

A New Year... but the Threat Remains

Viruses Are Deadly

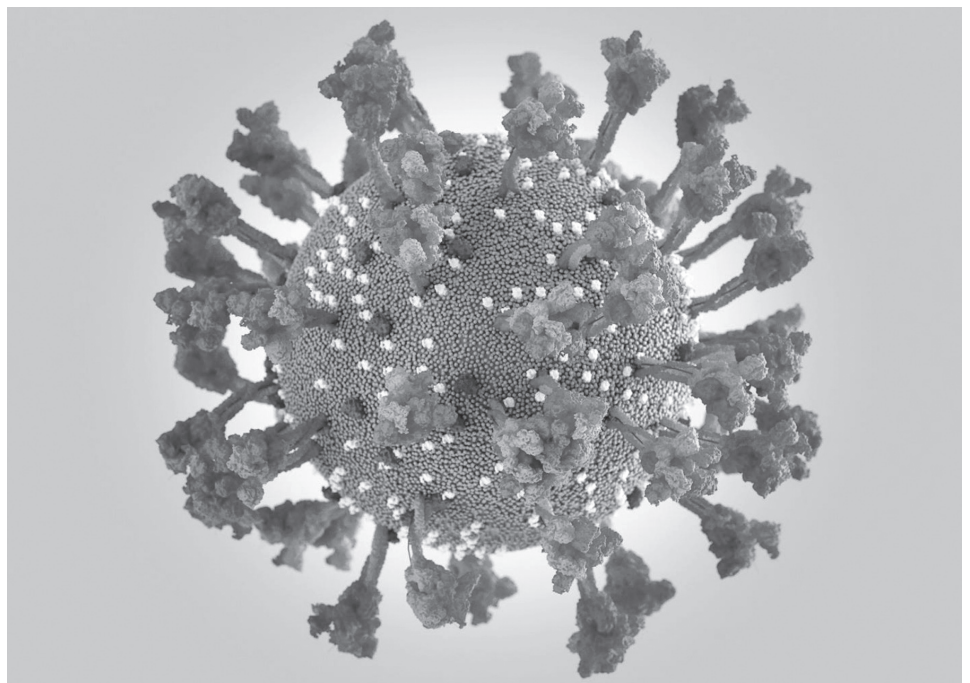
They kill twice as many people as cancer does – around 15 million people every year. Every day we each breathe in over 100,000,000 viruses. Most are harmless, but some can make us sick. Viruses are tiny agents that invade the cells of our bodies and hijack the microscopic machines inside our cells to produce millions of copies of the virus. In greater numbers, the viral army bursts out of a cell, spreading its invasion throughout the body. Viruses aren't alive. They must invade our cells to use the cell's energy to force the cell to make millions of copies of the virus to make us sick.

Antibodies are one of the key weapons against viruses in our immune system. They are molecules made by our white blood cells to fight off invaders and keep us healthy. Antibody means body protection.

Vaccinations, to produce antibodies, give your immune system a head start. Deliberately injecting a virus may seem a strange approach to preventing infections, but it is an effective strategy because the immune system reacts to the vaccine and makes lots of specific antibodies with the right shape for the vaccine virus. Once your body has made specific antibodies, your immune system 'remembers' the shapes of antibodies that were effective. This means that if you've had the vaccine and then get infected by the real virus, your immune system has a head start and quickly makes lots of the right kind of antibodies, thus destroying the virus before it has the chance to spread through your body and make you sick.

Help your immune system against the COVID variants - become fully vaccinated. And, for additional protection, wear a mask and wash your hands to help prevent unwanted viruses from entering your body. And it is not just people needing vaccinations, see *Bovine...* page 13.

– Ray Boas



I Gotcha if – you have symptoms of fatigue, a scratchy throat, runny nose, headache and other body aches and pains. Enjoy – Omicron

**Get Your Shots
 Wear Your Mask
 Socially Distance
 Wash Your Hands**

**It is the RIGHT thing to do,
 out of respect and concern
 for your neighbor,
 and also to save your life**



From Peggy's Desk

It is mid-December and every newspaper, every magazine is reviewing the past twelve months. We are closing one year and looking forward to another. What stands out for each of you as you read this *Clarion*?

Where were you a year ago? What did you wish for in 2021? Any amazing New Year's resolutions? I gave up on those a long time ago because it occurred to me, resolved as I might be on January 1 of any New Year, it was up to me to change, to succeed or fail – the resolution had to have teeth of my own creating!

But back to a year of review. Covid was on everyone's mind; all our meetings were by Zoom, we wanted a break

Continued on Page 3

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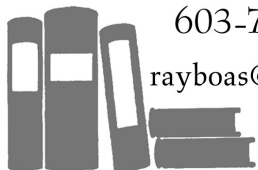
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WALPOLE SOCIETY

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2022 Annual Meeting

The "Horse Thieves" annual meeting will be held Saturday, January 15 at 7 pm via Zoom. For several reasons, including the recent wave of COVID cases –which has pushed New Hampshire COVID hospitalizations to a record level, and to protect our members and make it as easy as possible for everyone to attend, the 2022 annual meeting will be held via Zoom. Last year's annual meeting was also held via Zoom and was a huge success.

For those who have not used Zoom before, it is easy to use but you must download a Zoom app to your smartphone or computer. It generally takes ~5 minutes to download the app and join a meeting. You'll need to be on-time for the meeting because our annual meetings can last as little as 10 minutes! To download the app and join the Horse Thieves annual meeting go to "zoom.us/join" and then enter Meeting ID: 836 4065 6292. If you haven't used ZOOM before it will prompt you to download the App, and then will put you in the "waiting room" for the meeting. Lewis LaClair, Clerk, will make sure you are a member of the Horse Thieves and then admit you.

For our new residents in town, the "Walpole Society for Bringing to Justice Horse Thieves and Pilferers of Clothes Lines and Hen Roosts" – or "Horse

Thieves" – was organized in 1816. At that time "Horse Thieves" societies sprang up in many places. They were needed because horses were valuable and therefore a target of thieves, because sheriff departments were less robust (or nonexistent) and because most horse thieves promptly fled town. Against all odds the Walpole organization has survived these many years and is now probably the second oldest surviving Horse Thieves society in the country.

If any Horse Thieves need help getting onto ZOOM and downloading the app you are welcome to call or email Lewis LaClair (see contact information below), but please do so early (not later than 6 pm on 15th), as he will be busy from then on with the annual meeting.

The Walpole Horse Thieves is open to any man 18 years or older who lives in Walpole, who pays a \$2 lifetime fee and signs the membership book. If you are interested in joining contact Lewis LaClair, Clerk (LLaclair@Advancedrisk.com or 756-0001).

– Lewis LaClair

"Great Decisions"

A Public Forum in 2022

Coming as soon as in-person gatherings are deemed safe and sensible: The Walpole Town Library will host a public forum — "Great Decisions" — moderated by Professor Emeritus Tom Durnford, beginning in early March (it is hoped).

"Great Decisions" is a public discussion program that began more than 60 years ago under the auspices of the Foreign Policy Association. The focus is U.S. foreign policy, global affairs and scientific exploration. The "Great Decisions Briefing Book" will be available from the library.

For more information, please contact Library Director Jane Malmberg: jalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org. Look for updates in this publication in February and on the library's website.

– Sue Kibbe

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From Page 1, Peggy

and by spring we felt we had it. Vaccines were available- Pfizer, Moderna and then Johnson & Johnson. We queued up at drugstores, athletic fields and stuck out our arms. Some of us had reactions, some of us didn't. We all felt that at last we were on our way to normal lives again. Travel resumed. Vacation spots were crowded. The Governor's Executive Orders were lifted. We were back in business. Or so we thought. But a variant sprung up - Delta, and then a more virulent one, Omicron, and Walpole by fall had numerous cases of Covid. Last winter we had very low numbers: no Town employees experienced Covid. But now, in the last month, we have had several employees infected. And every day we watch our numbers climb. Mask mandates were reintroduced for all public buildings. The library must limit its hours because of staff shortages. A pandemic became an endemic. Covid is here to stay in one form or another. Covid vaccinations will become annual, just as flu shots are.

Weather proved to be another challenge for us in 2021. July 29 is etched in our record books with the rain that washed out roads, damaged bridges, knocked out foundations, took down trees and left us with over two million dollars of damages. FEMA has been here twice - first in late August to view all the damaged sites - and this month, December, to review the extensive reports filed by the Road Agent and discussing how we can recoup costs for mitigation of all the trouble spots in town. Some of the damaged areas, such as School Street and Ford Avenue, need long term solutions which will require engineering and rebuilding.

The Broadband Committee morphed into the Walpole Power Committee to build an Aggregation plan for cheaper electricity. The Police Study Committee began to meet- although Steve Horton, identified last month as a member, has resigned to potentially play a different role with the committee. The Player's performed outdoors and then successfully inside. North Walpole Library opened with additional hours and children's programs. The Farmers' Market was crowded on a sunny November Saturday.

Plans are going forward for Old Home Days in 2022.

We completed Elm Street; the Brownfield is close to completion; fiber optic lines were installed over 68 miles of road so that access to internet service is better; we have welcomed may newcomers to town as property has turned over; outdoor dining was successful for

local restaurateurs, and Watkins Tavern has a new life. We are still moving forward despite viruses, weather, and personal losses of family and friends.

New Englanders are a hearty bunch - even those of us who are Flat Landers or Texans or Californians. It is possible to be shaken by Covid or weather, but it is our nature to carry on. Twenty-twenty-one ends on some sad notes, but the days lengthen, the sun shines, Twenty-twenty-two offers new challenges - we adapt and succeed.

- Peggy Pschirrer

Walpole Foundation

Happy New Year!

This is a great time of year to reminisce about the past and bring in the new. This month the property that fits that description would be the Leaning House that was located next to The Red Brick House on Main Street.

This building was built around 1830 and stood on the land that was once the Wentworth Hotel. In 2002 the Walpole Foundation purchased the Leaning House. A used bookstore was in the basement. Due to the dilapidated condition, the house was torn down. In its place is now an easement into the municipal parking lot for downtown Walpole. Concrete catch basins were installed and a roadway for the parking lot was made. This parking lot is currently owned by Mascoma Bank, and then leased to the town.

Next time you drive or walk by, try to think about the hotel that once stood there, then the houses that were built there and now a small roadway. How things transpire over the years.

We wish everyone a Happy New Year from all of us at The Walpole Foundation!

- Bert Wiemers

Zoning Board of Adjustment

What Is It?

In 1955, the state of New Hampshire published a statute that authorized zoning in all New Hampshire towns.

In 1968, Walpole adopted a zoning ordinance and created a Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA, for short).

The main purpose of the board is to hear appeals from the strict terms of the zoning ordinance or its interpretation by other boards. You can find a copy of our zoning ordinance on the town website, at <https://www.walpolenh.us/document-center.html>.

Members of the ZBA are elected on a staggered basis for a three-year term. There are five elected members and three alternates appointed by the board. When a regular member is absent or recuses her/himself, an alternate is appointed so that a full board is available. The board meets on the third Wednesday of every month, at 7:00 PM in Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

Why do Walpole citizens come to the ZBA? The most common reasons are for signs, special exceptions, and variances.

In the next issue of the Clarion, we'll discuss signs.

- Pauline Barnes

CCCD

The Cheshire County Conservation District is currently accepting orders for its Annual Conservation Plant Sale. This year the District continues their partnership with Fedco of Maine to bring you a wide range of top-quality plants. Order deadline is January 10, 2022 at 5:00PM!

To view detailed step-by-step online ordering instructions, payment instructions, and for further information regarding the sale, visit the CCCD website at <https://cheshireconservation.org/plantsale>

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First Congregational

January 2022

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. After a brief holiday break, we will resume studying the book of 1 Samuel.

Guest Speaker at Bible Study: Dr. Gregory Mobley, Professor of Hebrew Bible at Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School, will speak to our Zoom Bible Study in the New Year. When we have a firm date, we will post it on the church website (www.walpolenhucc.org) and Facebook pages for the date.

Professor Mobley is an expert in the heroic traditions of the Hebrew Bible, which include the Books of Samuel. He is listed as a contributor to The New Oxford Annotated Bible, Third Edition.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87236977806?pwd=YkxyK2FwY1oyTCt5cXYzREZwL1lxdz09>

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

– Richard Malmberg

Announce Your Candidacy Elected Positions Up in 2022

Selectboard - 1
Trustee of Trust Funds - 1
Planning Board - 2
Zoning Board - 2
Library Trustee - 3
Cemetery Trustee - 1
Town Moderator - 1
Supervisor of Checklist - 1

File January 19-28
at Town Clerk's Office

Walpole Unitarian

We would like to thank everyone who stopped by our Holiday Food Sale table on December 16. It was a cold and rainy day, but your kindness and generosity lifted our spirits.

We plan to resume services in the sanctuary on January 9, following a brief winter recess. It is important that those attending in person services be fully vaccinated and masked. Please consult our church website for worship service topics. Any changes due to weather conditions or the pandemic can also be found there.

We continue our every other Tuesday discussions of interviews from the "On Being" archives. Discussions are hosted by Rev. Elaine Bomford on ZOOM, beginning at 10:30 am. Both the dates and interview links can be found at our website under "Spiritual Discussion Series." All are welcome to join! Visit www.walpoleunitarianchurch.org for links and more information.

– Wendy Harty

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Walpole Gateway Community Walk

It all started in January 2019, when the Walpole Conservation Commission enthusiastically accepted the donation of this gateway property after a successful community-wide effort to protect it. The advocacy and fundraising effort by our community exemplified our commitment to preserving the Town's scenic and agricultural character. The Commission wishes to thank all those that made the effort and those that contributed to invest in this unique property.

On Saturday November 13, the Conservation Commission hosted a community walk and tour of the Town's Walpole Gateway property. This 10-acre parcel is located at the "Gateway" to the Town on the bank of the Connecticut River at the junction of Rte. 12 and South Street. Property features include 930 feet of undeveloped Connecticut River frontage, Connecticut River non-motorized access via a rough farm road, rail trail frontage, organic hay fields and 2.5 acres of prime farmland soil to name just a few. This property is classified by the NH Wildlife Action Plan as Highest Ranked Habitat in New Hampshire.

A group of approximately 30 people attended including the Town Forester and Botanist, Alex Barrett and Tom Groves of Long View Forest, and Matt Kelly, a UNH Cooperative Extension Forester for Cheshire County.

The group toured the fields, forests and waterways on the property discuss-



PHOTO PROVIDED

ing what they saw. The walk was planned as the commission had recently hired its forester to assess the property for natural resources and sensitive features, and prepare a Rapid Assessment report. The purpose of the report is to provide a summary of the natural resource concerns and make management recommendations. Recommendations include developing an invasive plant management plan that includes native plant restoration plantings in this important riparian habitat; developing a rough meadow mowing regime; keeping access limited to pedestrian traffic given highly erodible soils; and cleaning up trash in the tributary stream.

After the walk, the group convened at the kiosk for a facilitated discussion with Walpole resident and owner of Imaginal Training, Ms. Maureen Jenkins. The group discussions were focused on six key points:

- Vehicle Access - This is really about boat trailer access. Some pointed out that only pedestrian boat trailer access was needed, so there could be a narrow little gate.
- Pedestrian Access - Many were comfortable with pedestrian access as it is.

- Parking - The commission's response was that it's not permitted in the deed and the group seemed to generally accept this. It was agreed that a timed parking study is probably better done in summer months.

- Would It Be Possible To Create A Trail Around Property Including Views Of River? - The commission's response was yes and that construction for such a trail would take a lot of work. Possible volunteers were requested, and a good 25+ hands went up. An easier approach to start with would be to mow a trail around the property.

- What About the Gate? - Comments included having the gate open only from sunup to sundown on Saturday and Sunday and see how that works. People who invested in this parcel understood that it is for recreation; the deed says it can be used for recreation, and we need some kind of recreational options. People beyond Walpole already come to visit the river at this location to bird watch and to swim—it's more popular than we realize! Teaser: see minutes of the December 2021 Conservation Commission meeting for an update on the gate.

- Could Second Meadow Be Restored - Earlier in the season it was much too wet to deal with. The commission agreed it would be worth checking again next year.

All are invited to the meetings, first Mondays at 7:00 pm, currently face-to-face.

— Alicia Flammia

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Gleanings

from the Town Minutes

Planning Board December 14

Public Hearing - Liberty Utilities: Routine Maintenance on Scenic Roads: Heather Green, Program Manager, Vegetation and Inspection, and Kelly Hoffman, Liberty Utilities Representative, Consulting Utility Arborist for Environmental Consultants, Inc. were present to discuss the maintenance work on the two scenic roads in Walpole. Work will begin in January 2022 and, depending on the pandemic, should last for about six months. Walpole has two designated scenic roads – Farnum Road and Old Drewsville Road. Planned tree removal on Farnum Road includes three trees, a maple, a black cherry and a basswood. Tree removal on Old Drewsville road includes 11 trees: five maple trees, two white pine, one black cherry, one basswood, one popular and one ash. There are additional trees that are threats to conductors.

Selectboard - December 9

Zoom Meetings: Mr. Dalessio moved that the Selectboard return to Zoom meetings starting next week. This will include Staff meetings. Seconded by

Mrs. Pschirrer. With Mr. Dalessio, Mrs. Pschirrer and Ms. Mayberry in favor, the motion was approved.

Selectboard - December 2

Home Away from Home Day Care Parking and Dumpster Complaint: Ms. Jenny Plante was present to discuss the on-street parking and overflowing dumpster complaint from an abutter. Ms. Mayberry asked Ms. Plante to explain the parking as they have an area for people to park off the street but they are choosing to park on the street.

Tree Care and Replacement Plan for the Common: Ms. Mayberry acknowledged receipt of a proposal from Long View Forest. The proposal does not provide for a determination of the condition of the trees. We have a lot of residents who are concerned about preservation. Therefore, they still need to find an arborist.

Selectboard - November 24

Reservoir Dam Meeting Update: Mr. Dalessio reported the Reservoir Dam has been reclassified as a High Hazard Dam. That requires certain modifications to the dam but there are options: 1) modify the dam structure in a way that they can reduce the level of the dam and still maintain the recreational properties. That is what they are pursuing at this point; and 2) they contacted an engineering com-

pany; Fuss & O'Neill, who will work up a proposal and cost estimate to bring the Dam into compliance but keep the recreational aspect. It will be determined by cost and what the voters will want to see happen.

Selectboard - November 18

Old Home Days Committee: Mrs. Sable Westover and Ms. Kelley Hicks, members of the Old Home Days Committee, were present to confirm dates and funding. Old Home Days is planned for June 22 to June 26, 2022.





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Happy New Year

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Thank you for visiting the Walpole Reuse Center for holiday shopping this month! Our volunteers did a great job making the Reuse Center a festive place to shop in the fall and winter months. The addition of a new propane heater within the Reuse Center has improved the shopping and volunteering experience as temperatures outside plummet. We rearranged our aluminum can bale wall to pen in sand available to the public in front of the C&D (construction and demolition) trailer. There is a shovel available, but it is a BYOB (bring your own bucket) operation.

It is more cost effective to ship full truckloads of uniform recyclable material, and reusing "outdoor" bales to suit a need for a wall or makeshift shed is fun and economical. The warrant article proposal for the Recycling Center in 2022



A happy shopper

PHOTO PROVIDED

will be a heavy duty paper shredder to be stationed at the Recycling Center to accommodate all of your document shredding needs. Reduce, reuse, recycle - Thank you for recycling Walpole!

- Ben Hoy



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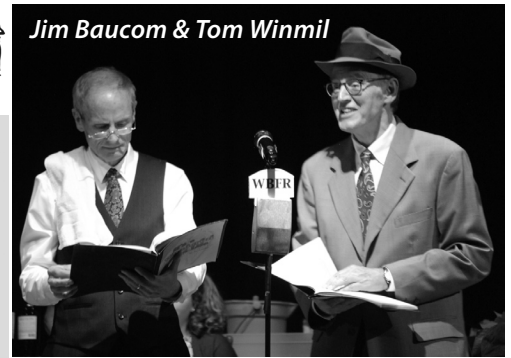
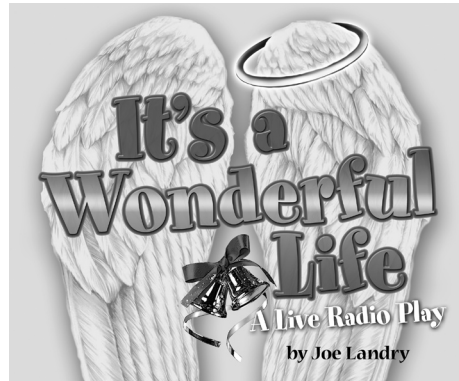
Improve confidence

The Helen Miller Theater in Town Hall played host to a Walpole Players production for the first time in more than two years on December 17 and 18. The radio play version of *It's a Wonderful Life* by Joe Landry was the attraction that drew two nearly full though socially-distanced audiences to the dinner theater. As a precaution, theatergoers were masked until at their tables, and had their temperatures taken at the door.

The Walpole Players



Deb Robarge



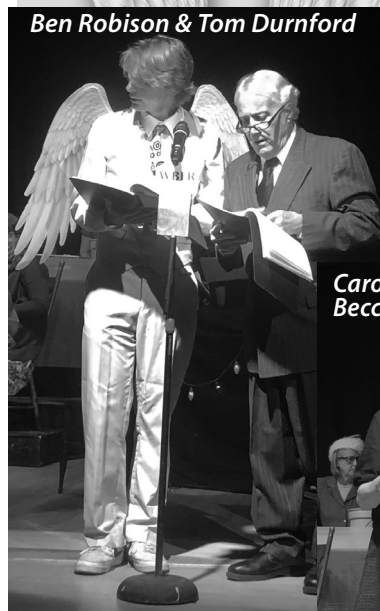
Jim Baucom & Tom Winmil

Despite Saturday's snowstorm, local theater lovers braved the elements so that ticket sales for both nights raised more than \$1000. After expenses, the Players wrote checks for \$500 to both the Fall Mountain Food Shelf and Our Place Drop-in Center. The Food Shelf's Mary Lou Huffling received their check from the Player's Jenny Plante.

PHOTOS: JENNY PLANTE



Mary Lou Huffling



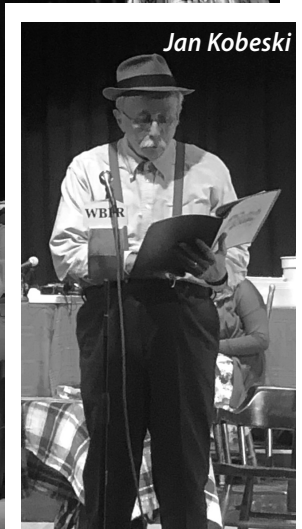
Ben Robison & Tom Durnford



Juliana Stevens



Carolyn Norback & Becca Robison



Jan Kobeski

The radio version of *Wonderful Life* is true to the Jimmy Stewart film, but with a twist since several of the actors are called on to play multiples roles. George Bailey, Mary Bailey and Joseph (the boss angel) were played by Tom Winmil, Deb Robarge, and Ben Robison, respectively, but Players Tom Durnford, Jim Baucom, Carolyn Norback, Juliana Stevens, Becca Robison, and Jan Kobeski needed to wear different hats (sometimes literally) for their roles. Live sound effects were generated by Becky Pearson and Jean Kobeski; live music by Mark Stevens. Bill Perron hosted. Adam Terrell handled lights & audio.

— Jan Kobeski



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The Year of the Hooper Institute

Happy New Year everyone! Please save the date for the Winter Fun Day on Prospect Hill, February 12, 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

There will be sledding, snowshoeing, sunset watching and more with warm soup and drinks offered by our neighbors at the Watkins Tavern. George Levi Hooper will be our special guest to tell us stories about his life in Walpole and of his vision, long ago, for the Hooper Institute. The afternoon will kick off our fundraising campaign in George Hooper's honor, raising funds to support our education and scholarship programs. Please join us, in donating and in enjoying the Winter Fun Day this February. Watch for more details, and see you on the hill!

– Helen Dalbeck

Please consider a tax deductible donation to the

Town of Walpole/Hooper Institute or Friends of Hooper Institute.

Mail to Hooper Institute, PO Box 135, Walpole, NH 03608



PHOTO: EMMA KOBESKI

Walpole's Daisy Troop 62354 celebrated the Solstice on the Common the evening of December 21.

Keep Up on Walpole Happenings
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Once our vetted volunteer drivers choose which trips best fit their schedule, they call the rider to verify pick-up times and, when they return home themselves, they track their total mileage for reimbursement from CVTC. Drivers select when, and to where, and for how long they are available. By making this difference in a rider's life, drivers contribute to the health of the Monadnock Region, one person at a time

Please call CVTC for more information at 1-877-428-2882 x 5.

– Leah Kristin

Have you noticed the lively shades of green moss that festoon trees, rocks and ground near water? The vibrant greens really pop as the eye scans our monochrome winter landscape. In plant taxonomy, mosses are in the division Bryophyta along with liverworts and hornworts. Let's focus on mosses.

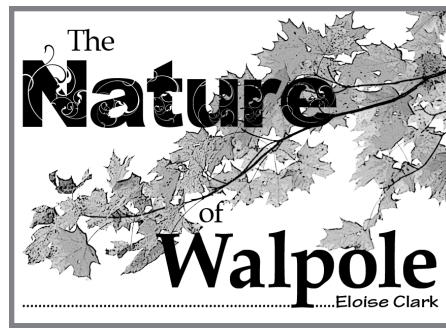
Mosses are much simpler plants than the "higher" vascular plants. Unlike flowers or grasses, mosses do not have deep roots, stems that transport water or leaves with veins. There's no "plumbing" to move water and nutrients from roots to leaves. Nor do they have a woody skeleton to be upright and stand tall like a tree. But by staying small and simple, they have succeeded in occupying almost every niche on the planet for over 400 million years!



Sphagnum Moss

The single celled leaves of mosses must have direct contact with water in the environment. Have you noticed how mosses seem to glow in damp weather when their leaves are swollen with water? If conditions dry, their colors fade. Mosses grow in clusters and mats. This strategy helps the individual plants retain more water and resist drying winds. It's no surprise most species prefer shady spots. They are abundant anywhere that's damp: on rocks near brooks, damp slopes, saturated stumps and the base of trees. There are, of course some hardy exceptions.

Mosses are identified by their structure. Most require microscopic examination to parse out their exact species identity. For our purposes, let's look at three large classes. There are about 40 species of Sphagnum moss in the northeast. These plants have whorls of leaves that form tufts. You'll find them along



Haircap Moss

pond edges or as mats in bogs. Dense mats of sphagnum create the classic quaking bog as it floats on the surface of the water. Sphagnum mats can become so thick they can support the weight of humans and allow trees to grow.

Their presence indicates acidic water, helped along by the sphagnum itself when it releases hydrogen ions into the water. Sphagnum was used as a wound dressing in World War I because of its sterility and ability to hold moisture. Peat has been harvested for millennia to heat hearths across northern lands. You may know dried sphagnum as peat moss, a soil amendment.

The second class is Acrocarpous moss. There are about 85 species in the northeast. These mosses stand upright as they grow in cushions or tufts on land.

The most common in our area is haircap moss. It survives in drier areas because it does have a simple vascular system with small roots, stems and leaves. Look for it along the edges of your lawn or rocky outcrops. These species are very widespread.



Pleurocarpous

Pleurocarpous moss is the third class of mosses. They grow in mats with the main stem pretty flat against a rock or root. Some will have side branches that creep and intermingle with others plants. There are 65 species in the northeast. My favorites are the ones that look like tiny ferns with pinnate branching. They prefer shady areas near water.

As you focus on an area of moss, notice tiny capsules on slender stalks that rise like little flagpoles above the greenery. Each capsule contains spores. When dried, the tops pop off and spores are set adrift. Notice I didn't say seeds. Mosses are considered non-flowering plants just as ferns and mushrooms are. On your next outing, take a hand lens and a moment to admire these tiny beauties, the Lilliputian survivors of 400 million years of planetary life.

Information for this article came from the excellent book by Ralph Pope, Mosses, Liverworts, and Hornworts: a Field Guide to Common Bryophytes of the Northeast. Published by Cornell University Press in 2016.



Spore-bearing Capsules

Walpole Town Library

January News and Events

Back to Virtual

Due to the latest surge in Covid cases the rise of the Omicron variant in our area, the library will be making changes to programs and services in January. All in-person library programs are cancelled for the month of January. We will be offering the following virtual and take-home activities:

Adults:

Community Conversation on Redistricting. Monday, January 3, 2021, at 7 PM. What is redistricting? Why is it important and how is it handled in New Hampshire? New Hampshire State Representative Lucy McVitty Weber will answer these questions and provide insight into the legislative process in a public forum to take place via Zoom.

A Zoom link will be emailed to all registrants. For more information or to register, please call the library at 603-756-9806, or email jmalmberg@walpole-townlibrary.org

Spark Joy Program.

Certified Kon Mari Consultant, Shannon Honeycutt, will be bringing the life-changing magic of tidying to you through her Spark Joy Program. The Walpole Town Library is excited to have Shannon for an inspiring presentation on the Kon Mari phi-

losophy and guiding principles needed to tidy once and for all and leave feeling motivated to Spark Joy in your home, office, and life! Enter to win a (3) hour virtual tidying session where Shannon will personally work with you to help jumpstart your tidying journey.

There will be a link available to view the program anytime between Wednesday, January 5 at 7:00 AM through Friday, January 7 at 7:00 AM, with a live Zoom Q&A session on Thursday, January 6, from 5:00-5:20 PM. For more information or to get the link, please call the library at 603-756-9806, or email jmalmberg@walpole-townlibrary.org.

Crafternoon will be a take-home program this month with kits available for pickup on Friday, January 14 at both library branches. The Carolyn Show and Sneak Peak Saturday will start up once again the week of January 3 via Facebook and the library's YouTube channel.

Children's Programs:

Wiggle Time, Story Time and Pajama Story Time will be virtual only via Facebook and the library's YouTube channel. Please keep your visits short, whenever possible, and be understanding that staff will not assist in close contact technology help at this time. Or call the library at 603-756-9806 to request curbside or home delivery service.

We appreciate your continued support and understanding.

— Jane Malmberg



PHOTO: JAN KOBESKI

An eagle in Walpole? Visitor or permanent resident? Spied this guy one morning in the first week of December – soaring over the Unitarian Church. Only caught a glimpse and thought it might have been a large hawk. The next morning, however, glancing out my office window I spotted something large among the trees lining Main Street. It was no hawk. He made several passes from the base of Prospect Hill to Middle St; then perched on the largest tree on Main Street. I scrambled for my camera and hoped that max telephoto manually focused through two panes of glass would be clear enough for a positive identification. Waited for some time hoping he'd take wing, but he outsmarted me – leaving when I left the window for a minute. I have not seen him since. Can any reader confirm the sighting?

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Did You Know That...?

Excursions into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

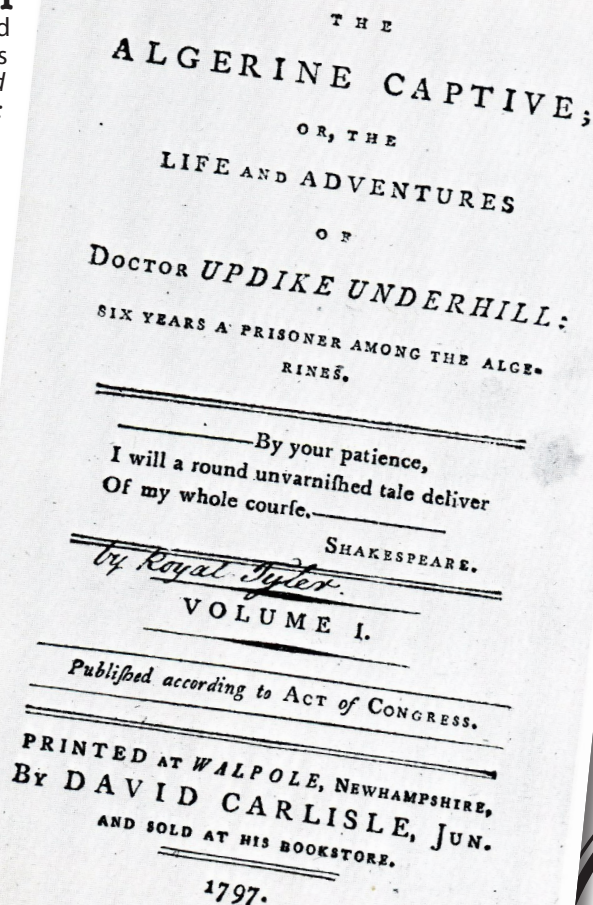
...the first American novel

republished in England was first printed in Walpole in 1797? Author Royall Tyler's *The Algerine Captive: or the Life and Adventures of Doctor Updike Underhill: Six Years a Prisoner among the Algerines*, was published by David Carlisle at his press in the center of Walpole's village. Carlisle was also printing the newspaper *The Farmer's Weekly Museum*, edited by Joseph Dennie.

In 1787, Royall Tyler (1757-1826) wrote *The Contrast*, which is considered the first American comedic play performed commercially in public by a professional theater company. When it was published in 1790, George Washington topped the list of subscribers. Tyler moved to Guilford, Vermont, in 1791 to open his law practice. Guilford then was the largest settlement in the state. He met Joseph Dennie at Charlestown, New Hampshire, and was drawn into a group of witty and intelligent young men, many lawyers, but also having a literary bent. These men met at Crafts Tavern in the center of the village, and in later years were known as the "Walpole Wits." Dennie and Tyler collaborated in writing *Colon & Spondee*, a column of amusing and satiric essays published in *The Farmer's Weekly Museum* and elsewhere. The column became one of the mainstays of the *Museum*.

Tyler was friends with the Palmer family in Boston, and, in May of 1794, he asked Mary Palmer, eighteen years his junior, to secretly marry him. She did, and the plan was to move her to Guilford Center where he was now planning to buy a house. Finally in February 1796, there was enough snow to transport Mary and fourteen month old Royall Junior, the first of their eleven children, to Vermont.

Trouble with the Barbary States and the Algiers' pirate fleet was one of the first and most difficult problems faced by the government of the new United States. American sailors had been captured as early as 1784. By the early 1790s, there were 1,200 Christian slaves in Algiers, subject to cruelty and plague. Many died. July 1796 saw 85 ransomed Americans sailing home. The American public eagerly read any newspaper accounts on the Barbary States. Deciding to fill a need, Tyler turned to writing a novel, a captivity adventure story. On August 17, 1797, his two volume *The Algerine Captive* was advertised in Boston.



final chapter, Updike is captured and taken as a slave to Algiers. In volume two, Updike describes his enslavement and gives an account of the country in which he is confined and its people. By setting Algiers in opposition to America, Underhill comments on what it means to be American. A new edition appeared in London in 1802, and although there was an earlier American novel reprinted in England in 1800, Tyler's book is given the distinction as the first American novel reprinted there.

In 1801, Tyler and his family moved to Brattleboro. His wife died in 1866, forty years after his death. During his career Tyler was an Assistant Judge of the Vermont Supreme Court, becoming the Chief Justice from 1807-1813. He was a Professor of Jurisprudence at the University of Vermont, and the Register of Probate for Windham County. The eastern section of Guilford is called Algiers, and some mistakenly believe that relates to Tyler's novel. For the correct story, read *Roads and Routes* on page 14.

Royall Tyler



In the first volume, narrator Updike Underhill chronicles his youth and early career in Boston. Tyler, through the narrator, recounts Underhill's failed attempt to serve as a teacher in a village school, follows his travels through the Northern and Southern states as a physician, and discusses his service as a surgeon aboard a slave ship that heads to Africa. In the

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Bovine Immunity

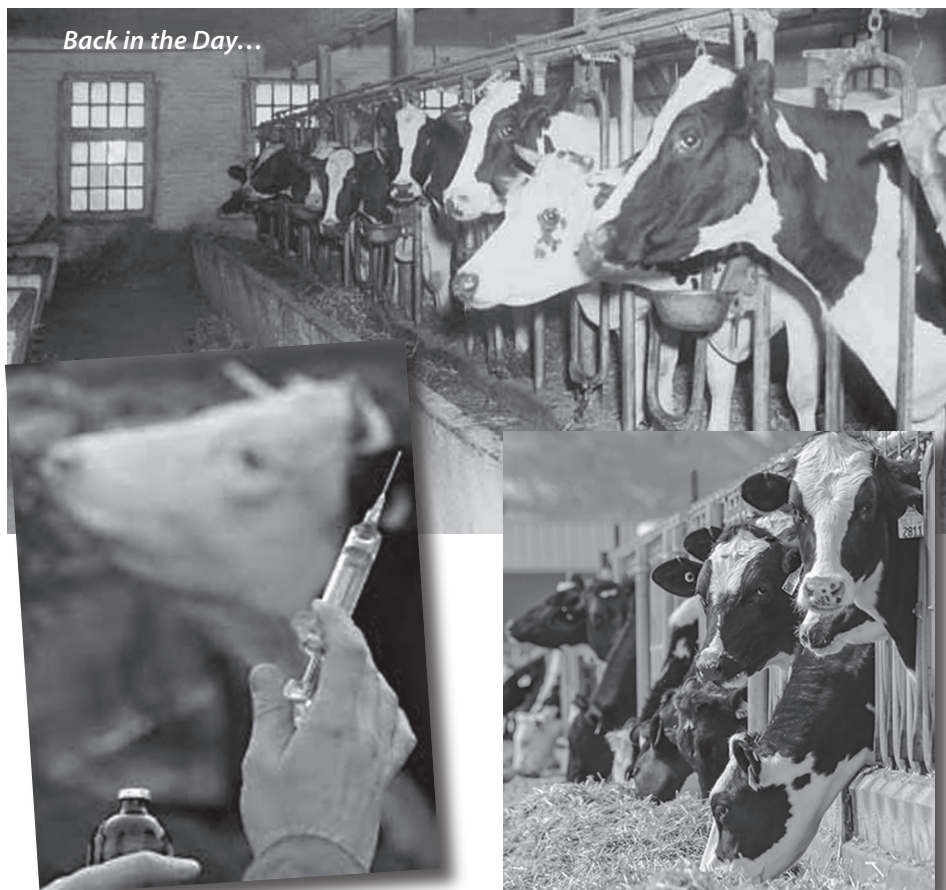
Forty two years ago, I arrived in Walpole. There were many small to mid-size farms milking anywhere from 6 to 100 cows. Many of those cows lived inside the barn for 4-5 months, from late fall through early spring. They only went outside long enough to allow the barn to be cleaned out. It was too cold and the potential for frostbitten teats or injuries was too high for them to be out very long.

Inside the barn each cow had her own space, called either a stanchion or a tie stall. The tie stall was an improvement in cow comfort for those long winters. The stanchion or stall was where the cows were milked and lived except for the short time they went outside. They were well fed, kept clean and comfortable because the ability to produce milk was related to the quality of the food, water, bedding and air. It was really challenging to maintain good air quality in the winter. The body heat of the cows kept the water from freezing, but it was critical they had reasonably fresh air to breathe so some windows, doors or fans might be opened at certain times of the day.

Before respiratory diseases in cattle were well understood, the dairyman dreaded winter because it was not unusual for cows to develop pneumonia. The worst fear was that it might spread through the barn. Many dairy farmers who are now in their 70s and 80s remember those years when many of the cows got pneumonia and dropped in milk production and some of their herd died, an economic disaster.

As the understanding of respiratory diseases evolved, vaccines became available. Dairymen immediately started vaccinating the cows in the fall in anticipation of the challenges of winter. Vaccinations worked and milk production improved and few cows died. Booster shots were included to maximize herd health. For a few dollars invested thousands of dollars were saved and the psychological

Back in the Day...



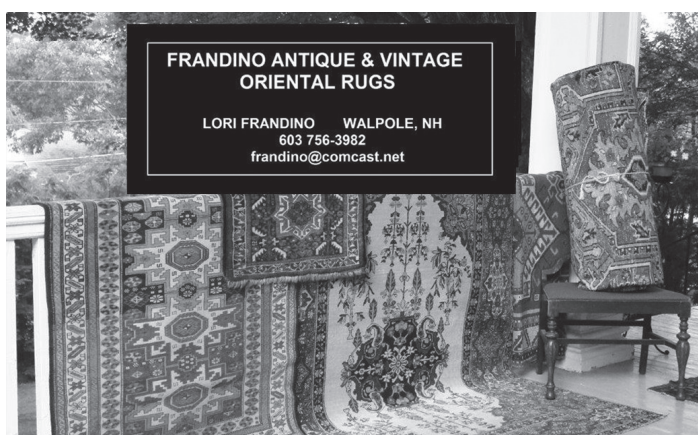
burden on the farmers was lowered. Dairymen learned that even in the face of an outbreak vaccination helped to reduce the severity of the illness.

As time moved on and farms became bigger, the cows lived in pen stables, a large area with a roof over their heads and food, water and beds so each cow had her choice of where to eat, drink and rest. At milking time, those cows were moved to a central milking facility, or parlor, to be milked. These cows were inside but in reality they were outside. The ends of the barns were open to the outside and the sidewalls shorter than the eaves of the roof. There was an opening the length of the roof peak to allow the bad air to escape. From a health perspective the free stall design got the cows as close to outside as safely

as possible, gave them food, water and beds and allowed them to move around freely. The air quality was much better, milk production improved and more cows could be milked.

But the dairymen kept vaccinating their cows because they knew the cows were still in close proximity to each other, the viruses were still present although in reduced numbers, and if they stopped vaccinating the herd would get sick. They also knew that for every 100 cows vaccinated there would be some who wouldn't develop enough immunity to be protected but, if they kept vaccinating, true herd immunity would be achieved. But it all depended on enough cows getting vaccinated.

— Charles P. Shaw, D.V.M.



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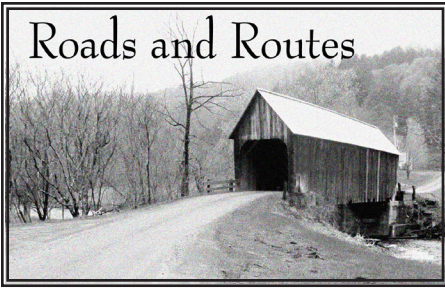
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Roads and Routes

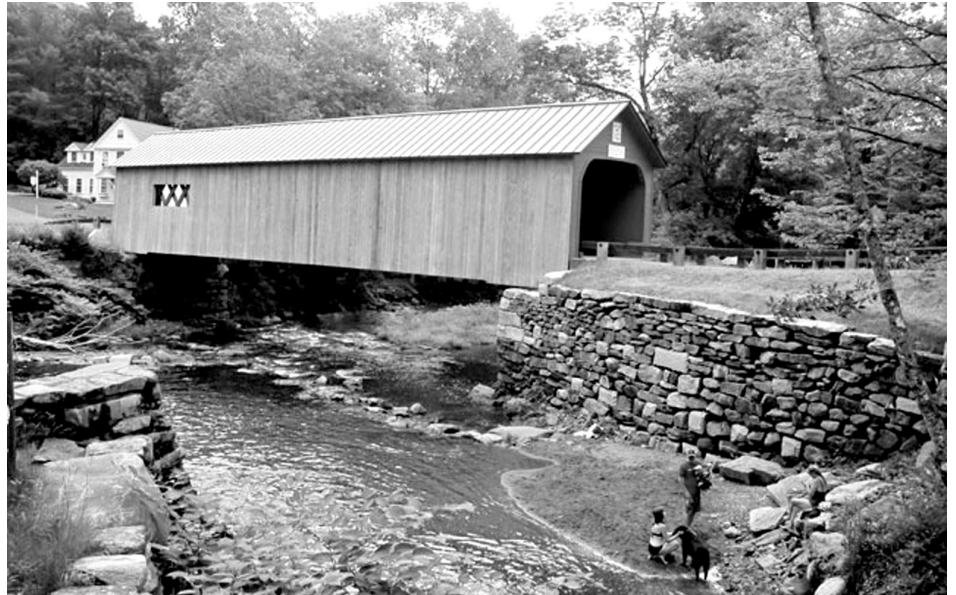


In January 2021, I mentioned I would be writing articles encouraging you to get out and explore our area. I have been "shunpiking" for decades, and enjoy documenting and sharing those adventures on my travel website - shunpikingwith-ray.com. Recently, with COVID impacting distant explorations, I have been staying closer to Walpole, and this past year spent much time just across the river in Windham County. You need to discover and explore Guilford, Vermont.

I first really noticed Guilford in the snow, February 2016. Take Exit 1 off I-91, and about a mile south on US 5 is Guilford - well, actually East Guilford. In the snow, the church on the hill was postcard perfect. On July 1, 2017, on a covered bridge quest, I entered Guilford from the remote northwest, and found the covered bridge in the Green River

section of Guilford. At that time I wrote, "...WOW - Guilford needs more exploration." But I did not pass through again for almost four years until in early in 2021 while traveling new backroads to Colrain, Massachusetts, to research the site of the first public school raising of the US Flag. I passed the Guilford Fairgrounds - seeing the grounds the plan was to return for the fair, and I did with friends on September 5, 2021.

Then more trips in November to Guilford Center. To the historical society, the little library, exploring the old mineral spring resort and its Carriage Trail in Weeks Forest, and back to River Road and the Green River Covered Bridge. With Guilford's approximately seventy-eight miles of roads; sixty miles of which are dirt and gravel, I have much yet to explore and enjoy - and you should as well.



Green River Covered Bridge from the picnic area adjoining The Green River Timber Crib Dam



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PHOTOS: RAY BOAS

Along River Road

But, back to East Guilford, or is it Algiers? Around 1800, "Guilford was the metropolis, and Brattleboro the promising suburb." The men from these adjoining villages visited each other for social evenings at the tables playing "old Sledge" or "seven up" (All Fours). "Coin of the realm" was to be found in wager on the card tables. One winter the Guilford men were further ahead in their winnings than the Brattleboro men felt acceptable. In retaliation, the Brattleboro men gathered their best players and equipped them with all available funds in their control. The games were held, and to their dismay, the men returned to Brattleboro minus their money. With the "war in Algiers" in progress, they proclaimed the Guilford men were "a gang of Algerines and pirates." Angering many residents, "especially by the feminine position," mail was soon addressed to "Algiers, near Guilford."

- Ray Boas

CHESHIRE KIDS

by Erik Doescher



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Tim Baucom Heading to Beijing

Walpole native Tim Baucom will be in Beijing, China for the 2022 Winter Olympics. Tim is a member of the service staff for the U.S. Cross Country Ski Team and the personal service technician for Olympians Hailey Swirlbul (El Jebe, CO) and JC Schoonmaker (Tahoe City, CA). Tim is currently with the team in Europe as they compete in World Cup events. This will be the second Olympics Tim has worked at since joining the U.S. Team in 2015. During the off-season, he resides in Bozeman, Montana.

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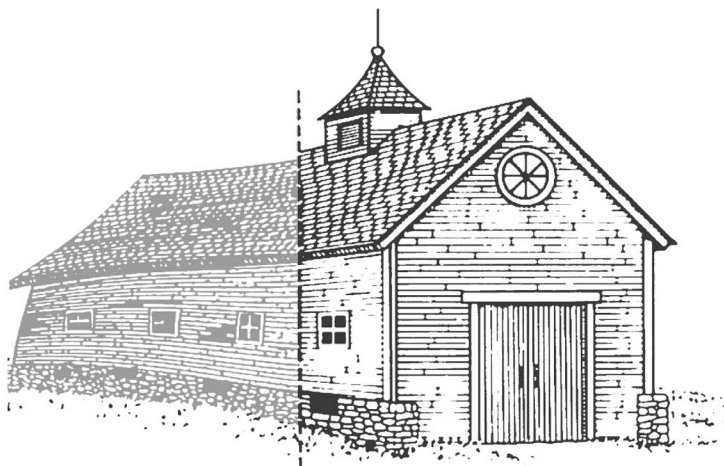
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What's Happening in Walpole Schools

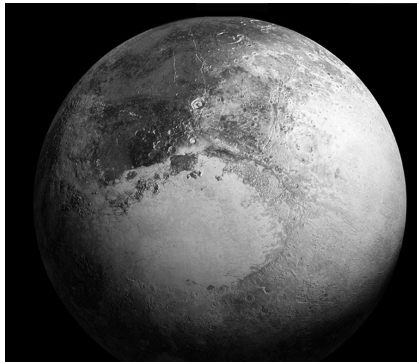


Pluto

Honk if Pluto is still a planet

– Chris Spurgeon

"There are likely thousands of dwarf planets waiting to be discovered beyond Neptune," says NASA's website. There are five official dwarf planets in the solar system - Pluto, Ceres, Makemake, Haumea, and Eris. Pluto was discovered in 1930 and was classified as a planet up until 2006 when the IAU (International Astronomical Union) clarified the definition of a planet and Pluto was demoted to a dwarf planet.



The Difference Between A Planet and a Dwarf Planet

Dwarf planets and planets are different. Dwarf planets are smaller than planets, and have not cleared their orbital path of similarly sized objects. "Pluto, for example, has not cleared its orbit of similar objects," states NASA's website, "while Earth or Jupiter have no similarly-sized worlds on the same path around the Sun. 'They're considered dwarfs because they are massive, round, and orbit the Sun, but haven't cleared their orbital path.' Larger planets have a strong enough gravitational field that will push other large objects out of the planet's orbital path.

Why Pluto is not a Planet

The discovery of Eris ultimately led to the demotion of Pluto from a planet to a dwarf planet. When first discovered, Eris looked larger than Pluto. This led to a scientific debate. In 2006, the IAU (International Astronomical Union) decided to clarify the definition of a planet. Pluto and other similar objects are now categorized as dwarf planets. The five officially classified dwarf planets are Pluto, Ceres, Makemake, Haumea, and Eris. Dwarf planets are smaller than planets, and have not cleared their orbital path of similarly sized objects. This is what led to the demotion of Pluto from a planet to a dwarf.

–Bridget Bascom (Grade 8)

Note:

The students of Newspaper Club worked on these articles from late November to mid December.

Several of them wrote about the holidays and Christmas time.

We hope that although the holiday season will have passed by the time these articles are published, that the students' holiday spirit welcomes you into the new year. - Mr. Gagnon

Christmas Gift Craft Ideas

This Christmas there are not many gifts or items online. Now you are going to think... 'What can I give my loved ones?' Well here is a list of five easy fun crafts that will light up people's faces!

Sock gnomes- First find a sock that you like and fill it with any kind of rice, poly pellets or dry beans to add weight and stability. Then fill up the sock to your desired height. Then, secure the top with a rubber band, or a zip tie. Cut off the excess!

Ornament with picture inside. Print out any picture you desire, if it's of your loved ones, dogs, cats, etc. Take the picture and glue it into the ornament!

Fake Christmas tree in a mason jar. First get a stick from an evergreen tree. Then get a mason jar, and put the evergreen tree branch in the jar. Before doing that you can paint the jar any color you want to.

Mason jar snowman hot chocolate. First get 3 mason jars and put the stuff that you need for a hot chocolate in all of the mason jars. Then you can make the face of the snowman however you want. Then grab an old piece of clothing, cut it, and make it into a mini scarf. Add a hat or any other accessories you desire.

Ornament with a hand on it. First get a wood block, paint of any color you desire. Then you can put paint on someone's hand and put it on the wood and let it dry and then make a holder for the wood that it can hang off of.

Hope you can find a way to do this and hopefully it will help you find a gift for your loved ones.

– Violet Walz & Olivia D'Alessandro (Grade 7)

WES Christmas Traditions

There are many Christmas traditions around the world, but what about right here in Walpole Elementary School? It turns out that we have a variety of traditions here in Walpole Schools, too. I asked the Newspaper Club members and other teachers around the school if they had any traditions that their families have at Christmas.

"On Christmas Eve we go up to a place in Enfield called Lasalette and it's an outdoor shrine that has hundreds of nativity sets from all over the world. We spend Christmas day at my mother-in-law's house," said Spanish teacher Senor Schilb.

Many of the Newspaper Club members put up their Christmas tree in November, and Sophia Westover (6th grade) puts up her tree in October! Rowan Aube (Grade 6) said, "At Christmas me and my grandparents always eat egg sandwiches, but last year we did it through zoom."

When asked what he does for Christmas, Mr. LeBail, the social studies teacher, said: "Decorating our house. We always watch a movie Christmas Eve. We eat fancy dinners. My wife's side has crazy traditions."

Seven people in Newspaper Club eat Christmas dinner with their families. "We make gingerbread houses, and have cinnamon rolls for breakfast in the morning, and the very first Christmas song of the year is played on Thanksgiving night, and that song is 'Christmas Wrapping' by the Waitresses," said Science teacher Mrs. Parrott.

Although most people stay at home for Christmas, 7th grader Perry Lent has a different tradition. "Me and my family go up to the lake to stay in a rental cottage before Christmas," he says. One of the Newspaper Club members open Christmas presents on Christmas Eve, instead of Christmas morning.

"We always do Christmas cards every year, and we have a Christmas Eve party," said Mrs. McGuirk, the reading teacher.

"We decorate our home, and we watch classic Christmas movies such as It's A Wonderful Life and Die Hard," said Mr. Gagnon, the Language Arts teacher.

As you can see, there are many great Christmas traditions here in Walpole Elementary School!

– Emily Heddon (Grade 8)

Ten Things To Do...

Ideas for Winter Break

Looking for something fun to do over winter break? Here are some things to do over the holidays according to Walpole students! We decided to make a little list to make your life easier!

One fun thing to do is sit by the fire and drink a nice cup of hot chocolate while watching something or doing a craft (See the article about 10 winter crafts to do over break by Violet Walz and Olivia D'Alessandro). This can be a comforting activity to do by yourself or with friends!

Another great idea is to go give a gift to a friend or family member! You could also donate food, gifts, or money to a charity! Giving a gift makes the other person feel appreciated.

An awesome way to spend the day is to do winter activities, like go sledding, ice skating, skiing/snowboarding, and snowshoeing. Overall we hope you will have a great time doing these fun activities.

Baking cookies, pies and other treats is another fun and delicious thing to do while on break. This is a fun activity to do with loved ones, friends or by yourself. Have fun baking your favorite recipes.

Pick some of your favorite movies and have a movie marathon with your family, friends, or on your own.

Going shopping with friends is a fun activity to do in the winter season, getting yourself and others something is a heartwarming gift.

Take some time off to decorate your house and spruce it up for the holiday season. Doing this can make your house more festive and warm. It can also improve your mood.

Listening to music can also improve one's mood. Whether it's festive music, pop music, classical, indie or instrumental. There are many more genres. This activity can help time fly by and you can multitask.

Building snowmen/snow forts is a fun task to do over break. Have fun making a snow person army with your friends!

Have a Christmas photoshoot with your friends or pets. The photos will be amazing when they come out.

We hope you'll have an amazing holiday break! Possibly you can use some of these ideas to spice up your vacation. Well that's all we have for now, goodbye!

– Adalynn Fuller (Grade 6)



St. Nicholas

A Brief History

In 280 AD, Saint Nicholas was born in modern day Turkey. When he was a young boy he lost both of his parents. Upon their death, he inherited the riches of his family. He then grew older and used the money he got from his parents and used it to help the poor and sick.

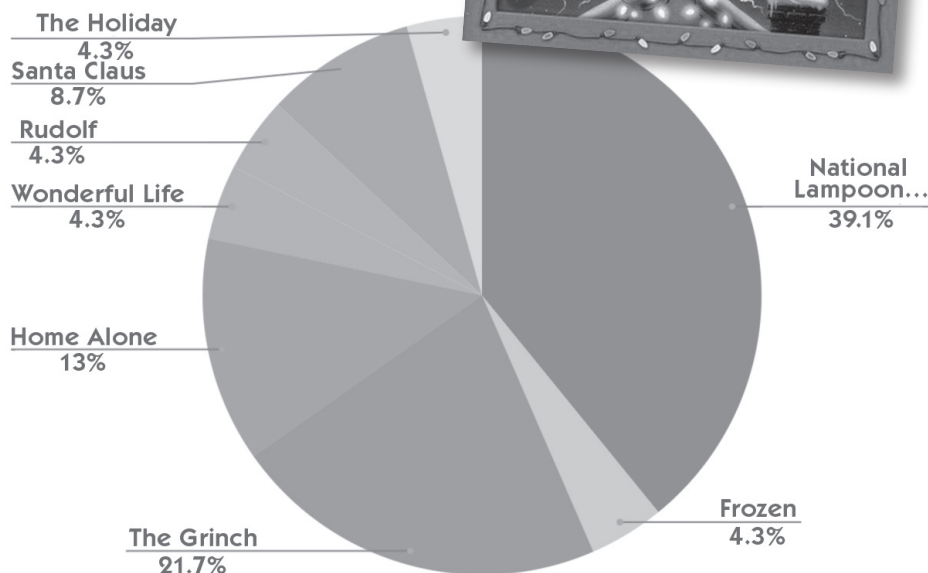
He grew up to be a very wise bishop. Saint Nicholas had many stories. One was where he helped three sisters. The sisters' family was broke and the dad was going to sell them as slaves. Saint Nicholas snuck into the house at night and left bags of money. The story about Saint Nicholas leaving riches in people's houses spread throughout the world. Today we know Saint Nicholas as Santa Claus. That name evolved from his Dutch name Sinter Klaas. Today he is still known for his kindness. Bringing gifts to people around the world.

– Perry Lent (Grade 7)

Favorite Christmas Movies

December is finally here. The holidays are right around the corner. Snow is starting to fall, you drive around town and you see Christmas lights. I took a survey on the majority of the 8th grade class (including some teachers) favorite all-time Christmas movies. While it was a close race between *Home Alone*, *The Grinch*, and *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*, *Christmas Vacation* took home nearly forty percent of the vote.

– Kelsey Fillion (Grade 8)



The Ideal Holiday Playlist

All I Want for Christmas is You by Mariah Carey – According to classmate Winter Wise, "It's a song we always listen to while decorating the tree."

Jingle Bells by Will Lyle – One of the classics.

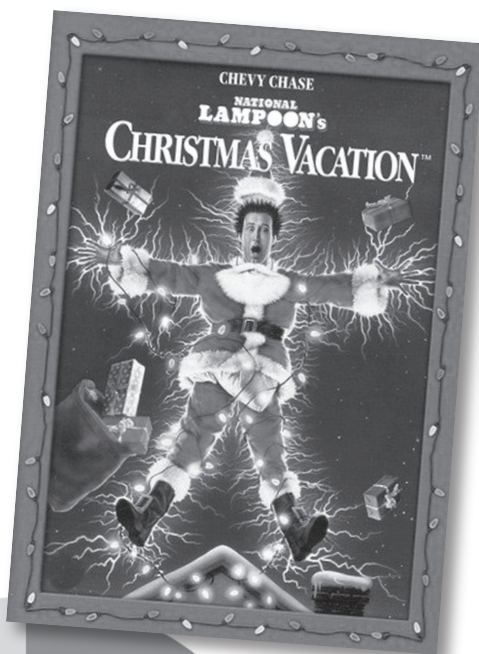
Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree by Brenda Lee – A fun classic.

Blue Christmas by Elvis Presley – "Probably my favorite Christmas song, I like it's mournful and yet hopeful depending on how you think about the lyrics," said Language Arts teacher Mr. Gagnon.

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas by Pentatonix – A classic played by Pentatonix by request of a student.

Santa Tell Me by Arianna Grande. – Take this how you will, but it is a favorite to some.

– Leo Gould (Grade 8)



From the Far Side of Walpole

Observations by William Moses

New Year's Disaster!

"How was your Christmas and New Years?" I asked my friend, Elwud.

"Well sir, Christmas went off without a hitch, but New Years ended up a disaster."

"What happened?"

"Well sir, 'tall started when I looked out in the yard two days 'afore New Years and I seed this big Lincoln Town Car with New Jersey plates parkin' in our yard. 'Hey, Velma, do we know any flatlandas from Jersey? She informs me that it must be her cousins from Jersey City. Well sir, they got what looks like skis and other stuff on top of the car. So I says looks like who ever 'tis is stopping to get directions to the ski area. Well sir, was I wrong. Turns out they come for a visit and expectin' us to go to the skiing place with 'em! So of course Velma invites 'em to stay with us in the guest room, which we dont got, which means we give up our room and sleep in the shed for three or four nights."

"So Cousin Erik asks where is the best place to go skiing. "Well sir, I says the best, closest place is that Pats Peak in Hennyka. So I called to make reservations for New Year 's Eve for the six of them. Me and Velma aint skiers nor snow boarders.

"Well sir, we get to Pats Peak and the head for the chair lift to take them to the top of the mountain.

"While we's awatchin' them go up, I get this tap on the shoulder. I turn around and come eye to eye with an old family friend, what I aint seen in years."

"Going skiing? He asks. "Oh no, we just brought some friends out to use the slopes", I respond.

"The view is beautiful from the top. I can put you on the lift, free of charge and you can ride up and ride back down. How about it?"

"He doesn't know that Im afraid of high places, of which the chair lift is one of those high places. I look to Velma, she shrugs her shoulders. I'm a sucker for 'Free' stuff, so I says, "Sure, sounds like fun." Meanwhile my stomach is starting to do flips as we approach the lift.

"Well sir, we gets aboard and all is fine, 'cepting my grip on the bar is causing it to bend a little. After what seems to be

an eternity, Velma is trying to lift the bar, to which I object, in a strong very high pitched voice, until she points to the sign which says 'Lift bar on approach'. My friend has called ahead so the attendant knows to stop the lift as we get onto the platform. He helps me off and holds on until my legs stop quiverin'. Once I get my breathin' slowed down we walk to the hut and the view is beautiful. All was well until Velma, says, "Well enough of this, time to go back down!" Even though the temperature is 20 degrees, perspiration is runnin' rampant and freezing on my face. Aint there no other way down, I ask. Velma glares at me and says "We rode up, we'll ride down. Shut up and get in line!"

"Well sir, we gets on the chair lift, drop the bar, I close my eyes and they shoot us off the platform like they was firin' a cannon. 'bout three feet out the chair drops another three feet. 'bout that time

all my bodily functions let loose. When we get to the bottom, Velma heads me to ol' Bessie, our truck, tells me to get in the back and that she'll drive home. "But honey, its 20 degrees and i'm slightly wet. I'll freeze back here." "I aint drivin' home, with you up front smellin' the way you do!" Her cousins follow us in the Lincoln Town Car with their heat on.

"When we got home, I headed to the barn to try and chip my clothes off. The cousins grab their stuff and head to New Jersey. Didnt even come near me and say goodbye.

"Later that night, Velma says to me, 'Did you learn anything today?' 'Like what?' I ask. 'Like, just because something is 'free' doesnt mean you gotta take it!

Lesson learned. I'm sure her cousins laughed all the way back to New Jersey.

Happy New Year.

From the Far Side of Walpole



FROM THE CLARION...

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

One Year Ago (January, 2021) - Sandy Smith retired after thirty-eight years of service as Town Clerk /Tax Collector. Sandy began as a volunteer in the Town Clerk's office before she became an elected official. The office changed over time, and eventually in 2003 she was elected to be both Town Clerk and Tax Collector. .

Three Years Ago (January, 2019) -After 13 years of dedicated service at the Walpole Recycling and Transfer Center, Manager Paul Colburn retired on December 29th.

Five Years Ago (January, 2017) - Following retirement from the NH House of Representatives, Tara Sad will not be sitting at home regretting that decision. In addition to continuing to do transcription work for filmmakers and doctoral students, Tara has taken a new position as Agricultural Policy Advisor with the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference.

Seven Years Ago (January 2015) - *Braving Home* by Jake Halpern brought into focus feelings about "home" that I intuitively have come to appreciate, and now must share. A military career kept me from having "roots," but when I finally serendipitously landed in Walpole I found myself home. Walking the dogs throughout the village with Cathy, we got to know people and people got to know us. And, after losing Cathy, I became even more involved with the community -- both to fill time and in the hope of "giving back"... When you become part of the community, contribute to it, can be recognized as you walk downtown, can enjoy your surroundings and friends, there is no reason to leave. When the "amalgamation of human experiences" works, and people know you, it is home. And, for me -- who will be staying -- Walpole will always be Home. - Ray Boas

Nine Years Ago (January, 2013) - Twenty-two Walpole residents have filed suit in Cheshire County Superior Court to challenge the Walpole Planning Board's approval last month of a 33,000- square-foot, two-story, 67-unit apartment complex behind Tractor Supply Co. on Route 12, aimed at people age 55 and over. The group alleges that the Board acted improperly in approving the project proposed by the Avanru Development Group of Walpole.

MILESTONES



Born

Maci Ann Barnes

October 22, 2021

7 lbs. 11oz.

**To Molly & Matt Barnes
of Langdon**

Grandparents:

**Shelly & Curt Barnes
of Langdon**

**Deb & Jim Brunelle
of Walpole**

Passed

Nancy Prince

June 12, 1929 - November 4, 2021

Roger Prince

November 23, 1923 - November 18, 2021

Charles William Milliken, Sr.

December 30, 1940 - December 5, 2021

Walpole Business Note

True Fleece

True Fleece is a sustainable clothing brand that sells high quality merino wool clothing that is made in New Zealand. Brian Pickering, of Walpole, is a partner in the company, and shipping is fulfilled by Doug Palmer and his team at Walpole Logistics. True Fleece's motto is "Take Less. Give More". Our natural performance apparel is great for avid outdoor enthusiasts, evening readers, and anyone looking for the most comfortable clothing. Check out our gear at www.truefleece.com.

– Kerri Pickering

Your 100 word submission of "business notes" is welcome for possible insertion.

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.

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

February issue deadline: January 21

Tara Sad: Copy-Editing

Jan Kobeski: Layout & Design

The Walpole Clarion on-line:

thewalpoleclarion.com

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

By the time you read this January issue we will most likely begin to see the jump in the rate of spread of the Omicron variant after holiday travels and gatherings. And, with that jump, more closings, modifications again to how we live, and deaths.

I am one of the original "baby boomers." The war was over, everyone was optimistic, everyone did what they were supposed to do as a good neighbor, and everyone did what they were told by officials and those senior to us with more experience. We were taught the "Golden Rule." The school day started with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and The Lord's Prayer. To start school you had to have certain shots. As a result, measles have all but vanished. I was in the original test of the Polio vaccine. Some may now ask, "what is Polio?" We triumphed over that with science and vaccinations.

Chuck's article is fascinating, and hopefully will help with your understanding of how viruses spread, and how they can be stopped. Viruses are in the air everywhere. We cannot avoid them, but can minimize their impact by limiting time in closed up spaces in close contact with others. We can wear a mask to be extra safe to prevent viruses from entering our system. And, we can become vaccinated, if for no other reason, out of respect for others in keeping with the "Golden Rule."

I have my two shots and booster. When another booster is recommended, I will be right in line for it. I do not want to get sick or die, and I do not want to make anyone else sick or cause their death. Please have a safe and healthy New Year.

– Ray Boas, Publisher

1991-2021

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



*The Walpole Players performed in the Helen Miller Theater for the first time in more than a year: a radio play version of **It's a Wonderful Life**. See page 8.*