

Town Meeting Time

School Budget to Drive Property Taxes Up

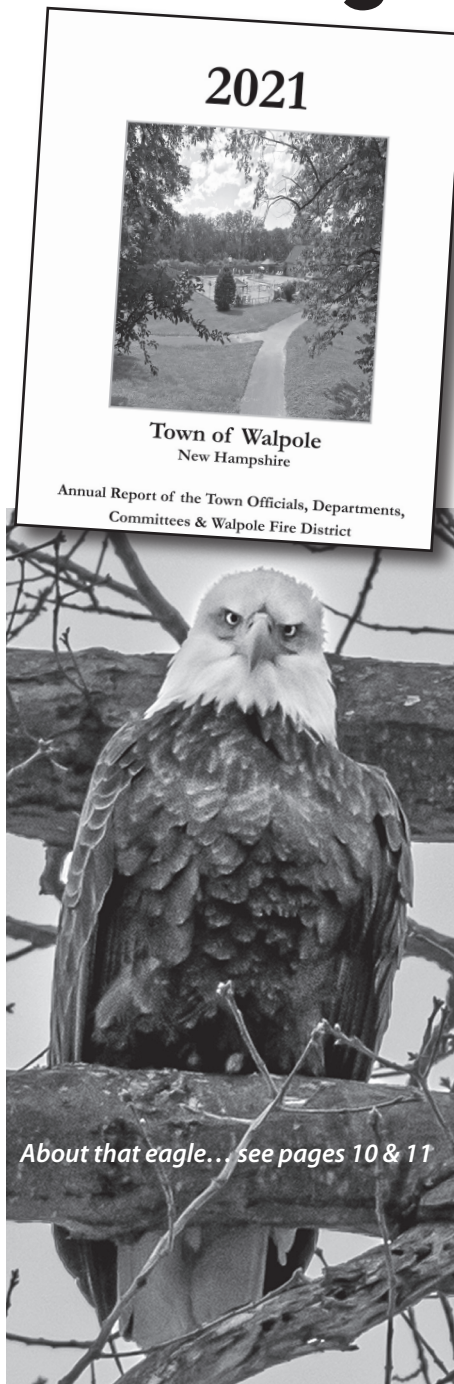
An excruciating four hour Fall Mountain Regional School District Budget Deliberative Session was held February 10, both in person and on Zoom. On your property tax bill for 2021, the school tax rate was \$13.76 per \$1,000 of property assessment. That rate will escalate to \$16.26 for the 2022/2023 school year, an increase of \$2.50 per \$1,000 evaluation. Thus, a home with an assessment of \$300,000 can expect at least an additional \$750 in property taxes.

There was a consensus that voters were not getting answers on the budget numbers, which differ and seem inconsistent. Appearing there is no accountability, one attendee at the meeting specifically asked, "Is this board accountable?" Another asked what the enrollment numbers and cost per student were, numbers that should be readily on hand, but were not. (These were partially provided later on in the session.) A three second search online provided me these numbers from the NH Department

Continued on Page 2

TOWN MEETING

Voting at the polls will be held Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 7AM to 7PM
Town Meeting will reconvene Saturday, March 12, 1:00 PM at the Walpole Elementary School Gymnasium.
About 12 Warrant Articles will be voted upon.



About that eagle... see pages 10 & 11

PHOTO: CRAIG MELLISH

Annual Budget Hearing

This year's Annual Budget Hearing was again held on Zoom February 9. Besides Town officials, there were at least six residents "tuned-in", the largest number of interested parties involved that I can recall. Selectboard Chair Cheryl Mayberry made the presentation for the 2022 budget. Overall there will be a 4.96% increase in the total operating budget for this year. Having reviewed the budget line-by-line earlier, I note nothing that jumps out for detailed study. Recognizing inflation at 6%, this year's budget includes a 6% pay increase for Town employees. Wages, benefits and payroll taxes comprise 55.34% of the operating budget (down from 56.90% in 2021). Further broken down, payments made to employees are: 66.70% wages, 29.59% benefits, and 3.72% payroll taxes. Overall, Town officials have done a good job at watching expenses. Monies spent in 2021 were about 8.5% less than budgeted and appropriated for. Funds not spent are rolled into the unassigned fund account, where they may be utilized for expenditures later approved by warrant articles.

Continued on Page 2

From Peggy's Desk

March – a month of holidays and promise as the days lengthen; we plan gardens, spot a crocus, and hear more happy bird calls. This year in 2022, March 1 is not only St David's Day- the Patron Saint of Wales- it is also Mardi Gras -Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday. A busy beginning for a busy month. By the spring equinox, we will have enjoy the beginning of Daylight Savings – March 13 - and St. Patrick's Day.

Continued on Page 6

EVERETT E. HOUGHTON CO., INC.

Electrical, Plumbing, Heating & Utilities

Electrical License - 0241C
Plumbing License - 4762C



279 Main Street
Walpole, NH 03608
Office - 603-756-3372
Fax - 603-756-9998
After Hours - 603-615-5555

info@eehoughton.com
www.eehoughton.com

DAN'S WATER TREATMENT SERVICE

Sales & Installation of New Systems;
Servicing Most Existing Systems

603-756-4398 1-888-679-6059

MATT BEAM PLUMBING & HEATING

Residential, Commercial

- Plumbing
- Heating
- Air conditioning

603-313-9985

Traditions

REAL ESTATE

73 Main Street
Walpole, NH 03608

Robin Sanctuary, Broker

Questions about Real Estate?
Let Me Help

Office: 603-756-3973

Cell: 603-313-9165

www.TraditionsReal-Estate.com



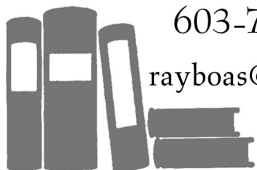
Ray Boas, Bookseller

Since 1980

Good Books & Fine Libraries Purchased

603-756-4545

rayboas@comcast.net



From Page 1, School Budget

of Education Office of School Finance, which reported, on December 28, 2021, the State average for education per student was \$18,434.21 and for the Fall Mountain Regional School District the total cost per student was \$20,497.67.

At the outset, an amendment was proposed to reduce the budget by two million dollars from the requested \$34,939,602. The argument was that voters have little choice between that number and the default budget which is only \$148,884 less. The secret ballot on the amendment, which took almost a half hour, did not pass. Most of the other articles on the school ballot relate to one or other of the specific Towns in the district.

As of this writing (February 15) the FMRSD Budget documents still appear on the district's website. The link may be found on the home page - <https://www.sau60.org>

The overall tax impact is less on Walpole taxpayers than those in Acworth, Alstead, Charlestown, and Langdon. The highest increase is in Alstead, which is facing an increase of \$353.27 per year per \$100,000 assessment.

— Ray Boas

(Endnote: According to an article in the Eagle Times, the Fall Mountain Regional School District School Board, on Monday, February 14, 2022, accepted the retirement request of Superintendent Lori Landry. Landry was quoted as saying her retirement was a 'joint decision' by herself and the board.)



From Page 1, Budget Hearing

At the polls on March 8, voters will "...elect the necessary Town Officers for their respective terms," and also be asked if in favor or not of recommended amendments to the "signs" portion of the Walpole Zoning Ordinance (see article on page xx for more information on this change). Town Meeting will then adjourn until 1:00 PM on Saturday, March 12, when articles 3 through 15 will be discussed and voted upon. Article 3 is the main money article for "...\$5,041,751 which represents four million, three hundred fifty-seven thousand, eight hundred five dollars (\$4,357,805) for the Town Operating Budget to be raised from general taxation; one hundred ninety-one thousand, two hundred two dollars (\$191,202) for the Water Fund Operating Budget and four hundred ninety-two thousand, seven hundred forty-four dollars (\$492,744) for the Sewer Operating Budget which includes two hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$230,000) for bond assessments." The budgeted water and sewer expenses are reimbursed by user fees.

Of the remaining ten warrant articles requiring funding, 70% will be funded from the unassigned fund balance or capital reserve funds if approved. The largest expenditure voters will be asked to approve is for a \$170,000 sidewalk snow blower for use in both the Village and North Walpole. Currently a failing modified lawn tractor is being used. If approved, half the funds will come from the unassigned fund balance and the balance from the Highway Capital Reserve Fund.

Mark your calendars. Vote at the polls March 8, and attend Town Meeting on March 12.

— Ray Boas

NOTICE

Residents of the North Walpole Village District
are hereby notified
of a hearing on the year 2022 Budget
to be held at 7:00 PM, TUESDAY, March 1, 2022
at the Village Commissioners' Office
at 70 Church St. in North Walpole, NH.
NW Village Commissioners.

NOTICE

Residents of the North Walpole Village District
are hereby Notified:
Voting on the 2022 Budget & Warrant Articles
is scheduled for 7:00 PM Tuesday, March 29, 2022
at St. Peter's Church basement, Church St., North Walpole, NH.

Community Power

Decision Time at Town Meeting

Since June of 2021 the Walpole Community Power Committee (WCPC) has been exploring the community power option provided by NH RSA 53-E (more about the RSA below). At town meeting this year, Walpole citizens will decide whether to take advantage of this opportunity and vote **Yes** to the following

Article on the Town Warrant:

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Walpole Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan, which authorizes the Selectboard to develop and implement the Walpole Community Power Plan as described therein (pursuant to RSA 53-E:7)

**The Walpole Electrical Aggregation Plan is on the Town Website under Government/Town Projects/Walpole Community Power.*

Majority vote required.

Recommended by the Select Board.

Basic goals of the Walpole Community Power Committee and the Selectboard in presenting this Warrant Article are to provide lower electrical rates than will be available through our 'default supplier', Liberty, and to provide the opportunity to purchase energy from sustainable sources.

A member of a similar committee in Lebanon NH, Meghan Butts, described the approach in this way – "Think of it as a buying club for electricity." And in its simplest form, that's all it is, though it will also offer other opportunities to those wishing to take advantage of them. In addition to providing electricity rates that are lower or competitive with the default rate offered by Liberty Utilities, it will also:

Provide an **energy portfolio** that can, at your choosing, prioritize the use of renewable resources, eventually emphasize locally-generated power to the maximum extent technically and economically feasible.

Create a **Reserve Fund** to finance projects and programs that, long term, assist residents and businesses in becoming carbon-free and animate local economic activity concerning energy production and conservation.

Provide **training education, guidance, and support** to residents and businesses regarding means of generating sustainable forms of energy and methods of conservation of energy such as weatherization and insulation

Some background:



Throughout our region, the electric utility industry was restructured in the 1990s to separate the business of generating electric power from the regulated monopoly functions of transmitting and distributing electricity. It's now a competitive market, and household electric customers can select competitive suppliers that purchase electricity generation from the wholesale market to match the customer's need. Typically, the larger the need, the lower the rates that become available.

NH law (RSA-53E) was passed in October of 2019. It enabled towns to 'aggregate retail electric customers, as necessary, to provide such customers access to competitive markets for supplies of electricity and related energy services.' This law is the basis for Walpole and other NH towns moving forward to explore these opportunities.

– Dennis Marcom,
Walpole Community Power Committee



**We are here to help
with your computer
and telecommunications
technology
at Home or the Office!**

Since 1995

www.whitecoyotetech.com

603.242.2898

**Wireless • Networks
File Sharing • Entertainment**

Reasonable Rates Free Estimates!

CHECKUPS ARE GOOD FOR YOUR FINANCIAL HEALTH.

Like annual physicals, a yearly financial checkup can help uncover hidden problems, inspire you to set new goals, provide information you need to improve your health, and help make sure you're on track for well-being. I specialize in thoughtful and objective investment guidance aimed at keeping your finances and goals in shape.

Call today for more information
or to schedule a consultation.

Richard B Anderson, JD
Financial Advisor
PO Box 820
42 Main Street
Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-3935
rich.anderson@lpl.com



LPL Financial

Securities offered through LPL Financial, Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advice offered through FLAGSHIP HARBOR ADVISORS, LLC, a registered investment advisor and separate entity from LPL Financial.

Candidates for Town Office

Selectboard
for Three-Year Term
(Vote for One)
Cheryl Mayberry

Town Moderator
for Two-Year Term
(Vote for One)
Jack Wozmak

Town Treasurer
for One-Year Term
(Vote for One)
David Adams

Trustee Of Trust Funds
for Three-Year Term
(Vote for One)
Michael T. Collier

Supervisor of Checklist
for Six-Year Term
(Vote for One)
Tara Sad

Supervisor of Checklist
for Two-Year Term
(Vote for One)
Michelle Gallagher

Zoning Board
for Three-Year Term
(Vote for Two)
Jan Galloway-Leclerc
Myra Mansouri
Tom Winmill

Planning Board
for Three-Year Term
(Vote for Two)
Jeff Harrington
Dennis Marcom
Shane O'Keefe

Cemetery Trustee
for Three-Year Term
(Vote for One)
John Sheldon

Library Trustees
for Three-Year Terms
(Vote for Three)
Jean Kobeski
Gail LaHaise
Tim Lester

Library Trustee
for Two-Year Term
(Vote for One)
Sarah Mann

Library Trustee
for One-Year Term
(Vote for One)
Erin Bowen

When there is competition for an a position on the ballot, the *Clarion* invites those individuals to submit comments requesting your vote.

Zoning Board

Jan Galloway-Leclerc

My name is Jan Galloway-Leclerc, and I am running for re-election to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA). I am very fortunate to have been able to grow up and spend most of my life in Walpole, and I think it is my duty to give back to the community. Walpole has a Zoning Ordinance, and it's purpose is to allow Walpole to grow, but also to protect our town so that future generations may feel as fortunate to live here as I do. As a member of the ZBA I am sworn to adhere to the Zoning Ordinance, and I believe that every person who comes before the board must be treated fairly and with respect. It has been a great privilege and a pleasure to serve on the ZBA, and I hope that the citizens of Walpole will vote to allow me to continue. Thank you.

Myra Mansouri

Hello, my name is Myra Mansouri. I am running for re-election to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. If elected, I have three goals that I want to achieve for our Town: 1. maintain our beautiful town; 2. encourage wise growth through good zoning ordinances; 3. work to bring commercial business to town with appropriate business ordinances.

These goals will require collaboration among all our boards: Planning Board, Select Board, Conservation and Zoning.

My experience with the Zoning Board stretches over 31 years - first as an alternate, then an elected member, vice chair, and Chair. I believe my time and experience will enable me to contribute to the preservation of Walpole and our ability to prepare for the future.

A friend once told me the basic requirement for being effective in any town position is to treat everyone fairly. I have a wealth of knowledge about zoning and understanding the community.

I ask for your support by voting for me.

Tom Winmill

Please give me your vote for the Walpole Zoning Board. As an attorney with over 35 years of legal experience, prior service on the Walpole Trustees of Trust Funds, a community volunteer, member of the Walpole Players, and a small business owner, I hope to contribute to the Zoning Board in the following three ways that will benefit all Walpoleans:

1. focus the Zoning Board to protect

the quality and character of our town.

2. guide the Zoning Board to act promptly and fairly.

3. assist so the Zoning Board's actions may survive legal scrutiny.

NH legal guidance directs that a Zoning Board should never issue advisory opinions or render informal advice. I will seek to ensure that the Board will act only within its legal rights, and take actions based only on unbiased fact-finding and accepted legal analysis. In this way, the Walpole Zoning Board will be fair for all who live in our wonderful Town.

I would be honored to have your vote on Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

Planning Board

Jeff Harrington

My name is Jeff Harrington and I live on Westminster Street, where I have lived since 1997 with my wife Laurie, sons Conor and Spencer, and parents, Bob and Marti. I have been a Planning Board volunteer for the last three years, learning the ropes of how a board like this works, what it can do and also in some cases what it can't do.

Three years ago my neighbor told me, "Time to do your civic duty," and I did by signing up to be elected as a member of the Walpole Planning Board. I have served before as a US Army infantry soldier, a police officer, a Peace Corps volunteer, and currently work at Keene State College as a Network Engineer.

So, why is my name on the ballot? Mainly I feel a responsibility and strong connection to this wonderful town where I have had the pleasure of raising my own kids. I want to ensure it stays a wonderful town into the future. In simple terms it is a way for me to give back and to ensure the best possible outcomes for Walpole within the bounds of the rules we have to follow.

Dennis Marcom

Why am I running for the board? The short answer is that I feel very fortunate to be a citizen of our town, and want to do my part to foster what makes this town a good place to live. Our town that did not come about by accident, for we are the beneficiaries of the actions of individual townspeople and boards that have come before us. But a town cannot stand still, any more than the river that flows past us can.

What is Article 2 All About?

Why Is the Planning Board Proposing that We Amend the Sign Ordinance?

Article 2 has two parts. One part seeks to prohibit the tall flapping fabric signs called feather flag signs, and the other part seeks to define temporary signs and officially allow their use in Walpole.

These amendments to the sign ordinance originated a couple of years ago when the Zoning Board received a complaint about the feather flag signs that had appeared at the Jiffy Mart and elsewhere in town. The gist of the complaint was that 1) the feather flags were an eye sore, and 2) they did not conform to the ordinance because they caused a distraction to drivers and were not constructed of durable materials.

The ZBA is not supposed to handle resident complaints of that sort, so it was passed along to the Select Board, whose responsibility is to enforce the town's ordinance. The Select Board agreed that the feather flag signs could be distracting to drivers and that they were not particularly attractive. However, they were not confident that the sign ordinance as written was sufficient to prohibit this type of sign. Feather flag signs did not exist when the sign ordinance was originally written, and some of the requirements of the ordinance, such as that signs be made of durable materials, could be very subjective when applied to these new signs.



Article 2:

Are you in favor of these amendments to Article IV, D. Signs, 3. Limitations ordinance as proposed by the Walpole Planning Board for the Town of Walpole's zoning ordinance as follows:

Inflatable signs; feather flags; oscillating, rotating, flashing, neon or other tubular gas signs; or signs with blinking, changing or moving illumination are not permitted. These prohibitions do not apply to signs used for safety purposes by a government entity.

Additionally, added to the ordinance, Article No. IV General Provisions, D. Signs, No. 9, and ordinance Special Exceptions will move to No. 10:

Temporary Signs

A temporary sign is any sign not permanently attached to the ground, a wall or a building that is intended to be displayed for a short to limited amount of time.

Examples of temporary signs may include but are not restricted to announcement signs; real estate signs; community or civic event signs; political campaign signs pursuant to RSA 664; garage or yard signs or signs for other special events that occur for a limited period of time.

All temporary signs shall be removed within ten (10) days following the event or activity being promoted.

The Planning Board recommends this article. (6 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain)

The Select Board recommended that an amendment be written to the sign ordinance which would specifically prohibit feather flag signs, thereby removing any ambiguity. This is the first part of Article 2.

During the discussions around feather flag signs it was brought to our attention that temporary signs are not mentioned in the ordinance. In the past, temporary signs were ignored for the most part, but that did not seem the most prudent, or legal, way to continue. Therefore, an

amendment was drafted to define temporary signs and allow them in town. This is the second part of Article 2.

At a public hearing in October 2021, the Planning Board approved the two amendments and agreed to present them to the town at the 2022 town meeting. If the voters in Walpole would like feather flag signs to be prohibited in town, and if they agree that temporary signs should be defined and allowed, they should vote YES to Article 2.

— Jan Leclerc

From Page 4

I know, for sure, that there are challenges and that there remains much to do. I continue to believe that I can play a positive role in both moving our town forward while maintaining those values that have served this town so well over the centuries since its founding in 1756.

About me: I settled in Walpole in 1976. I retired a couple of years ago, after 40 years with Benson Woodworking where I headed up the Timber Frame shop and was the company's Director of Safety. I was elected to the Planning Board in 2013 and have served on this board, to the best of my ability, since that time.

Shane O'Keefe

My name is Shane O'Keefe, and I'm running for a seat on the Town's Planning Board and ask for your support. My wife and I have been residents of Whipple Hill Road for 30 years, where our sons were born and raised. I have spent my career in

municipal public service, having served over the years as Town Planner, Planning Director, Town Administrator and Town Manager in communities in both New Hampshire and Vermont. I have a Master's Degree in city and regional planning and was a 20-year member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. In my professional roles I have helped to draft a number of town master plans, zoning and subdivision ordinances, and have extensive training and practical experience with site plan and subdivision reviews, and community economic development. My broad range of directly relevant skills and love of all things Walpole can help the town continue on its path to develop and thrive as a great community. And I bring a thoughtful, positive and progressive approach to all aspects of my professional work and personal life. I hope to contribute my skills, integrity and sound judgement to the Planning Board and respectfully ask for your vote.



Please Vote for

Tom Winmill

Walpole Zoning Board

- Long-time Walpole resident, 9 years as Trustee of Trust Funds
- Small business owner and attorney with over 35 years of experience
- Believes the Zoning Board should act promptly, fairly & with legal certainty
- Will work to protect our town, based on unbiased fact finding & strong legal analysis

Tom Winmill

Fairness for all who live in our wonderful town!

Continued from Page 1, Peggy

And, for Walpole, an important Town Election Day on March 8, with Town Meeting, Saturday March 12 at 1:00 PM in the Walpole Elementary School Gym. Please mark your calendar for this important day to approve the budget for a calendar year which started January 1.

Every year is an important year in the Town of Walpole: the warrant which deserves your attention after the budget discussion is the Warrant to approve an Electric Aggregation Plan for Walpole. This is a plan to reduce the ever rising costs of electricity for our community, as well as provide options for greener energy. It has been called a buyer's club for electricity. The Walpole town website has the aggregation plan as well as drafted questions and answers. Paul Looney, Dennis Marcom, Rod Bouchard, Andrew Dey, Patrick Kiniry and Steven Grenier have all contributed a great deal of time, expertise, and energy to developing this plan. Paul Looney is our representative on the (Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) Board of Directors. Once this Warrant is approved, the local committee will continue to work to develop an energy plan for Walpole.

By this time next year, the Brownfield site will be a new parking lot, and the former garage will be green space with plantings and benches. The new parking lot will have, at the West End, two double electric charging stations. The charging stations will collect payment for the Town of Walpole by credit card, which will cover the Town's costs. More details of these stations will be in future Clarion issues.

The Police Committee chaired by Rod Bouchard visited the Walpole Police Station and now has an understanding of the deficiencies of our police station. It is not handicapped accessible; officers work in open, cramped spaces. The squad room also serves as the lunchroom, training room, evidence gathering, and drug analysis room. The basement has only one entrance. It contains the boiler, lockers, old files, etc. One of the bathrooms also serves as a holding cell. Another doubles as storage. There is little to no privacy for anyone. I am not exaggerating; I am probably understating the problems. We need a new usable police station with proper offices, holding cells, bathrooms, showers, etc. As the committee explores our needs, we also envision a training room which could double as a community room. Such possibilities! Stay tuned, the com-

mittee plans to visit other facilities and hold public meetings so they can hear from you.

This job as Selectboard member is not all work and no play: on a sunny, windy February 12, we participated in the Hooper Institute Kick-off of the Year of Hooper with many Walpole kids building sleds from cardboard, sliding down Hooper Golf Course, tasting maple sap flowing from of the Institute's maple trees, eating popcorn and drinking hot chocolate!! Everyone was happy, laughing, and glad to be outside.

Another pleasure that day was meeting several families new to Walpole. George Levi Hooper made an appearance (disguised as Bill Perron) to tell us tales of Hooper. A great, fun day. All made possible by Helen Dalbeck, Becky Whippie, the Walpole Elementary Parents Group and Hooper Institute Board Members.

One of the many cooking magazines I read described March as the year's dreariest month. He must not live in New Hampshire - and certainly not Walpole!

- Peggy Pschirrer

Please Support Our Advertisers

What's the singular of "Panini"?

It's "panino" and we have an almost limitless variety!

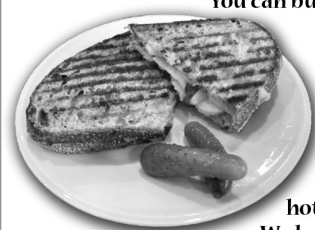
You can build your own, choosing from various meats, vegetables, cheeses, breads, and condiments. Got a secret yen for Granny apples, Vidalia onions, cheddar and honey mustard on rye?

No judgement - pick your faves.

Or if you're chilled to the bone with the temperatures, have some hot soup; the variety changes regularly.

We have recently added more fun pastries and baked goods: Pithiviers, Monkey Bread, Pretzel Rolls, Chocolate Satin Pie, Tiramisu, and too many more to list.

You'll just have to come in to see what's available.



And of course,
there's always
Walpole Creamery
ice cream...



Open Wednesdays through Sundays
from 12 noon to 7:00 PM throughout the winter.



Edward Jones®

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC



IRA? Don't wait to contribute.



Jessica Fuller
Financial Advisor
57 Main Street
Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-2513

Walpole Town Library

March News and Events

Good news! Beginning in March, we will again offer in-person library programming for all ages. In order to provide a safe space for everyone, masks will continue to be required in the library for all visitors ages 2 and up until further notice.

Code Club:

Beginning on March 1/2 through May 24/25. For kids in grades 2-5. Meets every Tuesday, at 3:30 PM at the North Walpole Library and every Wednesday, at 3:30 PM at the Bridge Memorial Library. Space is limited. Registration is recommended. For more information or to register for children's programs, please call Julie Rios at 603-756-9806 or email jrios@walpole-townlibrary.org.

Spring Library Blanket Square Drive:

The library is once again 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 beginning March 1 through April 9. If you have yarn you would like to contribute, feel free to add to the communal stash (machine wash/dry worsted weight only please).

New Book Discussion Group:

Check 'Em Out! Starting in April, we will meet monthly on a Saturday morning. Participants will have a choice to read one or more from a selection of titles with a common theme. April's theme is Short Stories. We will meet on Saturday, April 16, at 9 AM. For more information or to pick up a book, please call 603-756-9806 or stop by the library.

Great Decisions at the Library:

Each month we will have a moderated discussion of one of the topics from the Great Decisions Briefing Book, which is published annually by the Foreign Policy Association. The book and a companion DVD are available to borrow from the library. April's topic is "Changing Demographics". Join us for our first meeting in the Bridge Memorial Library at 6:00 PM, Monday April 4, 2022. If you are unable to attend in person, a Zoom link will be available. For more information or to register, call 603-756-9806 or

email jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org.

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.

If you are not able to come into the library, give us a call at 603-756-9806 or send an email to walpolelibrarycirc@gmail.com to request curbside pickup or home delivery service.

— Jane Malmberg

Got Missing, Broken or Embarrassing Teeth?

The solution could be just one phone call away.

Get your bite and smile back. We make it easy for you to get the care you want, so you can eat and smile with confidence again.

No Judgment, No Lectures, and No Hassles

No matter how long it's been since your last dental visit, or whether you have minor issues or big smile problems, you can feel confident that you will never feel shamed, judged, or pressured. What you will find is a plan to get you smiling again!

- Implants & Permanent Dentures
- Invisalign®
- Sedation Dentistry
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Botox and Dermal Fillers



BOWMAN
DENTAL

Smile Again

DENTAL IMPLANTS,
COSMETIC DENTISTRY,
AND INVISALIGN



Dr. Stephen Xue

Dr. Peter Bowman

Dr. Molly Sayball

Visit Us Online
www.BowmanDental.com

603.756.4719

Great Decisions

Changing Demographics: A Public Forum

The world experienced remarkable population growth in the 20th century. In 1927, the world population was two billion, now it is nearly eight billion. Despite a declining birth rate, an increase of five billion is projected for this century. Where is the population growing, how sustainable is this growth, what are the ramifications? How much of the increase is due to aging and what impact does that have on economic growth? How will international immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers navigate over the ever-tightening borders? The mounting challenges to sustainable population growth are some of the questions raised in our first "Great Decisions" public forum.

Join the discussion on Monday, April 4, 6:00 PM., at the Walpole Town Library. We are planning to meet in person, if deemed safe from a public health perspective, and also via Zoom. The forum will be moderated by Tom Durnford, Professor Emeritus, and is free and open to the public.

For an overview, read the first article in the Foreign Policy Association's

"Great Decisions" 2022 edition: *Changing Demographics*. This article is available from the Walpole Public Library, or the 2022 Briefing Book may be purchased from fpa.org/greatdecisions

The "Great Decisions" program was created in 1954 to increase public involvement and debate. It has become the largest non-partisan public education program on international affairs in the world. We look forward to monthly meetings in the library on a wide range of topics, from Putin's Russia to climate change to drug wars in Latin America to outer space! Join us on April 4 at 6:00 PM. For more information, contact Jane Malmberg, Director: jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org

– Sue Kibbe

COMING SOON!
Did You Know That...?
THE BOOK

CVTC

Get a ride or give a ride

Right down the road, someone needs a ride to somewhere essential. CVTC's vetted, volunteer drivers continue to give rides to people who need a ride to doctor's and social service appointments, grocery shopping, and the pharmacy. Drivers wear facemasks, sanitize the cars between trips, and request riders sit in the back seat.

If you need a ride, call CVTC. You can keep your appointments, stay independent, and live at home in peace.

Here is what one rider recently told us: "Just want to thank you for all your efforts towards making a stressful situation into a comfortable escapade. Both drivers were expedient in all regards and provided much appreciated diversion and calm in addition to transportation."

Call CVTC 821-0569 or email volunteerdriverprogram@cvtc-nh.org. We will return your call or email promptly.

For more, visit CVTC on Facebook at Community-Volunteer-Transportation-Company-676246082461179, or go to www.cvtc-nh.org. Our office is located at 375 Jaffrey Rd., Suite 3, Peterborough, NH 03458.

– Leah Kristin

**Say
Goodbye
to
Mud
Season...**



And Get a Jump on Spring:

- Yard Cleanup
- Mowing
- Brush Hogging
- Bark Mulch
- Hydroseeding

Fully Insured • Call Today for a Free Estimate.

**Our Tractor-mounted Brush Hog
Will Make Short Work of your Overgrown Fields.**

Phone: 603-499-6799 • Address: PO Box 576 Walpole N.H.

First Congregational

Sunday worship is held each week at 10:00 AM. Worship in-person and indoors, at the church at 15 Westminster Street, 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 available on Zoom.

Communion Sunday is on the first Sunday of every 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.

Ash Wednesday worship will be held March 2 at 7:00 PM. The service will include Holy Communion and imposition of ashes. This worship service will take place in the sanctuary and will be available on Zoom. Those who are unable to attend the service and wish to receive ashes should call the church office (603-756-4075) to arrange an appointment to do so.

To join First Congregational Church of Walpole Worship or Study on Zoom, use 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



Walpole Foundation

Happy Spring!

The start of a new season and moving the clock ahead is a great time to appreciate the unique electric street clock that is located at 11 Westminster Street.

The clock was purchased in 2007 by the Walpole Foundation. It is maintained by the Walpole Foundation as well. It was made by the East Bay Clock Company, and stands 11' 6" tall and weighs 150 pounds. The model is The Newburgh, which has two sided faces and is illuminated at night, creating a warm welcome in the village.

On March 13, remember to move the clocks ahead an hour; then, on March 20, we celebrate the first day of Spring! This is a great time of year to look forward to the daffodils blooming, the crocus peeping thru and the geese arriving.

— Bert Weimers

Trash Talk

An educational smorgasbord of everything trashy
From the Recycling Center

Walpole recycling would like to purchase a commercial paper shredder for the center. We are asking that the residents support Warrant Article 9 which uses some of the unexpended fund balance to make this purchase.



We see our fair share of shredded paper come into the recycling center, and when the wind picks up, I see a formidable amount of shredded paper scattered throughout the building and in the yard. The industrial grade paper shredder can shred 120 sheets of paper in one bite. It produces neat bales of material that are compact and "wind resistant". The more we compress our recyclables/trash, the less trucking is necessary to move that material. Many towns throughout New Hampshire do not compress entire trailer loads of material, increasing trucking costs and depreciating any value of the commodity.

Baling clean, pre-sorted material to distribute to our commodity purchasers makes the recycling process easier for us at Walpole Recycling. We take pride in the uniform/clean material that is welcomed by the mills receiving our recyclable product. There are many facets of our recycling process that are made better by the public's pre sorting of recyclables. The recycling process is working at Walpole Recycling, and our staff appreciates your efforts! Keep recycling Walpole!

— Ben Hoy



WildHeart Medicine

NATUROPATHIC HEALTH CARE

Ready to SPRING into better health?

Spring is the perfect time to start your journey to more energy, better sleep, happier mood, stronger body, and so much more! Call today to schedule your appointment for a better you.

Spring Deal: 10% off ALL aesthetic treatments* including Botox, cryoslimming, cryofacials, and skin tightening treatments.
*just mention this ad!

WildHeart Medicine

NATUROPATHIC HEALTH CARE

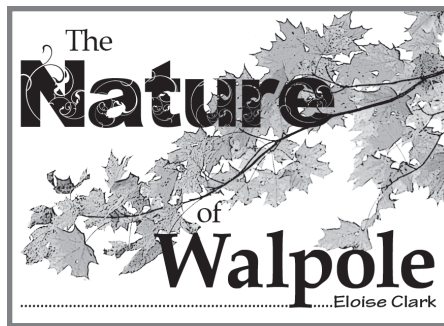
42 Main St Walpole, NH 03608
P: 971-319-1653
www.wildheartmedicine.com

WILCOX TREE SERVICE LLC
Professional & Efficient Tree Service COMPANY
363-8197
FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED
HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL
24 Hour Emergency Services
New England winters can be harsh, call us today to ensure your trees are prepared for indement weather!
www.wilcoxreeservice.com

WILCOX CRANE SERVICE
603-903-8624

It's always a thrill to see a bald eagle! Their huge wingspan and striking colorations are really impressive. Mature adults are a dark chocolate brown color that contrasts with their huge white heads and broad white tails. The curved yellow beak classifies the eagle as a raptor or bird of prey. It is used for tearing its prey into bite-sized pieces for consumption.

As the adults weigh from 10 to 14 pounds, they need long and wide wings to help them soar while hunting. Female



PHOTOS: CRAIG MELLISH



eagles have the largest wingspan of birds in our area at eight feet wingtip to wingtip. The males are slightly smaller. The wings appear flat, unlike turkey vultures that hold their wings in a slight "V" tilted up from the body. It's more difficult to identify immature eagles. They keep their speckled brown and white plumage for four or five years until they molt into adulthood. However, their massive size and soaring flight helps to identify them.

Through binoculars one can see bright yellow feet dangling with scimitar like talons one to two inches in length. These are well adapted to grasping slippery fish, a preferred part of their diet. However, their tastes can span the gamut: small mammals, ducks and other water birds. They will also consume carrion or dead animals. There have been ignoble photos of eagles visiting the landfills of old, scavenging through piles of garbage. Eagles are also not averse to snatching a fish from an osprey after it has made its catch.

The Connecticut River appears to appeal to them year round thanks to improvements in water quality and other measures over the past fifty years. The area provides plenty of fish, nesting and overwintering sites for eagles to thrive. Eagles will congregate in feeding areas in late winter and early spring such as the open water below the Bellows Falls dam. It is attractive because the turbulence keeps it unfrozen, unlike our ponds and lakes. It's available for fishing year round.

Our many large trees create nesting opportunities. Bald eagle pairs seem to like large white pine and will create huge



stick nests atop them. These are lined with moss, grasses and other soft materials to cradle the eggs. As eagles mate for life, they often return to the same nest for many years. They'll build a new layer each year, so the nests grow in size. The US Fish and Wildlife Service reports the largest known nest was in St. Petersburg, Florida. It was 9.5 feet in diameter, 20 feet deep and was estimated to weigh almost three tons! As many do, the tree eventually toppled under the weight.

The tale of the bald eagle's recovery is a story that bears repeating. In 1940, Congress passed the Bald Eagle Protection Act which prohibited killing, selling or possessing the species. By the 1960's eagles were still scarce, only a few hundred nesting pairs were left in the country, excluding Alaska. It took the publication of Rachel Carson's land-

mark 1962 book *Silent Spring* to awaken people to the hazards of DDT. By then it had become a ubiquitous pesticide. It was used so liberally that it would drift into waterways from aerial spraying or run-off into water bodies after heavy rainstorms.

Once in the water, plants and tiny biota absorbed the DDT. Small fish fed on the plants and plankton. As larger fish ate the smaller ones, DDT became more concentrated in each individual as it ascended the food chain, a process termed biomag-

nification. Eagles were receiving exponential amounts of DDT. While the pesticide wasn't lethal, it had the effect of curtailing the calcium production of eggshells. This caused the eggs to have extremely thin shells. When the adults sat on the eggs, they were crushed, along with the next several generation of eagles.

The Environmental Protection Agency banned DDT in 1972. Eagles were declared an endangered species in 1978, freeing funds for restoration work, led by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and partner groups. They employed captive breeding programs and reintroduction to favorable sites such as Quabbin Reservoir in our area. Nest sites were monitored and protected during breeding season from marauding raccoons, always hungry for eggs or young eaglets.

In the wild, eagles live 15 to 30 years. The oldest on record was a female who was struck by a car at age 38. While, eagles and other birds of prey are now protected from shooting by humans, they are not protected from other man-made hazards such as oil spills, ingesting lead shot in water birds or mercury pollution. As many fishermen know, mercury can also become magnified as it moves up the food chain, impacting those who consume larger fish.

It's not easy being a bald eagle or any kind of wildlife for that matter. Take a moment to marvel at this remarkable bird and the many perils it faces.

Thanks to the US Fish and Wildlife Service "Fact Sheet on the Natural History, Ecology and Recovery of Bald Eagles" for some of this information.



PHOTO: STEVE FULLER

More Eagle Stuff

Thanks to the skill of Florentine Films photographer Craig Mellish, and the words of Eloise Clark in this month's *The Nature of Walpole*, we can officially close this chapter of the Eagles of Walpole. They're here, they're active, and they're just magnificent. If you haven't spotted them yet, just keep looking up, particularly in North Walpole... and mind your outdoor pets.

In the wake of last month's fox and bobcat photos, this issue's backyard wildlife image comes from North Road courtesy of Steve Fuller – two deer at sunrise. Unfortunately, black and white does no justice to the tinted sky of the original composition, but it's still worth sharing.

– Jan Kobeski

Blanket Square Drive

If you are looking for a pandemic friendly hobby, a way to spread love and warmth to those in need, or a way to add some bright colors into these last gray days of winter, please join us in helping to warm up America!

From March 1 through April 9, the Walpole Town Library will be hosting a blanket square drive for Warm Up America. Warm up America collects knitted and 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.

All supplies, information, and instructions will be available at the library during normal hours. Finished 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). If you have any questions, please email Rachel at rachelstjohn1@gmail.com.

– Rachel St John

Old Home Days 2022

"Main Street Memories"

As we look forward to warmer weather, it's exciting to remember that Walpole's (now twice postponed) Old Home Days celebrations are now scheduled this summer for June 22 to 26. The Old Home Day Committee is already hard at work planning a week of fun and festivities that will feature a parade, fireworks, a pet show, street dance, performances by the Walpole Players and the always popular booths and activities on the Common.

Walpole based community groups and local non-profits serving the Walpole community are invited to reserve space on the Common for the festivities on

Saturday June 25. Local non-profit community groups may reserve space for displays, exhibits, games, concessions and fundraising activities by contacting David & Linda Edkins at dmedkins@comcast.net, or calling 756-4249.

The Committee anticipates a week of safe, community spirited fun for our Old Home Day celebration. However, as we all know, circumstances can change rapidly given our recent experience with Covid and its variants. The Committee reserves the right to change and/or adjust plans and protocols subject to the then-current conditions and applicable federal, state or local guidance.

– Dave Edkins



Like Us On Facebook
for News and Updates

The Walpole Clarion

Come Join Our Team!



Be a Part of a Better Breed!

Hubbard
YOUR CHOICE, OUR COMMITMENT

**Competitive Wages
Excellent Benefits
Training Provided**

**\$1000 Sign-On Bonus
New Positions
Management Opportunities**

Employment @ Hubbard

603-756-4481 • [Facebook@HubbardBreeders](https://www.facebook.com/HubbardBreeders)

Did You Know That...?

Excursions into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

...when Langdon was formed

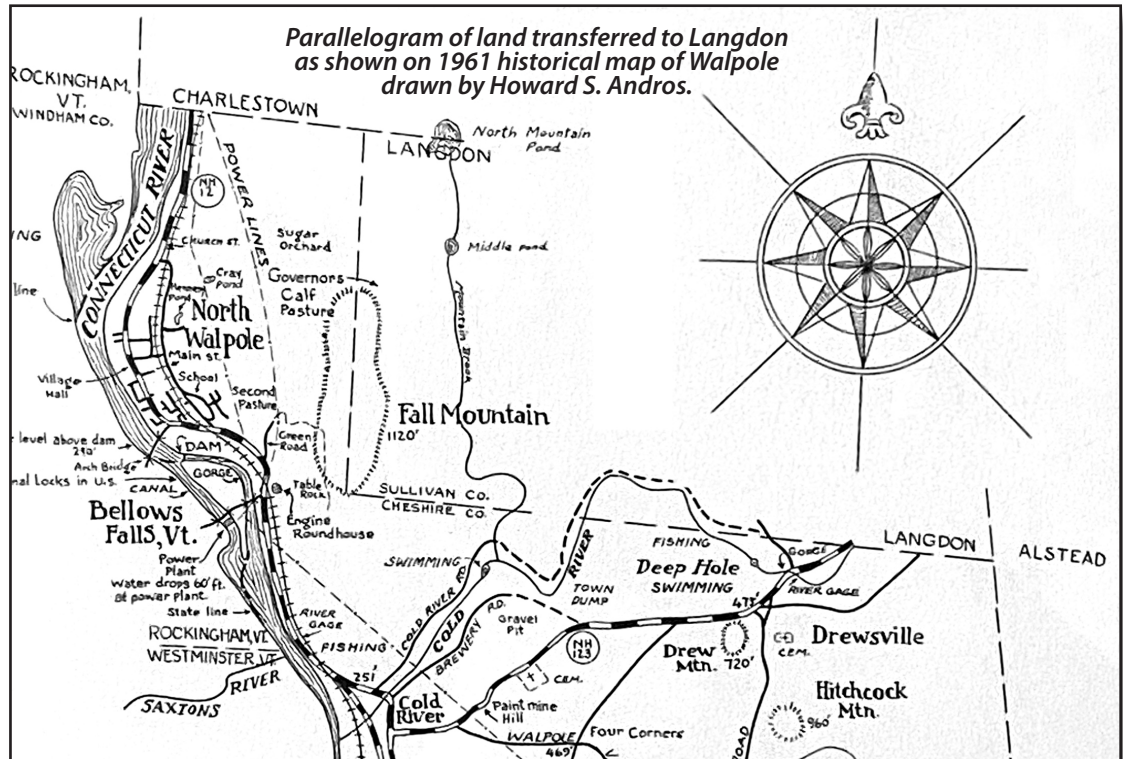
in 1787, it received approximately 7,000 acres severed from the southeast corner of Charlestown, and 3,000 acres from the northeast corner of Walpole? The parallelogram of land annexed from Walpole ran three miles east and west by one and three-quarters miles north and south. Walpole's original northern boundary was the east-west line that then crossed approximately at the intersection where the Old Cheshire Turnpike bears off to the left towards Fall Mountain Regional High School, a tad north of the Prentiss Covered Bridge. This bridge, built about 1874, is the smallest covered bridge in New Hampshire, and is now bypassed by a modern bridge built in 1955.

This parcel of land transferred from Walpole was originally set aside for the Church of England. Known as Glebe Lands, or public lands, such parcels were established by Governor Wentworth during the chartering of towns to provide for the support of the church. The Governor usually did not know the lands he was granting and reserving, but he assumed this area close to the Great Falls would be ideal and profitable to set aside as an income source from shad and salmon. He consulted Col. Bellows, who had surveyed the land, as to "the propriety of locating his plot of five hundred acres east of the Falls". Bellows was honest in replying the plot would have little value, and it might "might make a good calf pasture, but nothing better". Bellows knew the mountain was there, but to the east of the mountain there was usable value. Wentworth accused Bellows of undervaluing the lot, and set aside those acres anyway. The land to the east of Fall Mountain is still often referred to as the "Governor's calf pasture".

Travel was difficult in the eighteenth century, and early Langdon area settlers, living far from the center of both Charlestown and Walpole, desired to establish their own town. Petitions were sent to Charlestown on February 21, 1786, and to Walpole on April 5, 1786, asking if both towns would set aside some of their lands to allow the estab-

lishment of Langdon (named for patriot John Langdon, who later served as a New Hampshire governor). Both towns approving those petitions at Town Meetings, the New Hampshire legislature passed an Act 11 January 1787 establishing Langdon that since inhabitants of "...

tained the consent of Charlestown and Walpole for their Separation Wherefore they pray they might be incorporated into a Town by the name of Langdon.. "The next year, in a new petition to the state, Walpole re-annexed the narrow portion of land from the Falls to the Charlestown line. The reason for the petition was most likely that the residents on the west side of the mountain would be better served by Walpole than Langdon.



the towns of Charlestown and Walpole in the County of Cheshire in Said State have petitioned the General Court setting forth that they are inconveniently situated to attend public worship in the several Towns to which they are now annexed that their remoteness from the center of the Town deprive them of many advantages that they might enjoy were they united in one Town that they have ob-

Cheshire County was incorporated March 19, 1771, with shire towns at Keene and Charlestown. The county was divided July 5, 1827, and Langdon and fourteen other Towns were incorporated into Sullivan County, named in honor of Hon. John Sullivan. Langdon's population in 2020 was 651.

And now you know.

FLORENTINE FILMS

Making films in Walpole
for 40 Years.



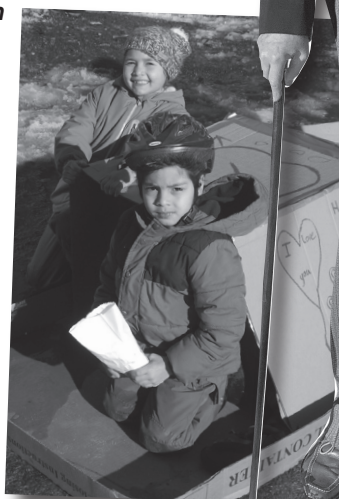
PHOTO: EMMA KOBESKI



George Hooper Visits Walpole – Again!

Throughout this year Bill Perron (seen left) will be portraying George Hooper, sharing stories at the Institute's functions. Mr. Hooper visited at the Winter Fun Day to kick-off the George Levi Hooper Birthday Fund. The fundraising is for the future of the Hooper Institute's education and scholarship programs. All donations are going directly towards serving the youth of Walpole. Checks payable to Friends of Hooper may be mailed to PO Box 135, Walpole NH 03608

– Helen Dalbeck



Home-made sleds were the focus of Winter Fun Day, and Walpole families showed what can be done with a bit of cardboard, duct tape and imagination. Their creations went downhill splendidly too. Refreshments (some straight from the tree) were also provided.



PHOTO: EMMA KOBESKI

BRENNAN



**BUILDING
EXCAVATION
SEPTIC SYSTEMS**

802 869 2866

www.BrennanConstructionVT.com

The Gathering Place

Last month I reported “The Gathering Place” – a new sign in the window of the former Murray’s on Westminster Street.” And now Tom Murray and Eva Beauregard are about to open the space for small functions. But first the background for the name and idea.

When Tom’s parents, Dick and Marolyn Murray, started their luncheonette business on Westminster Street in January 1980, they called it “The Gathering Place”, a name to get started. Not sure whether to stay with the name or not, in 1981 a suggestion box was placed on the counter for customer’s thoughts for a new name. The winning suggestion - Murray’s – became the name of the restaurant in August of 1981, which remained for over 34 years until closing in December 2014. Tom’s Dad rented the space initially. Following graduation from UNH, Tom took over the business in 1980, buying the building in 1985. Little changed over the years. The menu of good, home-cooked food served for breakfast and lunch could be counted on.

Eva and Tom had talked about how the town needed a space for people to hold small functions. With the iconic space now vacant, they decided to bring the building back to life. They discussed names for the function space. Eva was set on “The Gathering Place”. When she came up with the name, Tom told her about the original name of the restaurant. She never knew this, it had never come up in conversation. Now the couple feels 14 Westminster Street has come full circle.

“The Gathering Place” has been repurposed as a very warm and cozy sitting room for a variety of social needs. Eva and Tom have decorated and outfitted the space for birthdays, anniversaries, group functions such as family dinners and meetings. There is room for a gathering of 16 to 20 people, with facilities to cook, warm up or chill foods. A new coffee bar and server ware are also available for your event or function. Ready to book? For more information, and schedule your function call Eva at (603) 209-2199.

– Ray Boas



PHOTO: RAY BOAS





SERVPRO of Cheshire County

Fire & Water – Cleanup & Restoration™



WATER
DAMAGE



FIRE
DAMAGE



MOLD
REMEDICATION



STORM
DAMAGE



COMMERCIAL
SERVICES



Join Our Team!
We're Hiring.

Since 1978
603-352-7251

The Walpole Players

The Follies are Back

If you've been cooped up with Cabin Fever, the Walpole Players has the perfect remedy. After a two-year hiatus, the Cabin Fever Radio Follies will be back on March 12, 2022! Be prepared for an evening of intrigue, laughs, and a trip to the wild, wild west. You'll recognize the familiar voices of Fibber McGee and Molly, Bob and Ray, Jack Benny, and make the acquaintance of Doc Savage and his not-so-able assistants.

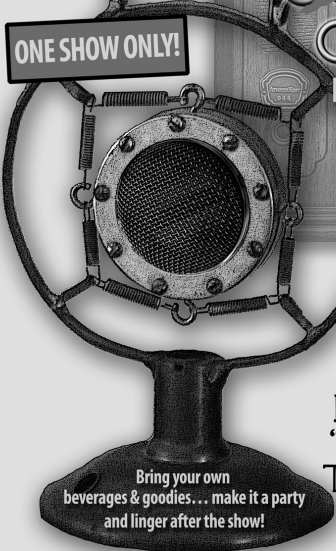
The audience will be seated at tables in a dinner theater setting. Please plan to bring your own food and drink to enjoy before and during the show (don't forget to bring your plates and utensils). So reserve a table for you and your friends!

We'd like to extend a big Thank-You to Mascoma Bank in Walpole, where tickets can be purchased in advance for \$12. Any ticket sold or paid for at the door will be \$15. Doors open at 6:30 PM and the show starts at 7:00 PM.

Questions? Check our website TheWalpolePlayers.org, our Facebook page, or call 603-345-0230.

For the safety of our audience members, actors, and our community at large, everyone in attendance will be required to wear a mask upon entering the building. Once you are seated at your table, you may remove your mask, but your mask must be worn if you leave your seat at any time for any reason. We also request that audience members be vaccinated. We will not be requiring proof of vaccination status, but we will be checking temperatures at the door. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4°F or higher will be asked to leave, and a full refund will be given.

– Meg Kupiec



**CABIN FEVER
RADIO FOLLIES**

~~WPRB OF 2020~~
~~OF 2021~~
OF 2022

ONE SHOW ONLY!

Relive Classic Broadcasts
from the Golden Days
of Radio...

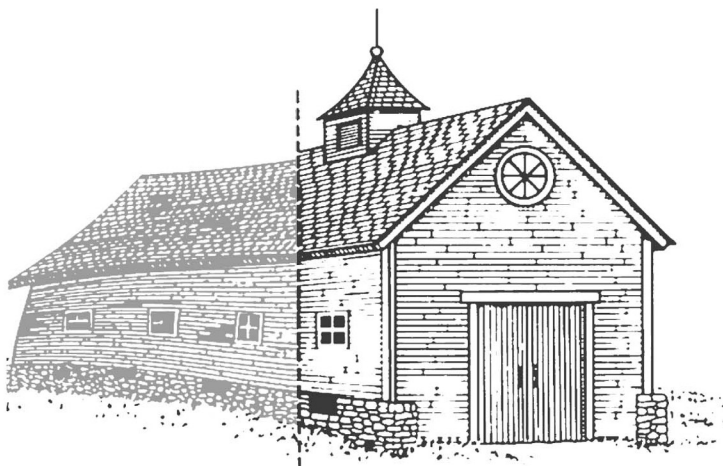
**ALL NEW
OLD BROADCASTS!**

The Walpole Players
WALPOLE TOWN HALL
SATURDAY, MARCH 12
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30
"ON THE AIR" AT 7:00
TICKETS: \$12 PAID IN ADVANCE
\$15 AT THE DOOR

Bring your own
beverages & goodies... make it a party
and linger after the show!

TICKETS & TABLE RESERVATIONS AT MASCOMA BANK, MAIN ST., WALPOLE
CALL 603-345-0230 FOR INFORMATION

Chris Parker House and Barn Restoration



www.oldbuildingfix.com

- ★ Structural Restoration – Repair and/or Replacement of Damaged Foundations, Sills, Joists, Framing Timbers.
- ★ New Foundations Constructed under Existing Buildings.
- ★ Tasteful Remodeling of and Additions to Period Homes.
- ★ Recycling and Dismantling of Old Barns and Re-assembly.
- ★ Barn Frames, Timbers, and Barn Board for Sale.

(802) 257-4610 • (802) 579-5163



What's Happening in Walpole Schools



Basketball

WES Boys and Girls Teams Win Conference Championships

So far, this year has been very successful for the boys' and girls' basketball teams. They are undefeated, other than their game against Keene a few



PHOTO: KIM KING

Champions.

PHOTO: SUE FILLION

weeks ago. (They aren't in our division, so it does not count) I'm on the girls' team, and have noticed significant growth in myself, my teammates, and the boys, too. The most recent game we had was against Dummerston, and both the girls' team and boys' team won! The coaches are also a huge part of these successful games. Their pushing us allows us to get better, and play with great confidence and skill. I know that some of us were very nervous to play our first game, but once we got out on the court and started, it was almost like we'd never been nervous at all. Practice has definitely helped us a lot with building strength and confidence. During the girls' practice, we work on plays, shooting, and we usually run during the end. With more games to come this season, we're all hoping things go well, and we win a few more games too!

All teams played in the championship finals at Leland and Gray. The girls played in the first game, defeating Chesterfield Middle School. The game remained closed through the first three quarters, with Walpole holding tight to their lead. In the fourth quarter, Walpole pulled ahead with a comfortable lead which they maintained to claim victory. The boys followed the girls' victory with one of their own. The Walpole boys defeated the Westmoreland Bulldogs to earn the championship victory.

– Sophia D'Alessandro (Grade 7)



PHOTO: SUE FILLION

PHOTO: TIFFANY PARKER



GREATER FALLS INSURANCE

serving VT and NH since 1996



Home • Auto • Farm • Business • Motorcycle • Recreational Vehicles

7190 US Route 5 • Westminster, Vermont 05158
802-463-1900 • www.greaterfallsinsurance.com

Cheese

A Brief History

The earliest recording of cheese was around 5,500 bc. No one really knows who invented it, but according to an ancient legend, it was made accidentally by an Arabian merchant who put his supply of milk into a pouch made from a sheep's stomach, as he set out on a day's journey across the desert. There have been many cheeses invented over the years. There are over 1,800. Switzerland even adopted cheese as its national food. The number one cheese ever made according to my research is Asiago. According to Marky's it is the best seller. There are many forms of cheese... blocks, wheels, slices, etc.

– Rowan Aube (Grade 6)



Valentines Day Dance

On February 11, 2022, The Walpole Elementary School held a Valentine's Day dance! Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders were able to attend. The theme of the dance was Valentine's Day, so it included balloons and decorations that were pink, red, and white. Some students exchanged flowers and candy.

At the dance there were snacks and drinks. There was even a DJ that played some of the students' favorite songs. Students were able to request all of your favorite songs. The event went from 7:00-9:30 PM, and it was lots of fun.

Walpole students have missed having frequent events, so it was a great opportunity to have fun with friends. Just before February break, the Walpole PTG is hosting a roller skating party in the WES gymnasium that is sure to be a great time.

– Avery Richardson (Grade 7)

Mental Health Talk

ADHD

This is the first in a series of talking about mental illnesses, some more or less common than others. This month is ADHD. What does ADHD stand for? Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. What is ADHD? It is a mental disorder in which the person is hyperactive, has attention difficulty, and can be impulsive.

A day in the life of someone with ADHD looks similar to anyone else, though they may have difficulty staying focused and getting tasks done. They can make careless mistakes and can put their education and employment in jeopardy. These symptoms make it so that people are disorganized and lose important things. This is one of the reasons keeping a job or doing well in school can be difficult, because they have a hard time focusing and making sure they have what they need.

Even though they have to deal with this, they are no different than anyone. Just because they struggle with paying attention and can have ups and downs doesn't mean that they are difficult or rude. But really, people who suffer from ADHD are doing their best with what they have been given.

– Leo Gould (Grade 8)



Predator Alert

How to Protect Your Farm Animals

Hello Everybody! I just wanted to say, those of you who live on or near County Road, be careful! A fox recently came by twice to go after our chickens. It looked a little bit sick and was moving very slowly. If you have any farm animals you want to protect, I would suggest setting up scarecrows.



Our family set up three of them. All we did was find long sticks, screwed them together, and then dressed them with clothes we didn't care about, but made sure they are dangly so that way they can move in the wind! We dressed our scarecrow with old wigs, dangly clothes, and loud bells. We then stuck the bottom of the stick in the ground, and supported it with bricks. Now you have a homemade scarecrow!

– Luna Loch (Grade 7)



Have you been thinking of selling your home? Inventory is low and buyers are looking! Call Galloway Real Estate to discuss listing your home for sale.

Receive a free opinion of value from your local Real Estate Professional!

"Building our communities one family at a time."

47 Main St. PO Box 100
Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-3661
www.gallowayservices.com

LOVE
YOUR | *Smile*

CALL FOR A
FREE CONSULTATION.



MILLER
ORTHODONTIC
SPECIALISTS

(603) 352-8661 • DrMillerOrtho.com



From the Far Side of Walpole

Observations by William Moses

Beware the Ides of March!

As I slid into Elwud's driveway, stopping short of hitting his barn, I detected the smell of burnt wood.

Elwud emerged from the barn, followed by his pet Rooster, Clyde. Don't know the reason, but Clyde hates me. In fact the moment he spotted me his feathers ruffled and his wings spread out and in two seconds he was squarking and heading toward me at a high rate of speed. I braced myself and swung my cane, missing him by two inches. He turned and hightailed it back into the barn.

"You got a bonfire going?" I asked Elwud.

"No. Why'd ya ask?" he replied.

"Well I'm getting a strong burnt wood odor," I said.

"Oh, thats from the shed out back of the house. It burnt ta the ground last night."

I thought for a second and said, "The shed behind the house? Isn't that the outhouse?"

Elwud refuses to have running water in the house, except for the kitchen, but no toilet or shower. He told me once, if it was good enough for them what built the place in 1807, it was good enough for him and Velma. "Must be kind of difficult with this minus ten and 20 below weather we've been having this winter." I ventured.

"Ayup, and thats what caused the problem. Velma kept complainin', so I ran an 'xtension cord out from the shed and hooked up an old electric heater I found out in the barn. So when she heads out, she can plug it in an' heat the place up a bit."

"So what caused the fire?" I asked.

"Well sir, seems a couple of 'coons liked the shelter and warmth and moved in unbeknownst to us. Last night Velma plugged it in and got inside the building, got all settled in an' the 'coons jumped out from behind the heater. Scared the stuffin' outta Velma, she screamed, the 'coons bolted, tipping over the heater, which broke onova the coils, which set the LL Bean catalog and toilet paper on fire, which spread through the entire outhouse."

"Wow, so what you doing now?" I asked.

"Well sir, I found a couple of Chamber Pots that they used back in the 1800 up in the attic, so I brought them down and thats what we will use until spring."

"But those require dumping. Where are you dumping them?"

"Takin' them down to the creek, 'bout hundret yards from the house and let the spring thaw take it from there"

I didn't want to get into the environmental impact that was having, never mind the legality of the situation, so I kept quiet.

"So I'm guessing you shot the racoon, right?"

"No, why would you think that?" he asked.

"Well I can see a lot of what looks blood out back."

"Oh, that. You want to stay for supper? W's having' fresh venison tonight."

About that time, I noticed Clyde eyeing me from the barn, so I got in the car, said my good byes and headed home.

Gleanings from the Town Minutes

Conservation Commission February 7

Walpole Gateway Action Plan - Peter Palmiotto emailed a copy of his action plan for the gateway to the membership prior to this meeting. He stated the document is written as an action plan, which could then evolve into the management plan with input from the members. The goal is to make decisions now so they can get folks down there in the spring. He said what he wrote is his opinion based on what has been discussed in meetings thus far. (*Editor's Note: Please read the minutes for full details of the proposed plan.*)

Keep Up on Walpole Happenings

Visit The Walpolean

<https://thewalpolean.org/>

Sign Up to FOLLOW BLOG VIA EMAIL



FROM THE CLARION...

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

One Year Ago (March, 2021) – At the Selectboard meeting February 11, Steve Grenier presented his findings on changing the Town's street lights to LED lights...Liberty Utilities provided a project cost of \$21,166.27. Estimated yearly electrical savings to the Town are about a \$15,000 a year.

Three Years Ago (March, 2019) –In 1844, there was some trouble during Town Meeting. As a result, the following was adopted: "Voted that every person on entering the Hall shall take a seat, also, that no person shall stand upon the seats or railing, that no person shall speak while another is speaking to interrupt him..."

Five Years Ago (March, 2017) – The Town will potentially be receiving property in the Village, known as the Westberg Property. Formerly the site of the plating plant, this land, once cleaned up (with grant monies), will serve as needed "downtown" parking for employees and shoppers..

Seven Years Ago (March, 2015) – As I was pulling snow off my porch roof on Valentine's Day, a car came down my drive. Three very polite teenagers hopped out wishing me a Happy Valentine's Day and giving me a bag of cookies. "You really have made my day," I told them, and they continued their best wishes. I was really overwhelmed with their kindness. Walpole raises nice youngsters. – Ray Boas

Nine Years Ago (March, 2013) – One of the most exciting items in this year's budget to be presented and voted upon at Walpole's Town Meeting on Saturday, March 16th, is new chairs for the Town Hall.

MILESTONES

Passed

Rick Prentiss

November 4, 1942 - January 21, 2022

Harvey Prentiss

September 30, 1932 - February 1, 2022

Lois C. Kenyon – Pesanelli

December 23, 1928 - February 1, 2022

Phyllis A. Pickering

March 6, 1942 - February 9, 2022

Kudos

Josephine Wysk of White River Jct., VT, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Carpenter of Old Drewsville Road, Walpole, on graduating from Community College of Vermont with an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education

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

April issue deadline: March 21

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

The Walpole Clarion on-line:
thewalpoleclarion.com

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

President's Day, and hours before this "election issue" goes to the printer. Town Meeting time, and we again head to the polls to elect town officials and vote on the warrant articles. The Town's warrant articles are straight forward, and should be non-controversial. Two are explained further in this issue. For both the Planning and Zoning Boards we have three contenders for two positions. It is gratifying to see exceptional talent stepping up volunteering to serve our community, but in our democracy the final choice is yours.

Also gratifying and exceptional are Craig's and Steve's contributions sharing their images of area wildlife. Thank you. Remember, the **Clarion** is your paper and voice, if you have something to share it will be included as possible.

Harder to understand (at least to this voter) is the Fall Mountain Regional School District budget and warrant articles that you will vote on March 8. The lack of explanation at the deliberative session, resulting in a significant increase in our property taxes, was not well received. Anticipating this dissatisfaction is probably why Article 11 was submitted by petition. This last article on the school ballot asks for a "vote to approve the establishment of a Fall Mountain Region School District Budget Committee pursuant to RSA 32-1." To assist you, I quote The NH Municipal Association, "The budget committee's purpose is 'to assist the voters in the prudent appropriation of public funds.' RSA 32:1. While the budget committee has the duty to review current expenditures, it is primarily for the purpose of preparing future budgets, rather than to challenge or dispute what the governing body is doing."

— Ray Boas, Publisher

Reader Commentary

Thank You

Valentine's Day is now past, but I must share with you the goodness of our community's youth, and express my thanks. For the past ten or so years there has been a knock at my door on February 13. It happened again this year, and I greeted youthful members of the Pinnacleview 4-H Club. They presented me with a Valentine's Day bag of treats. I have no idea why I have been blessed with their visits, but it is so special, particularly from our young citizens. Thank you, you are a credit to our community, and the good future of our country.

— Ray Boas



1991-2021

HOWARD PRINTING

I n c o r p o r a t e d

CELEBRATING

30 YEARS!

*Rely on us for friendly, local service
and award-winning quality!*

Printing • Mailing • Signs & Banners

802-254-3550 • Brattleboro, Vermont • HowardPrintingInc.com

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer

Pssst ... Our special mortgage offer is back!

Save \$1,000 on closing costs* for a home purchase!



At Savings Bank of Walpole, we're offering a great deal on a mortgage that is definitely something to talk about: Save \$1,000 off our already low closing costs* for a home purchase (with NO hidden fees) when you apply between March 1 and August 31.

- Quick, local decision and local servicing for the life of your loan—we'll be here for you after your loan closes
- Unmatched knowledge of our local real estate market
- The best mortgage rates and great customer service from our local home loan team

Ready to chat? Just give a call at **(603) 352-1822**. We'll be happy to help!



NMLS #466063



*Offer expires 08/31/22. Offer applies only to purchase of primary residence, second home, or investment property and does not apply to land purchase, construction loans, refinancing, home equity loans, home equity lines of credit, personal loans or loans brokered to NH housing. The closing cost discount will be applied to the qualifying mortgage loan at closing. Not redeemable for cash value. Loan approval is subject to credit underwriting and program guidelines. Other restrictions may apply.

PHOTO: JAN KOBESKI

February's ice storm created power outages across Walpole but also provided some spectacular visuals.

