ski team has captured the boys' DIII State Title, DIII State runner's up title multiple times, CVC championship title, and had many individual qualifiers for the U16 and Eastern Championship weekends. The high school girls' ski team has also placed as state runners up, CVC Champions, and sent several on to the Championship weekends. Middle school skiers have won their own state title, and, in 2021, won the title of indi-

vidual State Champion. The running team has had both male and female representation at the Meet of Champions and individuals getting named to the NH All State CC Team. In 2021, George Gowdy, FM alumni who now skis for St. Lawrence University, skied in the NCAA Championships held in Jackson, NH.

The support we get from our community is imperative in keeping these programs strong and successful. THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed over the years!

Important Details for the 2021 Turkey Trot:

- Thursday, November 25th
- On-line Registration at Run-reg.com
- Registration on the Walpole Common starting at 8:00 AM
- Race Start at 9:00 AM
- Entry fee - suggested \$20 donation, students \$15
- Prize Table - donations from student athletes featuring Thanksgiving treats (more donations for the prize table are welcomed!)

Lace up your sneakers, gather your friends and family to cheer you on, come on out as a community and support a great program and some fine student athletes.

For more information call: (603) 756-9258 or (603) 445-5104

Thank you! Gobble Gobble

– Holly Gowdy

Continued from Page 1, From Peggy

Route 12, north of the intersection of 12A, continues to be under construction, sending traffic out on I-91 and around the area. The

DOT is very good in sending weekly reports; the reconstruction of the road and its proximity to the railroad lines is complicated and demanding.

The Hooper Institute had a splendid day for its Fall Festival with an attendance of over two hundred people – lots of happy children petting the sheep and cows brought up to Hooper by the Pinnacle View 4-H group. We all watched a large sheep being expertly sheared as we ate fresh popcorn and drank cider made in an old-fashioned cider press.

Our Recreation Department had two movie nights: one in Whitcomb Park and one in North Walpole – North Walpole takes the attendance prize for about fifty people enjoying a movie night. There will be more movie nights next spring.

We need additional members for our Recreation Committee: if you are willing to help plan sports schedules, pool activities, pickle ball and or tennis, please contact me or Kraig Harlow through Town Hall.

We offer fresh air and creative outdoor time.

Many of you have been recording the glorious color this fall, the clear skies – perhaps we can persuade you to put together a collage of Walpole for display in Town Hall. While I believe Covid will always be with us, I am also persuaded life will return to some semblance of normal as we move toward full meetings in person, active Players' productions and increased use of Town Hall.

Please be alert to announcements through the Walpolean and the Clarion of upcoming Public Meetings on several topics: Class VI roads, Gates and Bars, Community Power, and the 2022 Budget, to name a few.

'Til next month... – Peggy Pschirrer

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Public Hearing November 10

A public hearing will be held November 10, 6PM at the Town Hall.

The hearing will address Whipple Hill Road, the allowable use of snowmobiles or other vehicles and how the road is accessed. Also addressed will be if gates and bars can be locked.

Seniors Nature Walk

On October 1, the River Valley Seniors at Home sponsored an Autumn Nature Walk at Distant Hill Gardens on March Hill Road in Walpole. Nature Guide Sarah Webb, along with Michael Nerrie, who has developed this environmental and horticultural learning center to educate both children and adults, spent over two hours directing the groups' eyes to interesting things as they ambled along the mile long gravel paths. At the mid-point of the walk the dozen attendees were treated to cider and munchies.

Not a step was taken without Sarah or Michael pointing out a new wonder of nature. Mushrooms were everywhere as a result of all the recent rains. Few of us had ever seen such a proliferation. It was fascinating to learn that as a fungus, the majority of mushroom growth is underground. But with moisture what sprouts above ground from the network below the surface is analogous to apples growing on a tree - the fruit, but not always an edible fruit. Various trees and bushes were identified and discussed, as well as invasive species. Attendees all agreed that it was an extremely enjoyable and worthwhile walk.

River Valley Seniors at Home is a local non-profit to assist members to age in place with the type of interdependent living that helps make aging alone for longer possible. This is accomplished via a network of volunteer and paid services with members helping each other.

— Ray Boas



Michael Nerrie (left) revealing nature's beauty and secrets



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First Congregational

November Events

Sunday, November 7, we will observe All Saints Sunday, with a special Communion Service, in which the names of members and friends who died in the past year will be lifted up in the liturgy. If you have a loved one whose name you would like included, let us know by calling the church office by noon, November 3.

Saturday, November 13, we will be having a drive-by-and-drop-off Food Drive from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the church to benefit the Fall Mountain Food Shelf. Nonperishable Thanksgiving items are encouraged.

Sunday, November 14, we will observe Veterans Sunday. The worship service will feature poetry by veterans and service member.

Wednesday, November 24, we will have our annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon at the Walpole Post Office.

Sunday worship is held each week at 10:00 AM. Worship in-person and indoors has resumed. We continue to require masks in the building, and social distancing until further notice, out of an abundance of caution. We continue to make the sanctuary worship service on Zoom.

Communion Sunday is every first Sunday of the month. All are welcome at the table. We currently use Covid-safe, sealed communion elements. Our practice on Zoom has been for worshippers on the internet to take part using their own bread and cup.

Bible Study meets every Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 PM, led by Pastor Richard Malmberg. We are currently studying the book of 1 Samuel.

Join First Congregational Church of Walpole Worship and Study on Zoom using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87236977806?pwd=YkxyK2FwY1oyTct5cXYzREZwL1lxZDZ09>

The Zoom link can also be found on our website: www.walpolenhucc.org as well as on the church's Facebook page.

– Richard Malmberg

St. John's Episcopal

Annual Fall Fundraiser

Good news! Although we will not be holding our traditional indoor Holiday Fair, we will have a pre-order Thanksgiving pie sale with pickup on Saturday, November 20, and a second pre-order sale on Saturday, December 18 for our famous cookie selection.

The following is a list of our offerings for pickup on Saturday, November 20 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at St. John's. Order Early (by November 12) before we fill up. Pay at pickup.

Pies: "regular" apple (always in demand from this baker!), crumb top apple (new item), cranberry-apple (a lattice pie with raisins, nuts, citrus zest), traditional pumpkin, mixed berry (four berries), and blueberry at \$18 each. All pies have homemade crusts.

Potato Rolls - at \$8 for 1 dozen rolls or \$4 for six rolls. Delicious with your turkey.

Caramel Tarts – an 8-inch rich tart with hazelnuts, dark chocolate, cream and espresso which freeze and refreeze gracefully. They feed 4-6 big eaters or 6-8 light eaters at \$12.

Please order by emailing us at orders@stjohnswalpole.org. Or you may call 603-

756-4533 and leave a message (including name, phone number, and order). We will accept orders through Friday, November 12, so that we have time to prepare your dessert.

(Stay tuned for more info on the subsequent cookie sale in the December Clarion.) Thank you for your support of our fundraiser.

– Marilyn Wilking



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Wreath-making

On Friday, December 3, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM, and Saturday, December 4, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon, the Hooper Institute will be hosting a Wreath-making Workshop at 165 Prospect Hill Road, Walpole

The cost is \$30 for an evergreen wreath on a grape-vine base, or \$40 for an evergreen wreath on a moss ring base. We will use all natural materials and greens



to make a fragrant, long lasting, and truly beautiful seasonal wreath. Both types of bases will be pre-made then decorated by you with materials we supply. This is a Hooper Institute original skill-based workshop. Pre-registration with payment is required.

Call 756-4382, 566-2805, or email hoo-perinstitute@myfairpoint.net. Space is limited so call soon! Thank you

– Helen Dalbeck

Scouts Food Drive

Save the Dates

On November 6, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon, Cub Scout Pack 299 and Boy Scout Troop 299 will be holding their Scouting for Food Drive. We will be handing out information tags for the annual 'Scouting for Food Drive' at the following locations: Walpole Post Office, Walpole Recycling Center, Tractor Supply and Shaw's.

Then, on November 13, 2021, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon, we will be at the same locations collecting non-perishable food items (no glass please) and monetary donations. Pet food is also greatly appreciated. All food and monetary donations go directly to the Fall Mountain Food Shelf.

– Deb Pawelczyk

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Hooper Institute

Thank You!

This season I am so grateful to our local businesses, farmers and community members for their ongoing support of the Hooper Institute. Their donations of goods and services, mentoring, sponsorships and more help us continue our mission to "Educate the youth and citizens of Walpole in agriculture, environmental science, botany, forestry and soils". A special recognition goes to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and the Henry L. and Patricia J. Nielson Fund who funded, in part, our 2021 summer high school work program.



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Walpole Veterinary Hospital

– Helen Dalbeck

The Walpole Players

Save the Date!

The Walpole Players will be returning to the Helen Miller Theater this December with a production of *It's a Wonderful Life* - A Live Radio Play, adapted by Joe Landry and based on the story *The Greatest Gift* by Philip Van Doren Stern. There will be two performances: Friday, Dec. 17, and Saturday, Dec. 18.

So mark your calendars and watch for more information in the December Clarion and on the Walpole Players website, TheWalpolePlayers.org, where you can sign up for email notifications on our home page.

– Jenny Plante



CVTC Drivers Needed

What Do These 12 Towns Have In Common? Chesterfield, Franconia, Gilsum, Greenville, Marlow, Nelson, Richmond, Roxbury, Sharon, Stoddard, Surry, and Troy are 12 of the 34 towns Community Volunteer Transportation Company (CVTC) serves and each currently have zero residents volunteer driving with CVTC.



People become volunteer drivers for a variety of reasons. Some volunteer because they want something meaningful to do, want to give back, or feel satisfaction from helping others or feeling needed. Some volunteer to build relationships with others or because they prefer donating time instead of money. No matter the reason, volunteer drivers improve the health and wellness of the Monadnock Region one ride at a time.

CVTC needs 12 more volunteer drivers to achieve its goal of having 75 active drivers by the end of 2021. Can you help CVTC provide "no fee" transportation to non-emergency medical and social service appointments, grocery shopping, and other basic needs? Call 1-877- 428-2882, ext. 5 for more information about becoming a volunteer driver or visit their website: www.cvtc-nh.org.


– Leah Kristin

All Saints

Altar & Rosary Christmas Decoration/Ornament Sale

On Saturday, November 13 and Sunday, November 14, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM the All Saints Altar & Rosary Society will be holding a Christmas Decoration and Ornament Sale, at St. Peter's Hall, Church Street, North Walpole. Proceeds will help us fund our community commitments, such as the Fall Mtn. Food Shelf, Pregnancy Center, Keene Catholic Charities and other church commitments. So come and shop around - I'm sure there is something you can't live without!

– Kathy Golec



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The Walpole Foundation

Restoration – Transformation

The Walpole Foundation is a non-profit organization which includes nine rental properties in the Village of Walpole. These properties have been renovated over the years while maintaining the beauty and design of the original building.

We have been working on a display project that captures the progress that the Walpole Foundation has accomplished over the years. The transformation of the buildings has helped create a beautiful town that people love to see. The apartments provide affordable housing, while the commercial spaces have provided jobs, keeping Walpole a busy, small town.

Please take a moment and stop in at the Mascoma Bank to view the display of the Walpole Foundation's properties and their transformations through the month of November.

– Bert Wiemers



PHOTO: KATIE BEAM

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The Hooper Hill Hoopers snowmobile club would like to thank all the volunteers that came out October 16 to help repair a bridge on the rail road bed behind Pinnacleview Equipment. The club relies 100% on volunteer efforts to maintain and repair all the miles of our trail system and is always looking for more help! If you would like to help out please contact Katie at katie@gallowayservices.com



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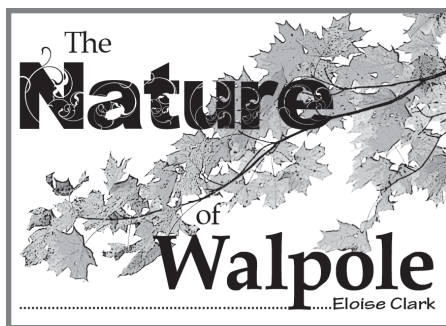
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November may feel like a somber month: the skies seem leaden and the days end too soon. Fallen leaves are plastered together by rains. The hustle of autumn chores continues before we curl inward to await winter.

While the leaves appear to lie lifeless on the ground, they have just become a rich source of food for an assortment of decomposers. Microbes chew the soft tissues and leave the lacy leaf skeletons. The process of decay is a transformative and essential part of the life cycle. Once living organisms are broken down into elemental minerals and nutrients that enable new plant life to grow.



Carrion Beetle



Decomposers of dead leaves include springtails or snow fleas, millipedes, slugs, snails and earthworms. Wood lice or pill bugs and carpenter ants eat wood with the help of gut microbes who break down the tough cellulose. Their waste enriches soil. As these animals grow, they become food for other creatures, a link in the food web.

When a larger animals dies, scavengers are often the first to visit. Many familiar animals occupy the niche of scavengers: coyotes, fox, opossum, turkey vultures, crows and ravens. Even the majestic bald eagle is not averse to gleaning a meal from a carcass. Mice are well known gnawers on bones such as deer antler "sheds".

Insects too get in on the act. The question mark butterfly mostly sips nectar but will imbibe carrion! Carrion beetles

famously live up to their name. A golden mantle on their thorax identifies these inch long broad-bodied beetles. Sexton or burying beetles (*Nicrophorus* species) are typically black with colorful red or orange markings. Two of these 1.5" long beetles working together can bury a small animal very quickly. They dig beneath a dead mouse or frog creating a hollow, until the animal is subsumed by the soil. The beetle will lay eggs on the carcass for its larvae to feed upon. The adult may also feed upon the carcass. I know...just try to think of it as recycling.

Even animal waste is fair game for reuse. Small dung beetles (*Aphodius* species) are small, cylindrical beetles found in cow patties. Large dung beetles

Sexton Beetles



(*Copris* species) dig a shallow burrow beneath a manure source. Dung is molded into pear-shaped masses inside each of which an egg is laid, then a larva grows along with mold and fungi for it to eat. Fungi are also very important decomposers of wood and waste. They even sometimes invade our refrigerators. Think of those forgotten leftovers.

Humans who work with the soil have long recognized the benefits of decayed plants and animal waste. Organic matter creates the richest layer of the soil. Compost bins are a fashionable way to harness the decay of plant matter into humus. Every a modest leaf pile will



transform over a season or two into rich compost for the garden. Tree leaves can also be chopped up by mowing in the fall and left beneath the tree to enrich the soil. If the leaves are maple, they are loaded with calcium, magnesium, manganese, iron, zinc, copper and other trace elements. When these are returned to the soil, plants grow. No commercial fertilizer need be applied. In Walpole, the smell of manure spread on agricultural fields is a sure sign of living in the country. Remember, it signals the return of crucial nutrients to the soil for the benefit of new crops.

Decomposition is a force so important, life as we know it would not exist without it. What was once old becomes new or renewed. While decomposers feast on dead flora or fauna, they make a living and become a cog in the food chain until they, too, die and are consumed. Yin and yang, the duality of death and life is all around us.



Question Mark Butterfly

Walpole Town Library

November at the Library

North Walpole Library Open House! Come see all that's new at the library – computers, movies, kids and teen books, audiobooks and more. Refreshments will be served! Saturday, November 6, 10:00 am to 1:00 PM, 70 Church Street, North Walpole.

Library Blanket Square Drive. The library is collecting 7" x 9" blanket squares for Warm Up America. Warm Up America is a charity that collects knitted or crocheted blanket squares from across the country. The squares are joined into blankets and distributed to homeless shelters, children's hospitals, veterans' homes, women's shelters, nursing homes and more. Read more at warmupamerica.org. Don't have supplies? Stop by and pick up everything you need: yarn, hooks, needles, instructions, etc. Finished 7" x 9" squares can be dropped off at the library. If you have yarn you would like to contribute, feel free to add to the communal stash (machine wash/dry worsted weight only please).

Code Club. For kids in grades 2-5. Fall Session meets every Tuesday at 3:30 PM at the North Walpole Library. Space is limited.



Registration is recommended. For more information or to register, please call Julie Rios at 603-756-9806, or email jrios@walpoletownlibrary.org.

Author Talk. Thursday, November 18, at 6:00 PM. Walpole resident and author, Bill Ranauro, discusses his latest book, Asher Benjamin: American Architect, Author, Artist. Born and raised in the Connecticut River Valley, Asher Benjamin was a key figure in the transformation of the region from a remote provincial outpost to a sophisticated urban frontier. Come learn more about the life and work of this architectural pioneer. Space is limited. Registration is recommended. Books will be available for sale/signing. For more information or to register, please call Jane Malmberg at 603-756-9806, or email jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org.

New Book Discussion Group: Check 'Em Out! Each month, participants will have a choice to read one or more from a

selection of titles with a common theme. December's theme is Jane Austen. We will meet on Saturday, December 11, at 9:00 AM. For more information or to pick up a book, please call 603-756-9806, or stop by the library.

Ongoing Adult Programs:

Library Knitters. Meets every Monday, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. Bring a project to work on and get to know other knitters in the community.

Library Book Discussion Group. Meets the last Thursday of the month, from noon to 1:00 PM.

Social Justice Discussion Group. Meets the third Wednesday of the month, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM.

Crafternoons. Meets the second Friday of the month, from 1:30 to 2:30 PM. Crafting and camaraderie for adults. Materials will be supplied. Space is limited. Registration is recommended.

Ongoing Children's Programs:

Wiggle Time. Monday mornings at 10:00 AM., in the children's room.

Story Time. Wednesdays at 10:00 AM. in the children's room.

Pajama Story Time. Wednesdays at 5:30 PM in the children's room.

– Jane Malmberg

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Did You Know That...?

Excursions into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

...in 2001 the Historical Society published *Walpole At The Millennium*? Edited by the late Judson Gooding, the publication included fifty interviews of residents, their reminiscences, and their reflections looking "... back at Walpole as it was in past years and to observe the changes the town has undergone, to serve as an historical record for future generations, and help forecast how the town may evolve." Arriving in Walpole in 1986, Gooding was an author and award-winning journalist who worked for Time and Life magazines as a foreign correspondent and editor.

Reading the interviews has been heartwarming, and confirms my observation that Walpole is, "As It Was... and Still Is." A dominant thread in the interviews is it has been the people who have made Walpole what it is, and maintained a stability to life here. From just a small sample from this collection, here are a few residents' comments. Marion Andros (also now gone) told readers, "...look at my husband. He's lived here since 1907 - going from horse and carriage to the space-age, but through all those changes Walpole's sense of family, community and history has endured. I hope that the strong community feeling remains here because that's one of the best things we have." Former Police Chief David Hewes agreed, saying, "The way people get together and support the town. This is the biggest asset for people seeking a place to live - this coming together, the idea of 'Help thy Neighbor'. You see it in many ways."

Seventh generation Walpolean, the late Bob Graves, stated right up front "Walpole today is about as perfect as you can get." He continued, "Sixty years ago I thought the economy was in trouble: houses were run down, downtown homes needed painting and repairs, lawns were neglected and roads were not good. Since then a lot of people have moved here from other places ... their involvement in the community has been very good for Walpole." Involvement in the community, and care for your neighbors are themes through a number of the interviews. David Maysilles (deceased) moved to Walpole in 1994 after a military career, and almost 20 years as

executive director of Kurn Hattin Homes in Westminster, Vermont. As a boy, when attending school at Kurn Hattin, he remembered a Walpole club known as "The NP Club." It stood for "neighborly people", founded for the purpose of doing good things for others. In retirement he and his wife did not want to sit idle. Realizing

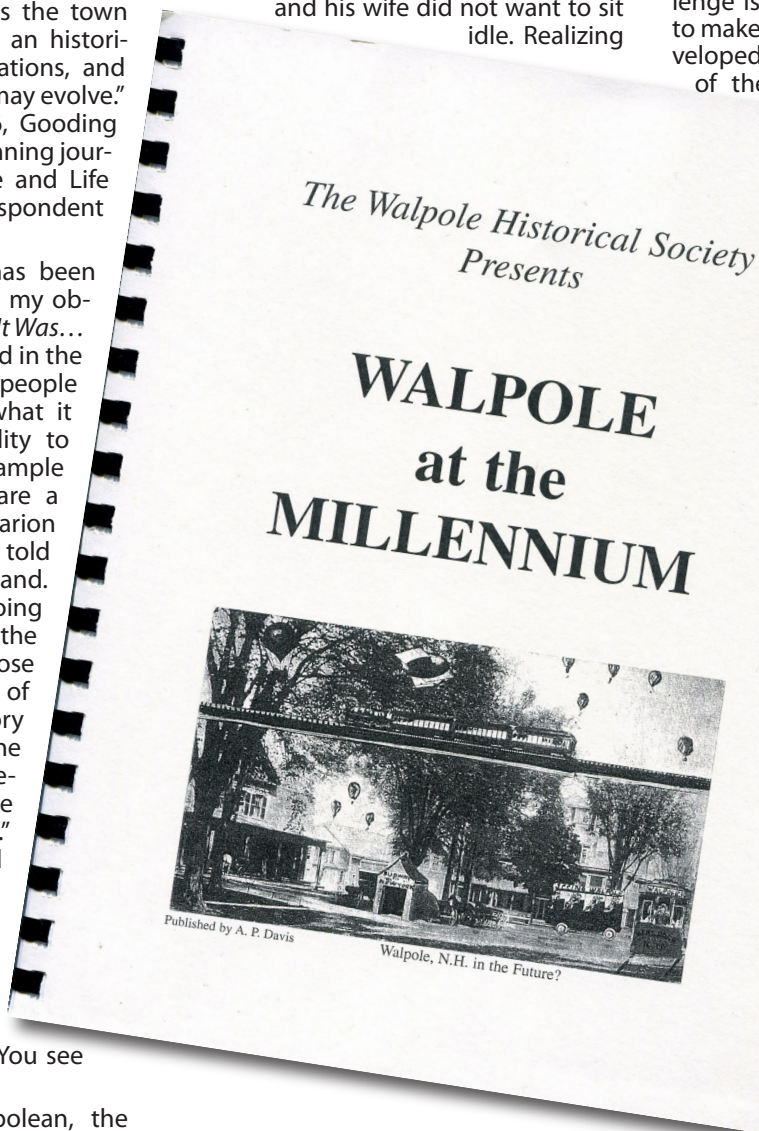
there were many ways in which they could volunteer, he stated. "Walpole offers a good variety of volunteer services and you can do as much or as little as you want ... the Walpole community depends on volunteers for a variety of its needs."

Recently passing, John Hubbard told readers twenty years ago, "What made Walpole interesting, what makes Walpole attractive to people who come into town is the rural character. The challenge is how to keep it that way - how to make sure that Walpole is not over-developed." Larry Siebrands, former pastor of the Congregational Church, said,

"What's special about Walpole is that it's a beautiful place to live, a Currier and Ives setting. People are from lots of places, so there's a variety of experiences. It is within traveling distance to many cities - we go to Boston and Montreal... I like Walpole for its relaxed informal atmosphere."

There is a great deal of wisdom on the pages *Walpole at the Millennium*. Ideas of what makes Walpole special, attractive, and welcoming to newcomers. It would be worthwhile to pick up a copy, leisurely read through and think about what can be done to keep Walpole As It Was... and Still Is, and *Well Into the Future*.

(With the permission of the Historical Society, a PDF of *WALPOLE AT THE MILLENNIUM* is on the CLARION website)



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Wanted

Like most of you, I'm no stranger to phone and e-mail scams. I've had multiple requests from friends and associates asking me to send them a gift card for some emergency purchase that they will repay when they're in range of an ATM or back in town or bailed out. All of these were easy to ignore. There was one clever one a few months back claiming that several hundred dollars had been automatically billed to my credit card to cover the renewal of some computer protection software I never owned. A quick check with the proper bank confirmed that none of this had happened. Most of the phone scams I don't even listen to. Usually, if no one starts speaking after I say "Hello," I hang up.

However, this past week I stayed on the line (God knows why) and was treated to yet another variation on the theme. An unaccented, plodding female monotone dripping with menace informed me that I was under investigation. A package containing an item of contraband (exact nature undisclosed) had been intercepted at an undisclosed border crossing by federal agents. It was addressed to me, and something about the address or my identification number (?) was seriously amiss. Consequently, I was informed that an arrest warrant in my name had been filed by U.S. Customs and I should be prepared to face the consequences. I could only save myself by contacting the feds immediately and confirming/correcting my SSN and other pertinent personal information at the following phone number...

At that point, I hung up. What next... the Department of Immigration knows about the Martians I have living in my basement? My giant sloth cloning experiments are generating toxic waste and the EPA is on my trail? The sky, I'm afraid, is the limit. Be ready, you too might have an opportunity to appear in a wanted poster at a Post Office near you.

— Jan Kobeski



Myths Debunked

"The first Thanksgiving was held at Plymouth with the Pilgrims and Indians in 1621"

That heartwarming tale of Pilgrims and Indians sharing a Thanksgiving feast and prayers at Plymouth never took place. More accurately it is the combination of two events that did take place: a harvest feast that occurred in 1621 with about 90 Wampanoag Indians, and a day of thanksgiving declared by William Bradford in 1623. The pious Pilgrims did not consider the feast a "thanksgiving," which to them meant a solemn day of prayer at church, not a harvest celebration with non-Christians. They would not have combined the two events as we do today.

Besides, was Plymouth really the site of the first Thanksgiving? Not according to Virginians who point to the earlier ceremony at Berkeley Plantation on the James River in 1619. And the Spanish lay claim, having, in 1565, celebrated thanksgiving in Saint Augustine, Florida, with a Catholic mass and a meal with Timucua Indians.

By the way, the myth about Indians showing the Pilgrims how to pop corn at Plymouth's first Thanksgiving is another fun story with no basis in fact. Someone made it up more than 200 years later. And the first official Thanksgiving? That didn't happen until Abraham Lincoln made the holiday permanent.

*Adapted from: DEATH BY PETTICOAT:
American History Myths Debunked
by Mary Miley Theobald*

Public Notice from the Walpole Cemetery Trustees

Per Walpole Cemetery By-Laws, all all floral displays and pots must be removed from the Cemeteries by November 1. Please be respectful and help maintain the beauty of our Cemeteries.

Thanks: the Cemetery Trustees.



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Walpole Community Giving Tree Project

The Walpole Community Giving Tree helps financially stressed families provide holiday gifts for their children ages birth-18 (or older if still in high school).

Participating families must be residents of the Walpole Township (Walpole, North Walpole, and Drewsville). All personal information for these families is kept entirely confidential.

Due to the continued concern for public health and safety, this project will proceed much as it did last year. From November 2 to 24, tags will be available at: First Congregational Church (Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 12 noon - go to the back door by the ramp), St. Peter's Church (during service hours), St. John's Church (during service hours), the Walpole Town Library, Spencer's Place, The Hungry Diner, the Savings Bank of Walpole on Westminster Street, and Mascoma Bank.

Tags will be attached to a bulletin board so people will only touch the tags they wish to take. Simply fill out your contact information on one half of the perforated tag and leave it in the con-

tainer. Take the other half of the tag as your "shopping" list, and then attach it very securely to the gift before you return it. Gifts may be returned to any of the above locations until the last day of November. Gifts should not be wrapped.

If you wish to help but are not comfortable with shopping this year, there are three other options. Choose a tag and leave the whole tag and a donation in an envelope in the tag container, and someone will do the shopping for you. Second, you can just leave a donation to help purchase gifts for tags that are unclaimed. Finally, you may also send a check to either Jeanne Cloues (192 Upper Walpole Road, Walpole) or the First Congregational Church, earmarked for the Giving Tree project. Every little bit helps!

This is a wonderful project that helps to brighten the holiday season for many of our local families, and we appreciate everyone's help. If you have any questions, you may contact us at weilcloues@comcast.net

— Jeanne Cloues & Marcia Weil

The Walpole Clarion ON-LINE

Would you like to read or share your **Clarion** on-line? Would you like to receive **Clarion** reminders of closing dates or events? Then, head to <https://thewalpoleclarion.com> and scroll down on the right to "Follow this Blog" and sign up..



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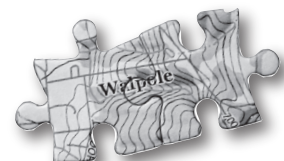
Gleanings from the Town Minutes

Selectboard - October 14 - Speeding on Elm Street - Mr. Dey stated there was less traffic when Elm Street was not paved. South of the Common, now that the road is paved, vehicles are speeding. It is posted 25 MPH. It is usually early in the mornings. Mr. Dalessio wondered if they should invest in little solar signs that flash when vehicles are traveling over the posted speed. Ms. Mayberry feels they train drivers to slow down. The Selectboard likes the little solar signs. They will check on the cost.

Selectboard - October 7 - Community Power Coalition Public Meeting: Mrs. Peggy Pschirrer and Mr. Paul Looney went to Concord on October 1 to participate in the Community Power Coalition Public Meeting for the inauguration the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire. Mr. Paul Looney is the Chair of the local Community Power Committee; he signed the first Articles of Incorporation.

Selectboard - September 30 - Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Change of Hours: Mrs. Meghan Hansson submitted their proposed new hours and their plan to implement them. These hours will go into effect on October 31. They feel these hours will better serve their public. Their busiest hours are late day hours. Appointments are recommended everyday. Tuesday evenings fill up quickly. For folks working an early shift, opening at 7am is not early enough; they are looking for later afternoon hours. The Selectboard agreed that they liked the new hours.

Planning Board September 21 - ZBA Chairperson Jan Leclerc said she was presenting two amendments to the sign ordinance. The first one deals with wind-activated feather flag signs and inflatable signs. There were questions if these signs were already prohibited in the ordinance, but the Select Board suggested it would be better to specifically mention this type of sign in an ordinance. Amendment 2 adds the definition of temporary signs and currently they are not mentioned in the ordinance, they are not defined. That's not how an ordinance





Above: Only a small sample of the holiday whathaveyhs available at the Walpole Reuse Center

No more mud: the new entryway



PHOTO PROVIDED

PHOTO: JAN KOBESKI

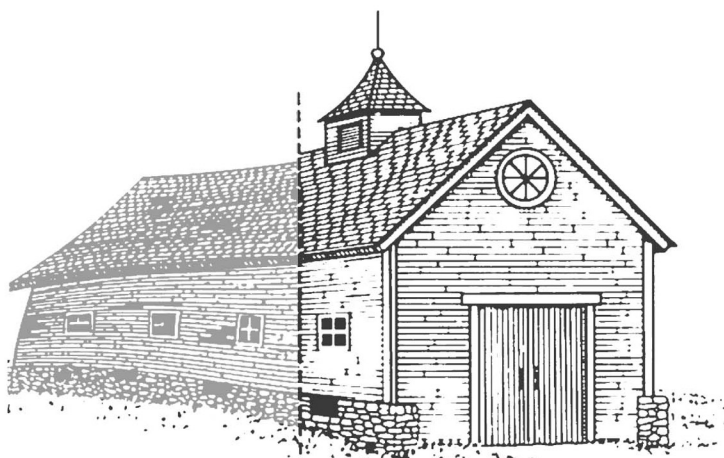


Walpole's reuse center is dusting off and showcasing all of the holiday ornaments, garments, tassels, ribbons, and other holiday whathaveyhs effective immediately. It's a real beaut, Clark! Our fully volunteer staffed reuse proprietors are available to answer questions and help you find what you are looking for this holiday season. It has been very satisfying to see the volunteer chart with no empty spaces at the Reuse Center. However, if you are interested in running the Reuse Center for a shift, please don't hesitate to contact us and we will find a spot for you to volunteer.

The concrete and asphalt work for 2021 (Warrant Article 9) has finally begun with the new entryway and trim at the Reuse Center. Walpole's Seldon Lund Concrete completed the final touches. Keeping the floor free from dirt and debris is already noticeably improved, and water is whisking away from the front of the building with the addition of new concrete. Thank you for your support, and keep recycling Walpole!! – especially cardboard (over \$4,000 to town of Walpole per baled truckload).

– Ben Hoy

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What's Happening in Walpole Schools



Mr. Cassarino

Off to a Great Start as Principal of Walpole Schools

Mr. Cassarino came to Walpole as a first grade student teacher in 2010 for the Walpole Primary School. He was in this position for less than a year before becoming a long term sub from 2010 to 2011 at WPS (Walpole Primary School) for kindergarten.

Following the 2011 school year, Mr. Cassarino was hired as a 5th grade teacher from 2011 to 2020, which is nine years. Then in 2020 to 2021, as Mr. Jacobs was set to retire, he moved on to his new role: an assistant principal where he learned all it takes to be a principal in Walpole from Mr. Jacobs.

Currently, he is the principal for all of the Walpole schools.

After giving out surveys to students and staff members, we also have lots of feedback from teachers/students on how he is doing as a principal for his first year. When asked if he was doing a good job, it was a unanimous yes. These writers agree!

– Joseph Paulette & Aiden Sweeney (Grade 6)

Newspaper Club

This year, we have over 20 members, including 12 new 6th graders, in the Walpole School Newspaper Club.



Newspaper Club is a great community where you can hang, be creative and have fun. The Walpole Newspaper Club is run by the Language Arts teacher, Jacob Gagnon.

This club comes together Tuesdays and Thursdays during second study hall. Together, we collect ideas to write about.

Last year, due to Covid-19, we met remotely for Newspaper Club, but we still had just as much fun. According to Rowan Aube, a sixth grader, "It's fun and I like it a lot!"

Sophia D'Alessandro, a seventh grader, says, "Newspaper Club is a social, fun, and exciting time when club members come together and write. I love it!"

Eighth grader Leo Gould agrees, saying "It is a calm place to be able to write for the community."

– Perry Lent (Grade 7)



Oil Consumption

Have you heard about oil consumption you might have but not thought about it? We need to be more aware of it because it is a fossil fuel which means it is not replenishable, and once it's gone, it's gone. The U.S is only 5% of the population of the world and it has used up 24% of the oil in the world. Mrs. McGuirk, the reading teacher at the Walpole Elementary School, says that we can help try to stop it by "looking at cheaper alternatives that are also renewable, such as solar power, wind power, and hydropower." Taylor L, a 6th grader in the Walpole School, says that we can help stop oil consumption by "consuming less plastic products." Sophia W in 6th grade also says that "we can help stop oil consumption by converting regular cars into electric cars."

I personally think we can help end it by finding a way to reuse oil in things such as cleaning the oil that they take out of your car when they do an oil change. In conclusion, this is an issue that everyone should take part in to try to end it.

– Rowan Aube (Grade 6)



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Halloween Costumes

Fashion Choices at Walpole School

As Halloween nears around the corner, we decided to ask Walpole School about their takes on Halloween costumes. We started to ask students and teachers around the school.

The first person we interviewed was Mrs. McGuirk, the reading teacher. We asked what she was going to be for Halloween. "I am going to be a pumpkin." Then we asked what the inspiration was behind the costume, she replied: "Well my daughter told me I should be a pumpkin this year!" This is an adorable idea because she is pregnant and her baby bump is the pumpkin! Mrs. McGuirk's favorite costume of all time was a purple people eater. The best costume she saw last year was that one student dressed up as a Covid patient, and half of the costume was sick and the other healthy. She stated, "That one was pretty good."

Then we interviewed Casey, a 6th grader. We asked what she was going to be for Halloween. "Blow up Unicorn," she said. She said that she trick or treats in Keene. The inspiration for the costume was simple: "I saw it on Amazon."

We then interviewed Jake, a seventh grader. He is going to be Anakin Skywalker. We asked him where he is going trick or treating this year and he answered with: "The common with Damon." We also asked him what his costume inspiration was. He was inspired by the Star Wars movies to be Anakin Skywalker. His favorite costume ever was when he was Clifford. "I was once Clifford the big red dog." His favorite costume he saw last year was Damon as a hand sanitizer.

Next we interviewed Luna, a seventh grader. She is going to be Cruella Deville this Halloween. She got the inspiration from the new movie that came out this year. Her favorite costume she has ever been was a purple dinosaur. The best costume Luna saw last year had glow sticks on it and made it look like a glow stick figure.

I hope you enjoyed our look into the Walpole Elementary School Halloween fashion. Look forward to seeing our students this Halloween!

– Maya Carbone (Grade 7),
Violet Walz (Grade 7)
& Addie Fuller (Grade 6)

Enjoy Your Fall

The weather is starting to get cooler, the leaves are starting to fall and change color, Fall attire is starting to be worn, and Halloween is right around the corner. To enjoy your fall these are some fun stuff to do on a free day!

To start off, apple picking is always a must do. Alyson's Orchard right off of Route 12 here in Walpole offers great picking. The apples are delicious! Alyson's has about 50 varieties of apples!

Some other fun things are obviously making a leaf pile, tailgating a football game with friends or family, decorating for Halloween/Fall, and much more.

Gaines Farm right down in Guilford, Vermont, next town over from Brattleboro, offers a wonderful corn maze, and then at night they turn the corn maze into a haunted attraction. They also have a

haunted hayride at night, too. These are both fun and spooky.

They both are a fantastic place if you are wanting a scary activity. Gaines Farm also has tons of kid activities. It's a great place to be for a Fall weekend leading up to Halloween.

Taking a weekend off and going camping is always always one of my favorite things to do. Sitting outside at night with a nice warm fire. Eating s'mores. Then going to bed hearing all the noises of a night sky. We live in such a wonderful place to enjoy the Fall season.

— Kelsey Fillion (Grade 8)

Zombie Run Preview

Every year the Walpole Elementary School puts on an exciting event called the Zombie Run. Each year the students of the Walpole School are allowed to come into the building wearing a Halloween costume of their choice. All of the staff and teachers at the school usually dress up as zombies or "scary" creatures as they chase children around the planned course. Mrs. Fleet, the art teacher, typically does each teacher's makeup to make them look zombified. Each student gets three tags color-coded to their grade. Each tag that gets taken is tallied up, and whichever grade got the most tags stolen loses, and whichever grade lost the least amount of tags wins.

The course is laid out starting at the playground of the elementary school, leading down towards the town pool and basketball court, then back up towards the primary school and elementary playground. Depending on how fast each student finishes the course, some kids will be able to run it twice. Overall the Zombie Run is a very fun event and a good break from school for kids.

— Avery Richardson (Grade 7)



Halloween

A Brief History

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers." L.M. Montgomery.

Many people agree with this statement from L.M. Montgomery, who wrote *Ann of Green Gables*. October is a time to celebrate fall, carve pumpkins, and dress up for Halloween. Halloween dates back to ancient Celtic festivals called Samhain. These festivals were the first versions of Halloween. People would light bonfires that consisted of crops and animals. These fires were to ward off ghosts. They also dressed up in animal heads and animal skins as well. Later on that night, after the first bonfires, new bonfires would be made and lit, and these fires would be to protect them during the long winter that year.

Eventually, Pope Gregory III designated November 1st to be All Saints Day, a day to honor saints. All Saints Day soon adopted many traditions from Samhain.

The evening before All Saints Day was called All Hallows Eve, which eventually became Halloween. Today, Halloween is a day for trick or treating, carving Jack-o-lanterns, and spending time with friends.

— Emily Heddon (Grade 8)

CHESHIRE KIDS by Erik Doescher



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From the Far Side of Walpole

Observations by William Moses

Stuffed Turkey

Sitting around with my friend, Elwud, sipping some of his private stock from the still hidden in the woods behind his shack. We was discussing fall, the end of October and the upcoming Thanksgiving gatherings.

"Well sir," he began, "all the relatives managed to get through Halloween without getting thrown in jail, this year."

"You mean the cousins behaved themselves for a change?" I asked.

"Nope, they just didn't get caught!" he snickered.

"So you having your usual Thanksgiving family gathering at Grandma Hortense again this year?" I asked.

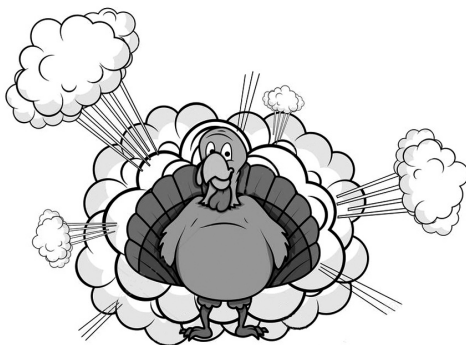
"Yup, but this year they aint lettin' Cousin Darryl provide the turkey, especially after last years disasta!"

"What did Cousin Darryl do to spoil the day?" I questioned.

"Well sir, he shows up at gramma Hortenses place with this huge 22 pound turkey, all stuffed and sewed up. Gramma had the old wood stove chucked full and red hot, and said that from the size of the bird we should be sittin' down ta a feast about two o'clock. So we all departed to the family game room for some sippin' and story tellin'.

About one o'clock there was this giant explosion from the kitchen area. As soon as we recovered, we beat a path to that area. What do you think we found? Gramma's old stove in a million pieces, the back wall missing, the storage shed flattened and the only thing left to the outhouse was a hole in the ground!"

"What the heck happened? She doesn't have propane in the house does



she?" I asked.

"No! We asked Darryl what the heck he used for stuffin' in the turkey."

Cousin Darryl scratched his head and replied that he got the recipe from a local newspaper he gets from the old hermit over in Lyme. The column is titled "Recipes from the Backwoods Demented Hermit". It's a popcorn mixture with three ounces of gunpowder.

"Well seems Darryl put the popcorn in as kernels and sprinkled the gunpowder over the kernels.

When the temperture got hot enough to start the popcorn apoppin', it ignited the gunpowder and the rest is history. We explained to Darryl that the recipe was a formula used by terrorist and not for normal folks. Of course, we realize that Darryl aint considered normal by any stretch of the imaginashun. Cousin Darryl was informed that if he came to Thanksgiving gathering this year, he was to bring only his appetite and absolutely nothin' else."

As we had finished off the jug of sipping corn, I wish Elwud a Happy Thanksgiving, slid into my car and headed home.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

Be safe and be kind to one another.



FROM THE CLARION...

A sampling of what we've reported in 10 years of publication:

One Year Ago (November, 2020) - The grand opening of the Reuse Center took place Saturday, October 10, with a ribbon cutting ceremony, a full day of volunteer help, and very generous financial donations to kick off a new chapter in the history of the Reuse Center.

Three Years Ago (November, 2018) - Did You Know That ... the first printing press arrived in the Colonies in 1638, and that same printing press found its way across the river to Westminster in 1781, becoming the first printing press in Vermont?

Five Years Ago (November, 2016) - The Cheshire County Conservation District honored Rebecca (Becky) Whippie and Eloise Clark of the Frederick H. Hooper Institute in Walpole as the 2016 Educators of the Year. Eloise and Becky were cited as an inspiration to the youth of Walpole, nurturing their curiosity about the natural world, and helping them develop the power of observation.

Seven Years Ago (November) 2014) - The Walpole Village School's third annual Spooktacula came and went with a bang this year. Fun was had by all who attended the event.

Nine Years Ago (November, 2012) - The Walpole Police Department is pleased to announce the start of the D.A.R.E program in the Walpole schools. D.A.R.E stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. This is a national and global recognized program that encourages an open dialogue between parents, police and schools..

MILESTONES



Wed

Timothy Baucom & Emily Baucom Allison
Saturday, September 25, 2021 in Bozeman, Montana

Emily's parents are
Michael and Bonnie Allison of Bozeman
 Tim's parents are
Jim and Pam Baucom of Walpole

The October Clarion's Milestones listing incorrectly spelled the name of Geoffrey M. Robarge, who passed on September 4. Though corrected in the online version, we regret the error.

Happy Thanksgiving
 From all of us at the **Clarion**

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

Submit ads, articles & photographs to:
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December issue deadline: November 22

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

The Walpole Clarion on-line:
thewalpoleclarion.com

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

Twenty pages for you this November. The Holcombes are to be commended, as are the retiring library board members Jeanne Ramey and Shirley Capron. Thank yous have also been extended to those supporting the Hooper Institute, reuse center volunteers, and advance thanks to Giving Tree donors.

Volunteerism and "giving back" to the community is nothing new in Walpole. Walpole has a long standing tradition for the generosity of volunteers and donors - it is what makes Walpole "quietly work so well." Hopefully you read my Did You Know That... article this month. Quoting a few of the interviews from Walpole At The Millennium that is the recurring theme "it has been the people who have made Walpole what it is..." This 2001 publication is worthy of reading. Copies are no longer available at the Historical Society, but the society has given me permission to digitize the booklet. On the sidebar of the **Clarion** website you will find a link to PDFs for your reading pleasure. For ease in viewing I have split the eighty plus pages into four sections, and up front listed the interviewees in each section. Take a look, enjoy, reflect, and volunteer and "give back."

Hard to believe the year is wrapping up, but working on leaves this afternoon does provide a clue to the change. The Farmers Almanac for this winter predicts "flip-flop" conditions. When I moved here nineteen years ago the snow reached my window sills. Last year it seemed the ground was only lightly covered. Obviously a "flip" to a "flop." Stay safe and stay well - get your booster shot.

- Ray Boas, Publisher

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HOUSE HUNTING?

Get prequalified now and enjoy more buying power.

With housing inventory at a historic low, now more than ever it's important to get prequalified before you begin house hunting—and Savings Bank of Walpole is here to help.

Whether you're a first-time homebuyer or a seasoned buyer, getting prequalified helps you determine your homebuying budget and it makes you more attractive to sellers by letting them know you have the borrowing power to back up an offer.

As a truly local bank, at SBW all loan decisions are made right here so we're able to process loan prequalification applications and loan applications quickly.

Want to learn more? Talk to one of our local home loan specialists **(603) 352-1822** or visit **walpolebank.com**.

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Reservations are required at the Mill Pond this year.