

Town Meeting 2022



PHOTO: RAY BOAS

On Saturday March 12, at the Walpole Elementary School, seventy-eight voters registered for Town Meeting, which was continued following voting at the polls on Tuesday. Saturday's meeting was again this year held at the school to facilitate social distancing during the pandemic. Over 400 residents cast their votes at the polls Tuesday, March 8. At that time, Article 2 was overwhelmingly passed, amending the Town's sign ordinance. As a result of the vote, "Inflatable signs; feather flags; oscillating, rotating, flashing, neon or other tubular gas signs; or signs with blinking, changing or moving illumination are not permitted." In the two races for Town Officials, Dennis Marcom and Jeff Harrington defeated Shane O'Keefe for a Planning Board position, and for a slot on the Zoning Board Tom Winmill and Jan Galloway-LeClerc defeated long-serving member Myra Mansouri.

Saturday's two and a half hour meeting was essentially non-controversial, with all twelve articles passing with barely a "nay" spoken. Outgoing select board chair Cheryl Mayberry presented Article 3 - this year's budget - which represents a 4.96% increase over last year. The high points for the additional monies are:

Continued on Page 4

From Peggy's Desk

April 1 - April Fool's Day and we all remember the multistoried garage on the front page of the CLARION.

Well, we won't have a multistoried garage on the old Central Plating Site, but we will have a parking lot by September. In addition, we will have two double EV stations- one of which will accommodate handicap vehicles. These will be the first EV stations in Walpole which will be installed by the Walpole Foundation whose property abuts the new parking lot. These electric charging stations from Semaconnect of Rhode Island will accept credit cards and charge by the hour, with the fees going to the Town of Walpole. Electric cars and trucks are in Walpole already, and the future will bring more to town. Drivers of EV use an app on their phones to direct them to charging sites; we are certain our EV chargers will be used.

The site of the Central Plating garage will become a green space among all the asphalt and eventually have benches and shrubbery. If we are successful in attracting public transportation to Walpole, this may be a pick-up spot.

Continued on Page 5

Peggy Pschirrer swears in newly-elected town officials.

Ponte Vilasio Project in Doubt

Word out of Bellows Falls suggests that the Vilas Bridge is slated for repair. Infrastructure repair funds now reaching the states appear to have solved the prime obstacle in the repair of the bridge which has languished for 13 years. Preliminary discussions are underway pending approval of the project by New Hampshire state government. If all goes well, traffic could be rolling again by 2029. The Ponte Vilasio option, reported in the **Clarion** in April, 2014 appears to have been tabled.

- Jan Kobeski

**Walpole to Become
Major Tourist
Destination**
See page 3

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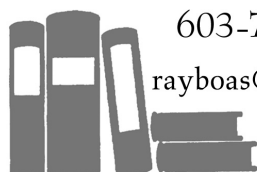
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Women of Walpole

The Women of Walpole (WOW) are moving forward with plans for a Spring meeting. It's time to gather again and make plans for future meetings, Old Home Days and worthy causes.

We invite any woman who lives or works in Walpole to join us for our Spring launch on Wednesday, April 27 at 4:00 PM at the home of Susan Johnson, 23 Fanny Mason Lane. Come prepared with ideas on programs for WOW meetings, how to raise money for our worthy causes, help plan for our booth at Old Home Days, and discuss how to draw in new members. The April meeting will be held indoors. WOW will adhere to CDC mask guidelines for this, and future, meetings; therefore, masks are optional at this time.

We are also looking for new board members to replace our diligent Vice President and Treasurer, and need to revive our gardening committee for the Nancy Shepard Memorial Garden on Middle Street. Please join us to reconnect with old friends and meet new friends.

For further information on WOW, contact Susan Johnson (603-313-4018) or Carolyn LeBail (carolynlebaill@gmail.com or 603-756-9878).

— Carolyn LeBail

Walpoleans...

Do the Right Thing

At Town Meeting on March 12, unanimously passed was Warrant Article 2 which is an amendment to Walpole's Zoning Ordinance, Article IV, D. Signs, 3. Limitations. In part, the change states "Inflatable signs; feather flags; oscillating, rotating, flashing, neon or other tubular gas signs; or signs with blinking, changing or moving illumination are not permitted."

Shortly after the meeting, I emailed a select board member asking about enforcement of this revised regulation and other ordinances. The reply I received was, "That is always a problem because we do not have a zoning enforcement officer. The same is true for parking ordinances or dog ordinances. We do not have the staff to Patrol or handle animal control."

Moving to Walpole twenty years ago, I applied for, and received, a building permit for an addition for my bookshop. During the process, I asked how construction inspections are scheduled so I could get those appointments made to not hold up the thirty day planned construction. I was told that there were no inspections because it was assumed residents "would do the right thing". Confirming this with my contractor, he replied, "We go by the codes, and do things as they should be done without question." And, as I have observed the past two decades in our well-taken-care-of Walpole, "Walpoleans Do the Right Thing".

— Ray Boas

Hooper Scholarship Program

Something for Everyone

Calling all Walpole Citizens! This opportunity is available for all! The Hooper Scholarship was established as a trust in the will of George L. Hooper to foster and promote the teaching and learning of agriculture, forestry, botany, conservation, environmental sciences, and the development and improvement of soils. This scholarship is available to all Walpole NH citizens regardless of age who wish to pursue study in these and other closely related fields. Since its inception in 1998, 50 Walpole students and adult residents have received funding totaling \$405,281.

By May 15 of each calendar year, applicants for college or graduate coursework scholarships should submit the following:

- A letter of application outlining accomplishments to date and the proposed program of study for the upcoming year

- Recent academic transcripts
- Household financial information

Applications for workshops or seminars such as bee keeping, seed saving, cheese making, sustainable agricultural practices, food security, alternative energies should submit a letter of application outlining the proposed workshop/seminar, its applicability to support study in appropriate fields, and fee information. Applications are accepted throughout the year.

All application materials should be submitted to Chair, The George L. Hooper Scholarship Committee, PO Box 729, Walpole Town Hall, Walpole, NH 03608

"The Hooper Scholarship has allowed me to take several more steps towards my ultimate goal of becoming a doctor of veterinary medicine for large animals in the agricultural field. I have gained the experience and knowledge academically to obtain this career throughout my life, but I lack the financial support. Without this scholarship I would not be able to pursue my dream."

— Emily Britton

"Thanks to the early influence of the Hooper Institute and my commitment to the Student Conservation Association I know that conservation work is in my future. I am passionate about showing people the importance of our national lands. These places are meant to be shared and cherished and have been preserved for good reason. I appreciate so much receiving the Hooper Scholarship so that I can continue my education in this field."

— Elaina Badders

Walpole - Soon A Major Tourist Destination

The CLARION has learned of a proposal to be made in April by an anonymous wealthy donor at a secret non-public meeting at the Town Hall. "Walpole is a beautiful place," this gentleman recently stated during an extremely private luncheon, "but there needs to be a reason, an attraction, for people to come to see that beauty."

The anonymous donor found the perfect model for that attraction in Chickasha, Oklahoma. "Chickasha was known for its holiday-season Festival of Lights," he told the handful of luncheon guests, "but resident Tim Elliot wanted more, a year round attraction." Another Chickasha resident, Noland James, died July 18, 2020, and his obituary claimed he was the inventor of the Lady Leg Lamp. According to his widow, Elizabeth Stockton, Noland had created his lamp from the lower half of a female mannequin and a wastepaper basket. A visual arts professor, he proudly displayed his creation in his office until he retired. Elizabeth wrote, "A man seeking employment at the school became tantalized with the lamp and came by Noland's office many times to look at it and ask about how it was put together." Years later, that same man was on the production team for the movie *A Christmas Story*, and, remembering Noland's lamp, went to work. And, as it is said, "the rest is history."

Tim Elliot now had his answer for an attraction. People were appalled when, at his own expense, Elliot had a 40-foot-high inflatable Lady Leg Lamp made; and, with friends, erected it at the end of Main Street in late November 2020. But soon people started coming, even driving eight hours and more and unsure if the leg would be "up" since it easily collapsed in winds of 20 mph or more. But, with the attraction's popularity, and the economic boost to Chickasha, the inflatable leg will be replaced with a permanent fiberglass leg. Fifty feet tall, it will be completed in November 2022. "It'll be up for the next 30 years," Tim said. "It is going to change Chickasha forever."

Proposed, and most likely to be accepted, will be the world's tallest Lady Leg Lamp, at 65 feet, to be erected in a place of prominence in the middle of Walpole's Town Common. "My proposal will tower above Chickasha's, and will be the world's largest," claimed the donor. With interior lighting throughout the appendage, there will be no chance of it not being brightly seen for miles. Using a number of secret LLCs, the donor has acquired all Vermont land from Mile Post 27.4 on I-91 north to the Walpole exit and east to the river. Contracts are in



place for thirteen tree services to, upon the signal, begin to clear cut those parcels for an unobstructed view to New Hampshire and Walpole's Common. To further provide an open view, the donor is paying the way for the land from the river to the Common to be taken by eminent domain and clear cut that as well. "With visibility unobstructed, not only will The Leg draw people off I-91 for a visit, but parking lots and concessions can be built on the land taken. Walpole's Lady Leg Lamp will be ready for holiday celebrations in December 2022, and as a welcoming beacon for the next century," the donor concluded.

Proposal includes removing the top tier of the Congregational Church steeple to allow for better visibility from the east.

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Town Moderator, Jack Wozmak, reads Warrant Articles to voters.

PHOTO: RAY BOAS

Continued from Page 1, Town Meeting

1) \$50,000 towards work on the reservoir dam, 2) \$100,000 towards emergency management work, which includes engineering costs to review 2021 flood and storm damage to develop long term solutions to prevent future impacts; and 3) a 6% pay increase for Town employees to help keep pace with inflation. The budget passed with no opposition from the floor. Article 4 also passed without question. This article allows the select board to submit a plan to the Public Utility Commission allowing the Town to find a vendor facilitating competition for residents' electrical power.

The remaining articles were specific money-related items requiring funds through taxation, or funding from the Town's Unassigned Fund Balance, or specific reserve fund balances - funds that have been previously funded as "savings accounts." Unassigned funds have resulted from good management by Town departments and officials in not expending all monies approved in the previous year that have been collected in taxes. Set aside, the balance currently is about \$2.7 million, above what the State of NH recommends we keep. As explained, think of these monies as a "rainy day fund," and utilizing these funds for new money articles is "tax neutral" - monies have previously been raised, but not expended from good management practices.

The money articles are similar year to year. Purchase and outfitting of police cruisers is planned yearly, as is the replenishment of capital reserve funds. Those reserve funds can be utilized without town votes, unlike the unassigned balance funds, which, in order to be spent, must be voted upon at Town Meeting. The purchase of a commercial grade shredder for the recycling center was approved as an expenditure from

the Unassigned Fund Balance. Ben Hoy, Walpole's Recycling Manager, explained the shredder will provide better service to the community with improved shredding of sensitive material. The shredder can handle 130 sheets at a time, the result being small compressed bales of paper which will cost less in shipping away from Town. There will be a charge of 25 cents per pound for shredding to help offset the cost of special oils for the



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shredder's operation. The voice vote for this purchase was also approved without opposition.

If you have never attended Town Meeting, plan to do so next year. Participating enables you to share your opinions on how the Town operates and spends everyone's money. Established in Colonial times, it is truly a democratic process to be coveted.

- Ray Boas

Easter Egg Hunt



Sponsored by
Walpole Cub Scout Pack 299
April 16th, 2022

Walpole Historical Society Lawn
Starts promptly at 10:00 AM
till all eggs are gathered.

All ages thru Grade 5,
Toddlers to age 4 are separate
from ages 5 and up

There are prizes in the eggs.
Donated by the Walpole Creamery.



March 12 brought a swift moving snowstorm, but 75 people turned out for Town Meeting in the Middle School gymnasium. The Selectboard is very grateful to all of you who attended and accepted the Town budget for 2022. We started work on that budget in September 2021 and continually reevaluated and massaged it until it was time to get DRA approval and go to print with the Annual Report. The puzzle for us all is the "Unassigned Fund Balance" which we used this year for the majority of our Warrant Articles. It represents our careful use of tax money over several years' time and accumulates as savings. It can only be used with the approval of the DRA and by vote of the taxpayers. It is the DRA who sets our unassigned fund balance after we report all our expenses and revenues. When I first joined the Selectboard, I wanted to know exactly where it was; Whit Aldrich told me not to worry about it – it was just there to be used with permission of the voters and the DRA – our rainy-day fund if we were good stewards of our budget.

The Warrant Article presented by the Selectboard on behalf of the Walpole Power Committee passed by voice vote, so that Committee will present the Electric Aggregation Plan to the PUC as

soon as the PUC finishes its rule setting. The Committee will continue to meet to develop an energy plan for Walpole, which will mean public meetings and surveys to involve each of you. The work of this Committee will affect Walpole's future use of power. (I wanted to say the work of this committee will effect a change in the way we use power – my computer prefers affect – either way it will be different.)

The Walpole Police Committee visited two police stations in early March: Brattleboro and Chesterfield. Brattleboro Station is a renovation of the former Brattleboro Reformer office and Chesterfield is a new structure connected to the Town Offices. Each station had valuable lessons about what a police department needs and what should be avoided. More recently, the Committee met with Todd Faulkner who was Police Chief when Hinsdale built a new station. Now a member of the Cheshire County Sheriff's Department, Mr. Faulkner impressed the committee with the need to plan a department for the future.

It is now 'masks optional' in Town Hall, the local schools, and many businesses. This doesn't mean that Covid has disappeared. We will live with its variations for years. It is still important to be vaccinated, to receive boosters, like the yearly flu vaccines. Fortunately, Walpole numbers

of active covid cases have dropped.

Snowdrops are opening in the garden, the last snow pile has disappeared, the first day of spring appears on the calendar and we all long for warmer weather. Enjoy the longer days of sunlight.

– Peggy Pscvhirr

Drug Take Back Day

The Drug Enforcement Administration has scheduled Saturday, April 30 as the DEA's 22nd Take Back event. Drop off this spring will be at the Walpole Police Station, 4 Russell Street, North Walpole, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. It is hoped that, for the fall Take Back Day, there will be an additional drop off location. Questions may be directed to the Police Station at (603) 445-2058 ext. 6.

– Janet L Clough

Walpole Unitarian

We are looking forward to opening up again for in-person services in the church sanctuary on April 10. For the time being, we will continue to require masks.

Please consult our website (below) for information about services and our every other Tuesday morning Fresh Air discussion series. Go to walpoleunitarianchurch.org

– Wendy Harty

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Celebrate Earth Day...

with the Hooper Institute and Helen Dalbeck, Saturday April 23. Please meet up at 165 Prospect Hill Road 9:00 to 10:00 AM for a WOODS WALK, and at 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon we will create CRAFTS and DECORATIONS for the Hooper Alumni Tent presented at the 2022 Walpole Old Home Days! No registration required, and this morning is meant for everyone, rain or shine.

Announcing the Hooper Institute Summer Work Program for Teens

Do you enjoy working outside on farms growing produce or raising dairy cows? Are you interested in being with and teaching kids at one of our Hooper camps? Does an opportunity to work behind the scenes at the Veterinary Hospital or help with recycling for the Town of Walpole appeal to you? To apply, you must be a resident of Walpole and

turning 14 by June 18, 2022. You'll need transportation to and from the work sites, and timesheets need to be submitted by Monday noon, every week. Timesheets are dropped off at the Hooper Institute drop-box on Prospect Hill, so a ride is needed for that as well.

We award up to 120 hours of work, beginning soon after school ends in June and school begins again in the fall. The pay is \$7.50 per hour, and the work schedule is negotiated with each mentor. It is a real commitment to show up, work hard under sometimes intense summer weather and to do good work. If you are interested in learning more or would like to apply, email

hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net I will mail you an application or leave it in the Hooper Institute (165 Prospect Hill) drop box. The application deadline is EARTH DAY, April 22, 2022. These awards and positions are competitive. We will have interviews in person in May. The 2022 mentors are Malnati Farm, Alyson's Orchard, Abenaki Springs Farm, Walpole Veterinary, Walpole Recycling Center and the Hooper Institute Camps (two weeks only right after school ends).

Save the date for George Hooper's birthday party and celebration May 14, 2022!

– Helen Dalbeck



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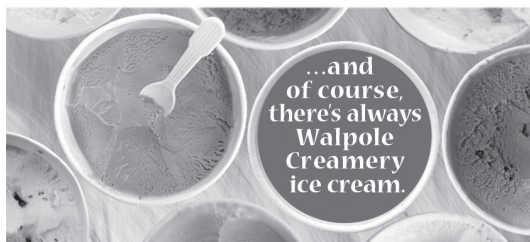
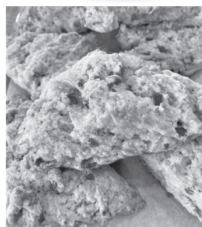
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It's warming up! Lunch al fresco? Pastries and ice cream in the sunshine?

You can find more luncheon detail on our Facebook menu page. Just click on the picture of the menu and the caption will appear next to it, detailing all the Panini possibilities! Soups change 2-3 times a week. We've found a neat new way to make a panino out of a wrap – it's quarter-folded, doesn't leak, and we have LOTS of wrap flavors! Don't forget to take home some delicious pastries while you're here.



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First Congregational

Holy Week & Easter Worship

(All services take place at 15 Washington Street, Walpole)

Palm Sunday, April 10 will be observed in our regular Sunday 10:00 AM worship service. Palms will be distributed at the door. After the service, remaining palms will be available (while they last) in an urn outside the Washington Street main entrance. Our discussion of our Lenten read, A Good Neighborhood, by Therese Anne Fowler, will gather in Fellowship Hall at 3:00 PM.

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae, Thursday, April 14, at 7:00 PM, in Fellowship Hall, a somber worship service of Holy Communion and Scripture Lessons about the passion and death of Jesus Christ. "Tenebrae" means "shadows." The drama of the readings is underscored by extinguishing of candles after each reading.

Good Friday Vigil will take place April 15, in the sanctuary from 6:30 AM to 6:30 PM. Anyone interested in signing up for a half-hour shift may look on our website or call the church office to inquire (M-F, 9:00 AM to noon).

Easter Sunrise Service, April 17, 6:15 AM. Hooper Golf Course, 8th tee, we will greet

the sun and proclaim the resurrection of Christ, in our annual Easter tradition.

Easter Sunday, April 17, 10:00 AM in the sanctuary.

Sunday worship is held every week at 10:00 AM in the sanctuary, in-person. We continue to make the worship service available 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, on Zoom, 4:00 to 5:00 PM, led by Pastor Richard Malmberg. After a brief break for Holy Week and Easter (April 13 & 20), we will resume studying the book of 1 Samuel, Wednesday, April 27.

Join First Congregational Church of Walpole for 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

St. John's

Easter Services

St. John's Episcopal Church has announced the schedule of services for Palm Sunday and Holy Week. The services and times:

Sunday, April 10. Palm Sunday: procession into the church begins at 9:45 AM, service at 10:00

Thursday, April 14, 6:00 PM, Maundy Thursday: Traditional Agape Meal, observed this year via Zoom only

Friday, April 15. Good Friday: Service at noon

Saturday, April 16, Holy Saturday: Morning Prayer 8:00 AM

Sunday, April 17, Easter Sunday: Service at 10:00 AM

Services will be held at the church, in Walpole at the corner of Westminster and Elm Streets. Masks are now optional. Services are also available through Zoom; join at <https://zoom.us/j/5759275615> (Meeting ID: 575 927 5615) or by phone (audio only): at 929 205 6099.

For more information, call the church at 603.756.4533 and leave a message, or send email to pastor@stjohnswalpole.org.

– Stu Bloom

BOWMAN DENTAL

We're giving back to our community!

Free Dental Day is intended to provide free dental services to the community without dental insurance and limited income. We are excited to be offering this special event again after a two-year pandemic hiatus.

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Friday, April 15th
8am-3pm

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Walpole Foundation

Main Street Variety – Jake's Market

The corner lot where Jake's Market is located was once home to the Wentworth Tavern. That tavern burnt down in 1880. Another hotel was rebuilt in its place – in February of 1882 the Dinsmore was opened. It later became the Red Mill Inn in the 1920's. As the Red Mill Inn fell into disrepair, it was demolished in 1950 to become a Gulf gas station.

Today this corner lot is home to Jake's Market and Irving Gas station. When the Walpole Foundation purchased the property in 2011 from Sandri Oil, extensive renovations were done to it while maintaining the original brick structure. New electrical, heating, and ventilating was completed. The interior of the building was updated with new walk-in coolers, refinished floors and new bathrooms. It is a great meeting place for the local community, whether to enjoy a cup of coffee together or just passing by as you pick up that quick lunch or snack.

– Bert Wiemers

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Zoning Board

What is a Special Exception?

One of the responsibilities of the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) is to hear requests for special exceptions.

A special exception is the use of land, a building, or a sign that is permitted only under certain conditions. These conditions are spelled out in the Walpole Zoning Ordinance.

The conditions differ depending on the zoning district, of which Walpole has five. The ZBA can grant a special exception only if all the conditions for that district are met. Walpole's zoning districts are Residential Districts A and B; the Commercial District; the Industrial District; the Rural/Agricultural District; and the Timberland District. The Zoning Ordinance allows for some type of special exception in all districts except the Timberland District.

You can find the Walpole zoning ordinance at <https://www.walpolenh.us/document-center.html>. If you are unsure what zoning district you are in, check with the Selectboard Office.

– The Walpole Zoning Board of Adjustment

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, 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



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April at the Library

Special April Programs:

(All programs take place at the Bridge Memorial Library unless otherwise noted)

Peeps Contest: It's that time of year again! Everywhere you look are those cute little marshmallow peeps. We know that most people don't eat them, so we have a fun idea for you. Build a diorama with your peeps that is book themed. If you're looking for ideas, just Google "peeps diorama" and you will find lots of ideas! Bring your dioramas to the library between April 8th and April 16th. They will be on display and voting will take place April 18-22. For complete details visit our website at walpoletownlibrary.org

Beginning Crochet Class: Have you been wanting to learn to crochet? Do you crochet and would like to participate in a community service project? Here's your chance. We'll be crocheting blanket squares to donate to Warm Up America. We will learn a new stitch and complete a new square each session. Come once or every week! Mondays (3/28, 4/4, 4/11, 4/18, 4/25) at 5:00 PM at the Bridge Memorial Library. Space is limited. Registration suggested.

Ask a Muslim Anything: Wednesday, April 13th at 7 PM. Please join the Walpole Town Library for Ask a Muslim Anything with journalist and scholar Robert Azzi, in the Hubbard Community Room at the Bridge Memorial Library. Mr. Azzi seeks to engage with members of the community, not as a scholar or academic, but as a neighbor, fellow citizen, and person of faith. He speaks about his life, what it is like to be Muslim in America, how he came to convert to Islam, about

the religion of Islam and its history, and about the Middle East, terrorism, and the associated political and social issues surrounding these topics. Nothing is off the table! Mr. Azzi is committed to addressing all questions and looks forward to these discussions, which celebrate our diversity and facilitate different people reaching out and talking to one another.

Throw Out Less, Recycle More! Tuesday, April 26 at 2:00 PM. Join us for an interesting and informative talk with Walpole Recycling Center and Transfer Station Manager, Ben Hoy. Learn what is and isn't recyclable, ways to reduce the amount of trash you generate, improve your recycling habits, and make small changes to lead a more sustainable lifestyle.

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.

Great Decisions at the Library: Meets the first Monday of the month, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. 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. April's topic is *Putin's Russia*. Join us for our first meeting at 6:00 PM, Monday April 4, 2022.

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

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

Check 'Em Out: Meets monthly on Saturday mornings, from 9:00 to 10:00 AM. 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. Books are available at the library. We will meet on Saturday, April 16, at 9:00 AM.

For more information or to register, call 603-756-9806 or email jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org.

Ongoing Children's Programs:

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

Code Club: 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.

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

For more information or to register for children's programs, please call Julie Rios at 603-756-9806 or email jrios@walpoletownlibrary.org.

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



WARNING



It's Our April Issue.

And that means April Fool's, so don't believe everything you read or see.



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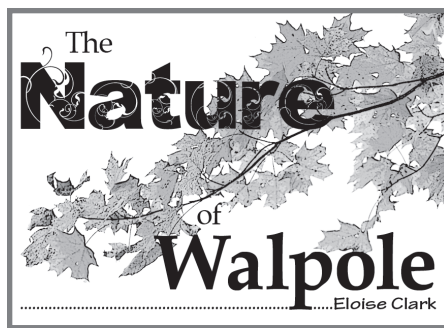
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Have you heard of the Salamander Crossing Brigades? On the first rainy night of early spring, when the temperature is 39 degrees F or above, the ground erupts with amphibians. Wood frogs and salamanders, which have been hibernating, begin their march to nearby vernal pools to breed. Brigades of people help the effort by aiding them across roadways. It is quite a remarkable migration, not hundreds of miles as our winged friends do, but astonishing in its own way.



A vernal pool



As their name implies, vernal pools are found in the springtime. These temporary pools are considered a type of wetland. They evaporate sometime in the spring or summer depending upon the season's rainfall. They refill in fall and winter from precipitation, runoff and rising groundwater. Despite their intermittent dryness, vernal pools teem with life when they are full. Because of low oxygen levels and the fact they dry up, there are no breeding populations of fish to act as predators.

Vernal pools can form in any depression in the landscape, under deciduous or coniferous trees or treeless areas such as fields. Drive along River Road now and notice them in corn stubbled fields. These sites are very important for migrating waterfowl and offer some excellent birding this time of year. Sometimes, vernal pools become "semipermanent ponds" that don't always dry up. There is one near the outlook of High Blue. Riley's Pond enroute to Table Rock on Fall Mountain is another.

The food chain in our forested vernal pool begins with leaves that have fallen in the autumn. Bacteria and fungi begin the process of decay. They become food for slightly larger zooplankton such as daphnia, copepods and rotifers. Filter feeders such as fairy shrimp and fingernail clams strain the zooplankton. Small crustaceans, insect larvae, planaria, snails and caddisfly larvae can also be found. The buffet table is set for amphibians to feast! The cliffhanger

every year is, can the eggs develop into adults before the vernal pool dries up? Dry years may not bring success.

The largest salamander to arrive at vernal pools is the 5-8" long, spotted



Marbled salamander



Blue-spotted salamander



Jefferson salamander

salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*). Its black body is decorated with yellow spots that make it easy to recognize. Adults spend their lives in forested areas within a half-mile of a vernal pool. Most of the year they use chipmunk burrows or hide beneath logs and stones in soft soil for cover. They seldom venture into the open except to feed at night on worms, slugs, centipedes, spiders, crickets and other insects. They are called "mole" salamanders because of their subterranean ways.

Three other mole salamanders are much more rare to see. The 3-5" long blue-spotted salamander (*Ambystoma laterale*) lives up to its name. Adults have bright blue spots scattered over a grayish black body. The 5-7" long Jefferson salamander



Spotted salamander

der (*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*) is a dark brown color with flecks of light blue on its extremities. Sometimes the two species interbreed. The 3-5" long marbled salamander (*Ambystoma opacum*) has a purplish black body and white markings. All the mole salamanders have thick bodies with stout legs.

At the vernal pools, males and female salamanders locate each other by chemical cues. The male courts the female with snout rubbing and tail waving. Soon the only evidence of salamander courtship are clouds of gelatinous eggs, glued to underwater branches and plant stems. From these gooey masses, larva hatch out. The larvae have three pairs of feathery gills sprouting above gill slits on the neck. The gills glean oxygen from the water until the salamander develops lungs and graduates to terrestrial life as a grown adult.

The adults face peril from raccoons, owls, snakes and shrews. Mole salamanders can live up to fifteen years if they escape this gauntlet of predators and other challenges. They'll return to their natal pools next spring to begin the cycle again.

A Field Guide to the Animals of Vernal Pools by Leo P. Kenney and Mathew R. Burne is an excellent resource. It's written for Massachusetts but pertains to southern NH. The Harris Center coordinates Salamander Brigades in our area if you'd like to participate in this citizen science project.

More Nature

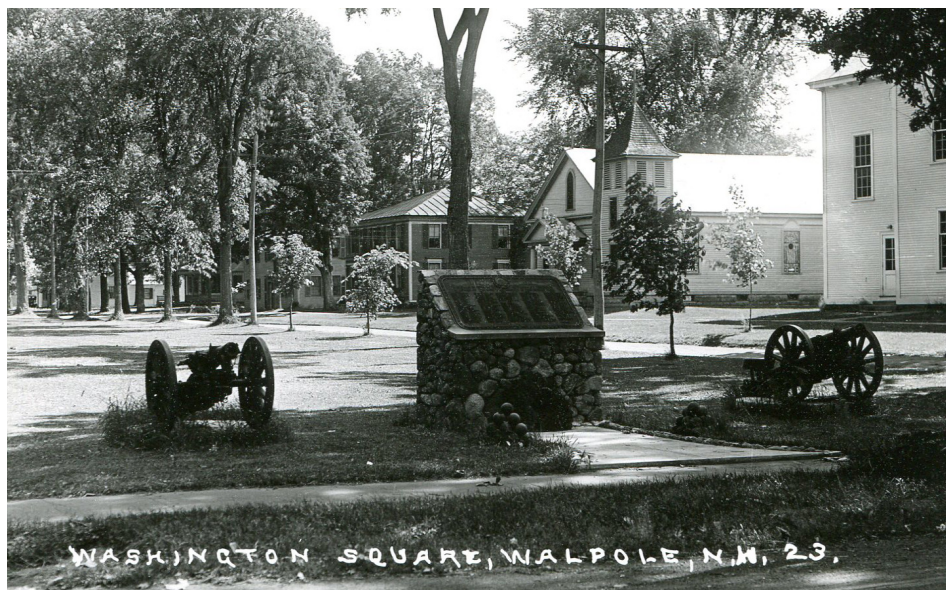
Now that we've settled the bald eagle question for the foreseeable future, you would think we might give the nature observation gig a rest... but you would be wrong. Keen-eyed Walpole observers continue to share their discoveries with the Clarion. In fact, our April submissions might be the best yet..



Sue F. spied, and fortunately photographed, the critter at left. At first glance, it's just another common squirrel, but a closer look reveals the appearance of the nearly extinct Great Northern Deep Woods Horned Squirrel, *Novus Hampshire sciurus corniger* to the scientifically inclined.

Our second submission was anonymous. It appears that we are again facing the threat of another invasive species — probably more concerning than last year's flamingo infestation. Until we can verify the sighting, Walpoleans should approach the Common with care

— Jan Kobeski



One hundred years ago, in 1922, the town "voted to pay freight on cannon and balls" to be placed around the Memorial Tablet on the Common; [and] to build curbing to protect the library lawn from autos. The cannon and cannon balls came from the Watervleit Arsenal in Watervleit, New York, just north of Albany.

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Did You Know That...?

Excursions into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

...the discovery of gold in seawater in the last quarter of the nineteenth century created gold rush fever along the New England coast, and there was a well-hidden connection to Walpole?

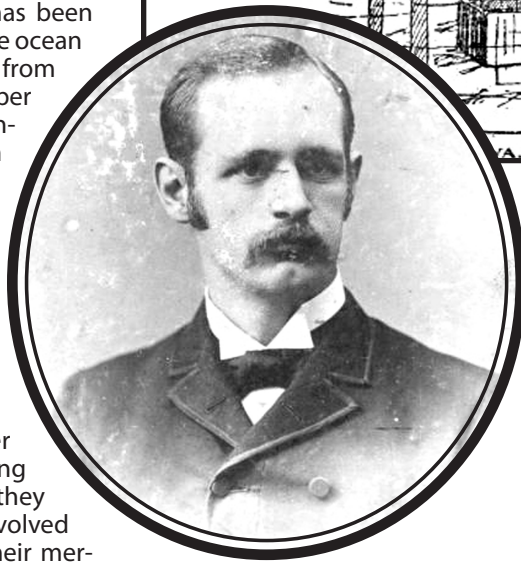
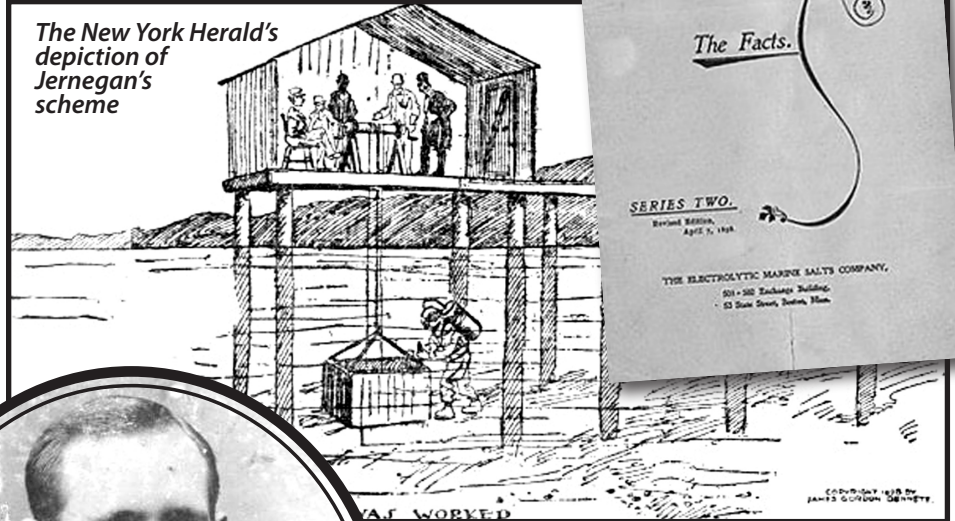
Prescott Jernegan and Charles Fisher, of Edgartown, Massachusetts, introduced a revolutionary method of extracting that gold from the sea. In their 1898 promotional pamphlet, "Gold from Sea Water at a Profit: The Facts", for their Electrolytic Marine Salts Company, they reported, "A Scientific Fact: It has been well known that the waters of the ocean throughout their extent contain from one half to one grain of gold per ton and about twice that quantity of silver. At the proportion of half a grain to a ton, the gold in a cubic mile of sea water is worth \$65,000,000."

For four months, Jernegan and Fisher worked to develop a method to extract that gold from seawater. They built an accumulator containing a copper plate and a thin layer of mercury designed to collect gold as water ran through with the changing tide. After several failed trials, they came across a method that involved adding an electric current to their mercury sample.

To prove the quality of their gold originated in New England waters, the pair quietly sought a comparison source. They figured gold could be found in rock veins of quartz and in surface deposits found in former alluvial beds. Alluvial beds, they assumed, were formed as Lake Hitchcock receded in the Connecticut River Valley. Their research found a likely spot in Walpole in the area of the Cold River and Blanchard and Burroughs Brooks and their waterfalls. In this area, graphite had been found, and mining had taken place in an area called "Paint Mine Hill", so named because, in 1873, New York investors built a facility to mine the iron-rich clay to make paint. Not profitable, the building was abandoned in 1876, serving only as a bulletin board for circus and medicinal posters.

Jernegan and Fisher leased parcels in the "Paint Mine Hill" area, and quietly began their own small scale mining operations. The pair in 1897 organized their stock company, the Electrolytic Marine Salts Company, and named Arthur Ryan, the company's first investor, as president. As word spread of this new process,

The New York Herald's depiction of Jernegan's scheme



Rev. Prescott F. Jernegan, Edgartown, Mass. circa 1890

fidant of Fisher's blackmailed the pair, saying he would reveal their secret of gold reclamation. "Pay up, or your deception goes to the press," he told them. They refused. On July 31, The New York Herald published the story, revealing the gold from the Electrolytic Marine Salts Company did not come from the ocean, but from somewhere else. Their scheme was just that, a fraud.

Learning that Prescott Jernegan developed his plan while bedridden with typhoid fever in Edgartown, and that his unpublished autobiography and other papers were in the Martha's Vineyard Museum, I spent some time in those archives while on a short holiday at the Harbor View Hotel there. It was in that archive I read of the source of the gold for what has become known as the New England Gold Hoax of 1898. Have gold fever? The location of the gold could be the back corner of what is now the Town Garage property.

people rushed to purchase shares. Soon the company had over 1,000 stockholders, with \$750,000 invested. A plant was built on the coast in North Lubec, Maine, to "produce" gold on a large scale. Each week \$2,000 worth of gold was sent to the company's office in Boston, showing the public the plant was working and profitable.

But, often, "if it is too good to be true, it is not." In late July 1898, a former con-

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Bob, I've Got your Soap

Unsurprisingly, our move from a home we'd occupied for 30-some years to a new place would present some new experiences— birds flying into windows for example. But mostly it's been a matter of unlearning old habits and remembering where the low doorways are. But we were not prepared for the soap.

About a month after moving in, we were surprised by an UPS delivery. The driver left a small, padded mailing envelope on the porch and drove off. Upon opening, it proved to be a bar of soap. One bar. Yardley of London. Lavender. We had not ordered it. We chalked it up to a shipping error. The address on the package was ours — street and number — but the name was unfamiliar: Robert O***. Never heard of him. A week later, another envelope arrived while we were out. Soap again...one bar...lavender. Same M.O.

The next Yardley delivery found us at home and I intercepted the driver before he could leave, explaining that Bob did not live here and we did not need the soap. About a week later there was a yellow card in our PO Box. Cardboard box this time, for Bob...more soap. I declined delivery. Over the next month there were three more deliveries: one to the PO Box (when I explained the error in detail); two to our home — the first was leaning against the front door when we returned from some errand, but the second came while we were at home, giving me the opportunity to once again explain why we preferred not to accept Bob's personal cleansing products.

It's been a while now and the only UPS deliveries have been clothing, yarn and home Covid tests — all of which we have ordered. But I'm still baffled by the episode. Obviously, Bob O*** does not live with us. Not now, not ever. But, we did not buy the house from Bob, and the previous owner (who lived here for many years) was also not Bob. There is no Bob O*** in the Walpole phone book. So, why is Bob having his soap delivered (one excruciating bar at a time) to an address where he never lived. Alternatively, why did he decide to gift total strangers with English soap? Then there's the question of how he obtained our PO Box number. And don't get me started on the deeper philosophical question of who orders soap one bar at a time.

I opened the last envelope to write this piece. This bar is oatmeal and almond. The box assures me that I'm holding, "the result of generations of uncompromising quality, superior craftsmanship, and time-tested ingredients." Since they've been pumping this stuff out since 1770, I'll take their word for it. The lavender bar now in the shower smells nice, but I confess I find the lather disappointing. Won't be opening the oatmeal any time soon, so, Bob, we have your soap...you know the address.

—Jan Kobeski



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Northwest corner of the Common as plowed, with care, by Walpole's Highway Department.

Photo: Ray Boas



Radio Follies Return is a Success

Saturday, March 12th was a dark and stormy night, but not inside the Helen Miller Theater. Tables were set, lights were on, and people were lining up at the doors with their indoor picnics. They were more than ready to visit with neighbors and attend the cure for cabin fever, the Walpole Players' *Radio Follies of 2022*. After a two year break due to COVID, the Follies were back!

The night's lineup included return visits from Bob and Ray, Fibber McGee and Molly and Our Miss Brooks, plus some new programs, too: Jack Benny and crime solving Doc Savage. The golden age of radio was the first time radio listeners could hear product advertisements and jingles in their homes, and this production featured sponsors such as Pepsi Cola, Good'n Plenty Candy, Brylcreem, Pepsodent Toothpaste, and Buster Brown Shoes.

Another feature of radio was the use of sound effects. While the Players did rely on modern technology for a couple of the more difficult sound effects, most were provided by cast members using some common items to replicate various sounds – a staple gun for a gunshot; an old-fashioned eggbeater in a paper bag

for a car motor; and, if you knock on a part of a door, it sounds very much like someone knocking on a door! This year we were also able to incorporate live music for theme songs and advertising jingles; it really took the production to a whole new level.

The Walpole Players were thrilled to have so many people in the audience, and are grateful to the community for supporting us! We are looking forward to bringing you our Old Home Days production in June, Alan Bennett's adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's classic *The Wind in the Willows*. We hope that you can join us for this fun, family-friendly show. For more information, sign up for updates on our website: TheWalpolePlayers.org, and watch our Facebook page.

– Meg Kupiec



PHOTOS: JENNY PLANTE



From top:
Tom Winmill & Judy Epstein; Juliana Stevens reacts to Chuck Lessards hair-pie; Jenny Plante as Molly McGee; the Follies Players take a bow.



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Great Decisions

Putin's Russia

In light of the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, the topic of our first public forum has been changed to *Putin's Russia*. Join us on Monday, April 4, 6:00 PM, at the Walpole Town Library. We will meet in person in the Hubbard Community Room and via Zoom. The forum will be moderated by Tom Durnford, Professor Emeritus, and is free and open to the public. For a link to the Zoom meeting, email Library Director Jane Malmberg: jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org

Putin's Russia is an article published by the Foreign Policy Association in the *Great Decisions* 2022 briefing book, and is available at the Walpole Public Library or a copy may be obtained via email from Jane Malmberg upon request.

Founded on Armistice Day, 1918 to promote a more peaceful world order, the Foreign Policy Association has brought together world leaders, initiated global policy education programs and established the World Affairs Council. *Great Decisions* began in 1954 as an open forum to encourage discussion of U.S. foreign policy and world affairs.

The 2022 *Great Decisions* briefing book may be borrowed from the library or purchased from fpa.org/greatdecisions, or the eBook version is available from Amazon/Kindle, Apple Books, Nook, Rakuten Kobo and Scribd.

– Sue Kibbe

Reader Comment

Maureen and Roland Caskin, along with their family, would like to thank the many generous individuals that contributed to the rebuilding of their home from damages sustained in the flooding this past July. They would also like to thank The Walpole Fire Department and EMTs that went above and beyond getting them out safely and preventing the home from further damage. Their kindness and professionalism will never be forgotten.

Mark Houghton and EE Houghton cannot be thanked enough for their time and generosity. They sincerely thank Jonathan Tarmey of J.C. Tarmey Excavation and Construction and his crew, as well as Nate Carter Concrete and Mike Stone of Mallard Masonry. Tarmey's knowledge, professionalism and kindness went above the norm and was greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Stacie Gay and Vicki Hurlburt for spearheading the Go Fund Me, and Lisa Bierweiler-Franks and the staff of The Savings Bank of Walpole for helping with the fund account. They are also grateful for the outpouring of phone calls, meals and offerings of help and cannot express their gratitude enough.

– Jody Caskin-Bruzgis

Trash Talk

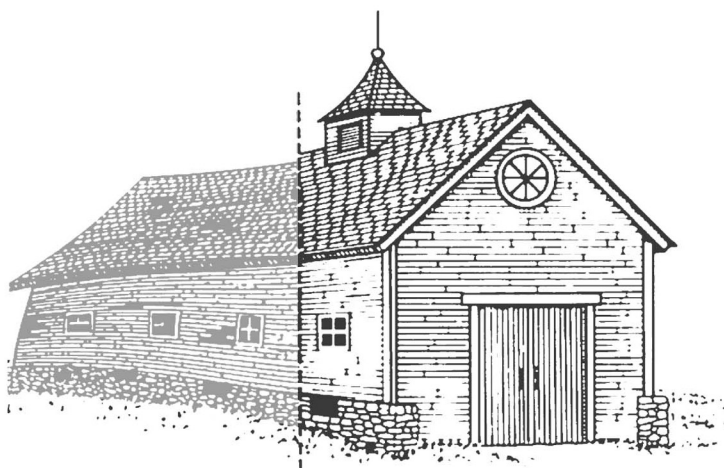


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Thank you for approving the purchase of a new HSM SP 4040 V cross cut paper shredder with baling capability at the Walpole town meeting! The new baler will arrive within 8 weeks, and be placed near the cash register. The cost to shred your paper will be \$.25 cents per pound, and all shredding will be handled by an employee of Walpole Recycling. You are encouraged to witness the paper being shredded if so inclined. Up to 130 sheets can be shredded by this machine at one time. The HSM SP 4040 V cross cut paper shredder can obliterate large stock piles of documents and condense that material into a neat and compact bale. Protect your information with the new shredder, and simultaneously reduce our trucking emissions with the baling of your mixed paper. We at Walpole Recycling are excited to usher in the spring cleaning season with the addition of the new paper shredder! Thank you for your support of Walpole Recycling. Keep recycling Walpole!

– Ben Hoy

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What's Happening in Walpole Schools



WES Mentor Program

The WES Mentor Program is a program that is available for 6th-8th graders. Every Friday during the second study hall and recess the students who have signed up can join each other and help mentor the Pre-K and Kindergarten students during PE class.

Mrs. Baird-Torney, or Mrs. B-T, the Walpole school's physical education teacher, is the one who started this program. Mrs. B-T started this program because she loves the concept of mentoring. She also has seen benefits in this program in the past.

This program brings people together and brings joy to everyone. The goal of this program is to teach the young students the responsibility of being a mentor and watching over younger children. There are about 25 middle school students participating in this program. Also, it is a great opportunity to learn communication skills and bond with younger students.

— Perry Lent (Grade 7)

Pages for Pizza!

This March students from grades three to eight have been challenged to read one thousand pages for a reward at the end of the month!

After finishing the pages the students will get one free personal pizza from Diamond's Pizza in Walpole! The students that want to participate in the challenge are required to read a certain number of pages from any book each month and get their pizza page slip signed off by a parent, teacher, or guardian. Each student gets a pin and at the end of each week they'll collect stickers until reaching the end goal!

— Avery Richardson (Grade 7)

Mental Health Talk

DID/OSDD

This is the second in this series of mental health talks. This month's topic DID/OSDD. What does DID/OSDD stand for? Dissociative Identity Disorder or otherwise specified dissociative disorder. What is DID/OSDD? It is the prominent presence of two or more distinct personality states.

What is the difference? There isn't a huge difference just that someone with OSDD may not have all the symptoms of DID but enough to give them an official diagnosis. In other words OSDD is having some traits of DID but not all, but classifying closer with it than someone without. Once known as Multiple Personality Disorder, this disorder causes what is known as alters to form. Alters are the name for the specific personalities that form. Think of them as their own person in someone else's body, but this doesn't mean they are possessed or not theirs. Alters along with this disorder are formed by trauma of any kind, remember anything can be traumatic to someone. One person's trauma may not be another's.

— Leo Gould (Grade 8)

Save the Koalas

Recently, koalas have been put on the endangered species list. The Australian Koala Foundation estimates that there are less than 100,000 Koalas left in the wild, possibly as few as 43,000. Koalas have been known as one of the cutest animals on the planet, but we won't have any more left due to climate change and chlamydia. Chlamydia in koalas is caused by two kinds of bacteria, Chlamydia pecorum and C. pneumoniae, which are

different from the bacteria that usually causes the disease in humans. To help support these endangered animals you could make a donation to the Australian Koala Foundation. These funds go toward helping raising koalas and rehabilitating them.

— Rowan Aube (Grade 6)

The Twilight Zone

A Recap of Classic Episodes

The first episode that ever aired for The Twilight Zone was on October 2nd, 1959 and the series concluded on June 19th, 1964. The series was created by Rod Serling. Today, I will be taking you on a journey and reviewing an episode from season three, episode twenty four called *To Serve Man*.

Spoiler Alert: But, in my defense, it's been on for sixty years.

We start off in a government meeting, where it comes to our attention that aliens have landed on earth. People from all over the world are discussing a meeting with the alien leader. While they are discussing this the alien leader comes in. The Kanamits (which is the alien's race) are different. They can talk through their brains and are around eight feet in height. The Kanamit leader makes it clear that their intentions are to beautify earth and make it easier for humans to live, without disease, wars, famine, etc. They even show proof with a book written in their own language, and they leave it on the table.

At first everyone is very skeptical about their true intentions. After a little bit of decoding from two scientists, (who we mostly focus on) they realize that the title of the book is called, *To Serve Man*. Based on this, they start to trust the Kanamits and let them make earth a more peaceful atmosphere. After all of this has been done, everyone truly does trust the Kanamits. The Kanamits then offer an escape from earth, by offering to fly humans to their very own planet. When some start to accept the offer we see that the Kanamits weigh everyone before they step foot on the aircraft, to make sure that they are healthy for the trip. We cut to the next scene and see that the two scientists are deciding whether or not to go on the trip. They both agree to go on the trip.

While boarding the aircraft the side scientist calls out to the main one yelling, "Stop! It's a trap. The book – it's a cookbook!" The scientist looks back at her and immediately understands. All along the aliens just wanted to eat them. At the ending scene we get to the scientist on the aircraft. He's sitting in an all-white room with only a bed and a bathroom. He wishes that he would have realized sooner.

— Adalynn Fuller (Grade 6) & Violet Walz (Grade 7)

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Fall Mountain Boys Nordic Ski Team 2022 CVC Champs.

Pictured: Members of the Fall Mountain Nordic Ski Team, coached by Kate Northcott and Larry Sayers. Back Row L to R: Braydon Patch, Francis Aldrich, Ben Tetu, Gabe Lloyd, Caleb Kinson, Edward Gowdy, David Northcott, Ben Frithsen, Anna Lloyd, Lily Ware Front Row: L to R: Walt Lyons, James Paulette, Vaughn DiBernardo

PHOTO: HOLLY GOWDY

Fall Mountain Cross Country Skiing

March 2nd The CVC Nordic Ski Championship meet was Co-hosted by Fall Mountain High School and Hanover High School. Fall Mountain Boys were the 2022 CVC Champions

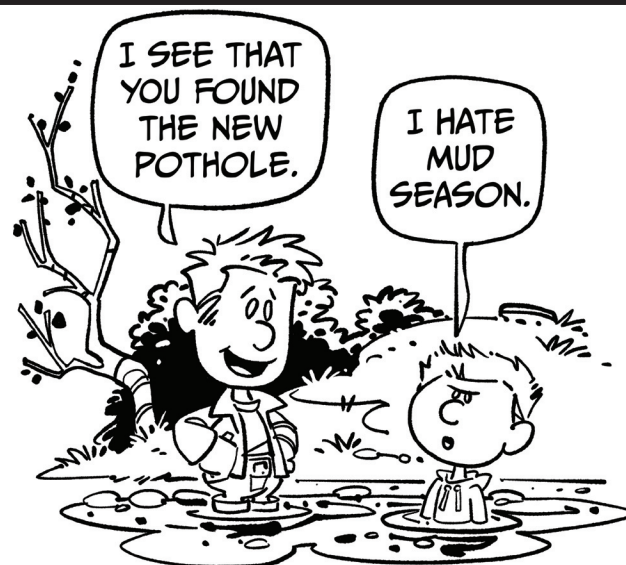
On March 9th at the NHIAA D2 State Meet was held at Great Glen Trails. Division 2 included 13 boys and girls ski teams. It was a battle for the top three boys teams. Gilford took the day with strong races in both the morning classic and afternoon skate. Lebanon boys edged Fall Mountain in the morning, and Fall Mountain skied just ahead of Lebanon in the afternoon... Ultimately finishing in 3rd by only one point. David Northcott of Walpole had a 3rd Place Podium finish in the Boys Classic Race. Several members of the Fall Mountain Nordic Team have qualified to ski in the regional U16 and U18 Regional Championship Races. We wish them the best of luck.

The Fall Mountain Nordic Ski Teams and their Coaches: Larry Sayers and Kate and Chris Northcott are grateful for the support of the Walpole Community! Thank you.

– Holly Gowdy

CHESHIRE KIDS

by Erik Doescher



Potholes Proposal

This winter has taken a toll on Walpole's roads. Potholes and frost heaves can make for difficult driving. To solve the problem, a new town-wide initiative is being proposed – turn the potholes into roadway gardens. It has been determined that the smaller ones are the perfect size for floral displays, while the larger ones are suitable for vegetables. One very practical idea is vertical planting with towers for plants, like pole beans. These will not only provide shade for small animals crossing the roads, but will serve as critter cross-walks. It is hoped that this will reduce the number of unsightly, dead animals on the roads. Motorists will also be able to access the vegetables on their way home without leaving their cars. This will make having nutritious meals easy and convenient. We hope this is an idea that will take root in the community.

– Meg Kupiec



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From the Far Side of Walpole

Observations by William Moses

The Missing Eggs!

One April, when Elwud was young, he and his cousins, Daryl and Claude, decided to pull an April Fool's prank on their neighbor, Mr. Edwards.

They made sure they cleared it with the Mrs before going ahead with their plan. Mr. E had a fair size hen house from which he sold eggs for \$0.50 per dozen. The boys decided to appropriate (sounds better than stealing) the eggs for several days in a row, so Mr. E would think his hens had stopped laying.

Well the first day after the boys had removed the eggs, Mr. E went to the hen house and not an egg was to be had. Back at the house he announced his concern to Mrs. E, who bit her lip so as not to smile.

After the second day with no eggs, Mr. E called the Vet, who, unbeknownst to Mr. E, had heard about the joke the boys were playing. Dr. T told him it was not unusual for laying hens to stop laying for a couple of days around the first of April. March 31st came and went, still no eggs. Mr. E was getting worried. He told Mrs. E if there are no eggs tomorrow he was going to start eliminating some older hens.

April 1st broke, bright and sunny and Mr. E headed for the hen house with axe in hand. Much to his surprise there were several dozens of eggs on display in the hen house and a house full of cackling hens.

Well Mr. E loaded up the eggs and went to the local store, when Mr. Hendricks would take the eggs and sell them for Mr. E.

When Mr. E arrived all smiles with his eggs, Mr. Hendricks laughed and said, "So the boys finally returned your eggs to you!" "What?" yelled Mr. E. Mr. Hendricks related the story to him.

Not one to get upset over a good joke, Mr. E went home, called each boy's house and invited them over for breakfast.

When the boys arrived, he had them sit on a bench in the front yard. He removed their hats, and behind their backs, placed two eggs in each hat. He then gently placed the hats back on their heads and squashed them down.

He then said, "Happy, April Fool's Day, Now the Yolks on you!"



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FROM THE CLARION...

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

One Year Ago (April, 2021) – To pay for the new lights on the former "Arch Bridge", a user fee of seven cents per crossing will be charged. Cameras will record your plate number and a bill sent (plus \$3.99 administrative fees), or if you have a transponder your account will automatically be charged. (Editor's note - the CLARION was able to "kill" this proposal).

Three Years Ago (April, 2019) – The Saratov International Development Company will be making a presentation in town this summer about their desire to construct a five story parking lot in the vacant area behind the Mascoma Bank. (Editor's note - again the CLARION was able to stop this proposal. A ground level parking lot instead will soon be completed).

Five Years Ago (April, 2017) – Walpole's Hadrosaurus foulkii bone will be on display for the first time in 170 years during Old Home Days this summer. (Editor's note: The CLARION was subsequently successful in reuniting this bone with the rest of the skeleton at The Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.).

Seven Years Ago (April, 2015) – The Walpole Library has applied for and received a grant from the Department of Homeland Security to assist in the "restoration of overdue materials and collection of associated fines." The grant amount, which was classified, was said to be "Gi-normous" by Library director Mary Farrell. (Editor's note: Again the hero, your hometown CLARION was able to put the kibosh to this outlandish scheme, and transition your library to "fine free.").

Nine Years Ago (April, 2013) – Apparently unquestioned credible articles anchored all pages. Sadly contributing writers did not know what month it was. (Editor's note: Zilch).

MILESTONES

Passed

Harley W. Prentiss Jr.
September 30, 1932 - February 1, 2022
 We incorrectly spelled Harley. W. Prentiss Jr. last month.
 We apologize for the error.

Amy Jo Paquette
July 8, 1973 - February 22, 2022



Born

Elizabeth Rosalie Chamberlin
January 10, 2022
 7 lbs 8 oz

To Tyler Chamberlin and Jennifer
 Kleindienst
 of Middletown, CT
 Grandparents:
 Janet Chamberlin of Walpole
 Stephanie Kleindienst of
 Niskayuna, NY

Born

Miles Tanke Tyson
February 17, 2022
 To Will Tyson & Susie Dain-
 Owens
 of Squamish, BC, Canada
 Grandparents:
 Bill & Kristen Tyson of Walpole
 Jim Owens & Debbie Dain
 of Mercer Island, WA



The WALPOLE Clarion

published monthly for the Walpole community.

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 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
 May issue deadline: April 22

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

The Walpole Clarion on-line:
thewalpoleclarion.com

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

I cannot believe it is again April, no foolin'. One quarter of the year past and it appears we are approaching a "new normal", getting out and about but still taking precautions. I have even started "shunpiking" again, and soon my little cars will be traversing remote Vermont dirt roads, dodging potholes and fallen trees. Activities in Town also appear to be picking up, and our churches are approaching pre-pandemic status.

Another Town Meeting cycle is done, and I for one have started a new pile in the garage - "paper to be shredded". Along with having learned what PETE Plastic is (not named for a recycling center volunteer), I will be using even fewer "yellow bags" - but I seem to only use a few a year anyway, but it all adds up. You should know that our Recycling Center has won state awards for its work.

Main Street Memories — it is time again for Old Home Days, and the committee is hard at work. Again I have run their announcement with contact information so you or your group can get involved in this tradition that started in 1899. Many new residents have come to Town since our last celebration, and I guarantee you are in for a treat and fun. Fun that is typical original New England.

As I close this month, may I again thank the **Clarion** advertisers who make this community news service possible. You can thank them also with your patronage. And, I would also be remiss without thanking publicly Tara and Jan for putting up with me to make "your paper" possible.

— Ray Boas, Publisher

1991-2021

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**After a two-year Covid hiatus, the Radio Follies
returned to the Helen Miller Theater. See page 14.**



PHOTOS: JENNY PLANTE

