

Town Infrastructure Improvements

About twenty-five people were in attendance Tuesday evening, September 20, at the Infrastructure Improvement Projects Informational Meeting at the Town Hall. Topics covered in the almost hour long meeting were: Roads, Dams & Bridges; Walpole Community Power; and, New Police Facilities for Walpole. At the conclusion of the presentations, Selectboard Chair Steve Dalessio indicated "there is a lot going on in town... with many folks out there trying to fix things." Board member Peggy Pschirrer concluded saying, "We are looking for the long term on these projects, 40-50 years...we need to look at tomorrow's needs to solve problems with solutions that will last for a while."

The processes for repairs and improvements to our roads, bridges, and our two dams are complicated, involving many levels of review and funding. Rains in July 2021 caused road problems. To fix these situations the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has inspections to provide some funding to bring the damaged infrastructure back to the "pre-event conditions". But that is not the ideal approach, and, "mitigation" monies for engineering work must be obtained to plan improvements to then prevent future damage. It is a time-consuming process with many "hooks" along the way, as explained to those assembled. Specific projects include: School Street flooding; damage caused by Butternut Brook from Wentworth Road to Ford Avenue; bridges at High Street and at the intersection where Colonial Drive meets Old North Main Street; and over the Houghton Brook on Wentworth Road.

More complicated is the Reservoir Dam which has been classified as a "High

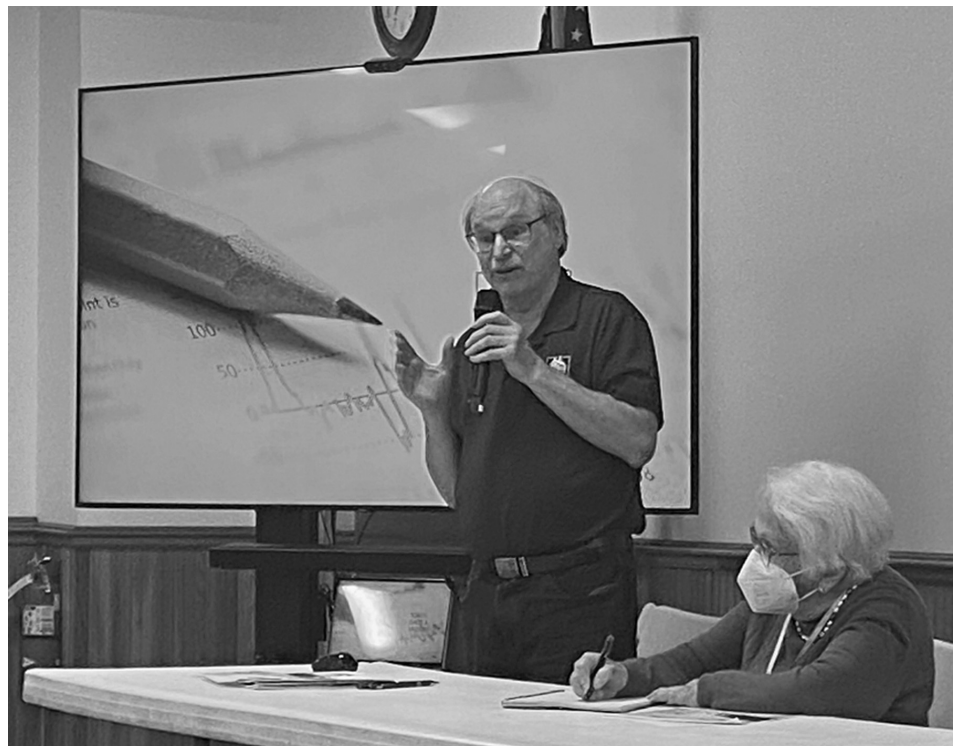


PHOTO: RAY BOAS

Selectboard Chair Steve Dalessio opens the meeting.

Hazard", meaning "dramatic damage to the Town if it failed, including potential loss of life." No longer a reservoir serving as a water source for the Village, this area has a "high recreational value." Complicating a solution is the old water line running through the dam. Penetrations such as this are a potential problem, as defined by the Department of Environmental Services (DES). In addition, the Dam Bureau has issued a letter of deficiency for the Mill Pond Dam on Main Street north of the school. Unknown if it is a dam or culvert problem, engineering

From Peggy's Desk

Covid is still hanging around, but activities held in abeyance for so long are emerging and calling for our participation. By the time you read this, the Hooper Institute will have had its Fall Festival, and the Walpole Historical Society will have held its Open House. And, on October 1, River Valley Seniors at Home will welcome all newcomers to the Common between 2:00 and 4:00 PM, to meet those of us who have been in Walpole forever - or at least longer than a few years. This event is for everyone, not just those old people, as someone said recently.

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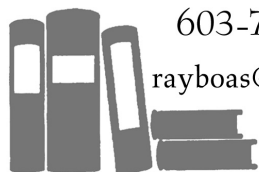
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**Crop Hunger Walk**

This year's annual Walpole CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Saturday, October 15. For 20+ years, the CROP Hunger Walk has been organized to raise funds that are used to help alleviate hunger, both locally and globally, as well as to assist with sustainable farming and clean water practices in the United States and throughout the world. Please join us this year, along with your friends and family, to support the effort with your steps and/or your donations.

Registration starts at 9:00 am and the walk begins at 9:30 am in front of the First Congregational Church on The Common. The route takes you around Walpole - a total of almost 3.5 miles. To participate in the Walk, or to find out more about CROP Hunger Walk, go to the website for the Walpole Crop Hunger Walk (shown below) and register.

Unable to participate in the walk, but would like to donate? Please consider donating as an individual or to an associated group by using the secure link below. Walkers are encouraged to invite friends and family to support them and use the website to donate once registered. Our local recipient is the Fall Mountain Food Shelf, which receives 25% of all the donations received. Last year, they received \$3,0196. Contributions are distributed through Church World Services, a 501(c)(3) organization, with a Charity Navigator rating of 90.32 out of 100.

For more information about the CROP Hunger Walk, or to register online or to donate, please use this link: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/event/walpolenh>

Questions? Please call Ellie Shaw at 603-756-4866.

- Wendy Harty

Ashuelot Concerts**New Concert Series
at Alyson's Orchard**

Beginning on October 10, 2022, Ashuelot Concerts will bring classical musicians from the world's leading stages to perform in a new concert series at Alyson's Orchard in Walpole NH. This young nonprofit formed in 2020 aims to bring artists who are typically heard at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, London's Wigmore Hall and many other leading International concert halls to the Monadnock Region.

The music will include programs of Violin Sonatas in October, Solo Piano Favorites in December and Piano Trios in May 2023. Ahead of all their performances this season, Ashuelot Concerts has partnered with 32 schools to bring live performances into the classrooms for thousands of local children. For many of them, this will be their first experience of hearing live chamber music. The program connects children with musicians at the very top of their field from different backgrounds and nationalities.

'We are delighted to be bringing our music to the glorious setting of Alyson's Orchard in Walpole,' says Nicholas Burns, Artistic and Executive Director. 'Live music has such an important role to play as we all heal after such a challenging few years. We have chosen pieces that will inspire, transfix, mesmerize and captivate. We are confident that everyone who attends our concerts will leave uplifted by what we truly believe is the greatest music ever written.'

To learn more about Ashuelot Concerts, book tickets and find out about all their events in venues across the Monadnock Region, go to: ashuelotconcerts.org.

**at Alyson's Orchard**
Monday Oct 10, 4:00PM**Debussy
Fauré
Saint-Saëns
Violin Sonatas**Book online:
ashuelotconcerts.org

Election Day brought out voters in a steady stream, despite the frequent downpours. Volunteers worked from early morning until late into the evening, both in Walpole and North Walpole. We owe each of the Poll workers a genuine thank you. We were all well fed by the Grange volunteers who cooked, served, and cleaned. The Grange can be thanked by all of us by participating in their Fall Fund Raiser: A Turkey Dinner Take Out on October 15. Watch for details about ordering.

Two amazing Walpole Women are being recognized on October 13, 2022, at the **Extraordinary Women** tenth anniversary event held at Keene State College. Cindy Westover and Aylene Wozmak will be honored for their extraordinary contributions to the community and to their careers. Look in the Sentinel for details. Congratulations to Cindy and Aylene!

Ray Boas has written an excellent summary of the infrastructure meeting held last night in Town Hall. We were grateful for the turn out and the questions raised about our infrastructure projects discussed by Steve Dalessio, Selectboard

Chair. The Houghton Brook Bridge was a new project when I was elected in 2015. Now, we expect it to be completed in 2023. It illustrates the patience, the steadfast work needed for each of these projects as rules and personnel in all the state and federal agencies change regularly.

Cherie Watson's article on the Police station in this **Clarion**, adds to our understanding of a real need for a new Station which will meet current standards for police stations and provide for future needs. Our newest member of the Police Department was with us last night: Officer Jonah Markle.

The Wapole Power Committee is also working toward solar solutions for our power needs. They are exploring the options for solar panels on the Recycling Center, and the potential for a Community Solar Field.

We will, as one member of the audience asked last night, continue to be transparent and open in our discussions of current projects and plans. Another member of the audience asked me as we were leaving, why don't you hire a project coordinator to oversee and manage these projects which are obviously time

consuming. A valid comment and good suggestion. Can we afford a new Staff member? Would the Town voters approve the hire?

The Selectboard has begun the budget process for 2023. It is another challenging year with inflation seemingly out of control with increases for all of us in electricity, fuel, food, and all necessities. We are mindful of our obligations as stewards of the Town funds and Town needs and expectations. Join us in staying positive as we work toward a healthy future.

— Peggy Pschirrer


Unitarian Church

Harvest Food Sale

The Walpole Unitarian Church will hold its annual Harvest Food Sale outside the Post Office on October 22, from 9:00 to 11:15 AM. Come and get some of our delicious homemade items - both sweet and savory. Buy something to take home for supper, or something for the freezer.

Come early to get the best choices!

— Wendy Harty



11TH ANNUAL

Walpole Firefighters' Auxiliary, Inc.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thank You!

The Walpole Firefighters Auxiliary would like to thank everyone who came out to be a part of our 11th annual golf event at the Hooper Golf Course on September 10. This year we had a full course with 15 teams, and local businesses that sponsored or made donations to the event. Without this great support from golfers and businesses, this charity event would not be a success. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you next Fall.

Please keep an eye out for information about our upcoming events and community involvement.



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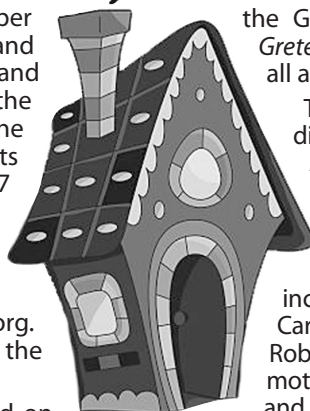
The Walpole Players Present "Hansel and Gretel"

The Walpole Players will be presenting the classic Grimms' Fairy Tale *Hansel and Gretel* on Fridays October 21 and 28 at 7:00 PM, and Saturdays October 22 and 29 at 4:00 and 7:00 PM, at the Helen Miller Theater at the Walpole Town Hall. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children, and are available at Galloway Realty and Mascoma Bank in Walpole, as well as online at TheWalpolePlayers.org. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

Hansel and Gretel, based on the classic story first published by the Brothers Grimm in 1812, tells the story of a young brother and sister abandoned in the forest, who stumble upon a gingerbread house inhabited by an evil witch. Hansel and Gretel must use their wits to outsmart the Witch and escape being baked in her oven.

Every dramatic moment from this classic tale is brought to life, live on stage, from the night spent in the spooky forest, to the discovery of the candy-coated gingerbread house, to the broomstick flight of the Witch, and to the battle with

The Walpole Players



the Gingerbread Witch. *Hansel and Gretel* is sure to delight children of all ages.

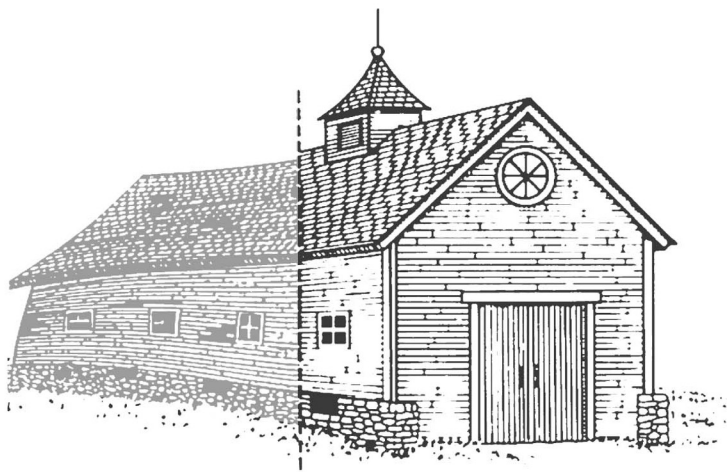
This production, written and directed by Mike Wright, stars Asa Whittaker as Hansel, Lorelai Hashimoto and Harper Rodenhauser sharing the role of Gretel, and Gina Richardson as the evil witch. The cast also includes Denis Fortier as the father, Carolyn Norback and Deb Wick Robarge alternating as the step-mother, Tom Durnford as the Mayor, and Lea Kablik as the ghost of Hansel and Gretel's mother. Ruth Pratt, Lucy Berger Kimball, Rowan Whittaker, Owen Grant, Trajan Vannini, Nieomi Van Larre, and Luna Gendreau round out the cast. Becca Robison and Ruth Pratt are the Assistant Directors and Stage Managers, with costumes by Lisa Bryan.

The Walpole Players' next production, Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory* will take place in December.

For more information, visit our website www.thewalpoleplayers.org or email WalpolePlayers@gmail.com.

– Mike Wright

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Being Rescued by Walpole's EMT Team

Some weeks ago, I was bringing groceries into our house when a bald faced hornet (one of the most venomous and intelligent hunters in the insect world) decided it was a good idea to follow me into the kitchen. Normally I would have waited until this critter landed on a window so I could pick it up with a towel and put it outside. But with this one I didn't stand a chance.



*Bald faced
hornet*

In an instant, this hornet stung me twice in the outer corner of my left eye. Now, while it stung like crazy, I thought that applying a touch of Benadryl cream, along with ice, would stop the swelling. However, seeing that the swelling was getting worse, we thought it a good idea for my wife Tara to drive to the drugstore for some antihistamines.

Not seconds after Tara's car disappeared down North Road, my hands had intense tingling, like when your arm falls asleep, which spread like lightning throughout my body. I began to hyperventilate and sweat profusely as my heart rate went into warp drive. Then it was difficult to move.

Fortunately, I was able to make it to our bedroom, where I fell on the mattress with cell phone in hand and called 911. I remember only a piece of that conversation, when things went black.

I was jolted awake by my dog Ruthie who jumped on me when she saw the Walpole EMT crew blasting through my door to get to me as quickly as possible.

You must realize that the EMT crew got to our house before Tara returned from speed shopping at the drugstore. That kind of response is amazing!

After the EMTs' arrived, I don't remember much of anything, except the crew yelling my name trying to wake me as I was being carted into the ambulance.

I came in the ambulance with Brad Nash driving up front, Jenna Brown trying to find my pulse, and Bryan Wetherby hooking me up to an IV. As things weren't going too well, Bryan also



PHOTO: RYAN SHAFER

gave me a shot of epinephrine, while Jenna rigged me up to oxygen.

With my heart pounding and body vibrating badly, I passed out again, only to wake up to hear Jenna telling Bryan that my pulse was difficult to find, and Bryan telling me that he was sorry but he was going to stick me again. A second shot of epinephrine.

The next thing that I remember is fading away while Jenna was instructing me in deep breathing, then awakening again in the hospital emergency room, where I immediately received a third injection of epinephrine. A few seconds later a shot of cortisone.

Fortunately, within a few hours, I was able to sit up, breath normally and, to Tara's relief, all my vital signs were back to normal.

I truly believe that if it wasn't for the incredibly fast response from our Walpole EMTs, my outcome would have been very different. We should all be grateful for such an incredible group of women and men who train and work so diligently to protect us and save our lives.

A final note. While all the chaos was going on at my house, EMT member Mike Hubbard took my wife aside and assured her that, if needed, he would make sure that my horse Incredible Ace and mammoth donkey Wilson would be taken care of, no matter what.

Amazing.

– Eric Merklein



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work has not yet begun. The sewer line running under the closed Vilas Bridge was also discussed. Engineering studies are in progress, with no time-line yet established for a solution. It was noted that the Town's work does not end with these currently addressed problems.

Next, Paul Looney provided an update on the Walpole Community Power project. He explained saying it is "just a slow process but a great idea". At Town Meeting this year, it was voted to implement community power. Thirty-five New Hampshire towns have shown interest, with eleven having gotten approval. This represents 25% of the power usage in NH. It was noted the two recent increases in our Liberty Utility bills are due to the dramatic increase in the cost of natural gas, and 60% of Liberty's electricity is generated in that manner. Walpole's committee is working with three potential vendors who will be bidding to provide an alternative electrical source. Proposals from those vendors are expected the first quarter of 2023, with implementation in the second quarter.

Concluding the presentations, Walpole Police Department Committee member Rod Bouchard (Walpole resident and



PHOTO: RAY BOAS

Presenters left to right: Steve Dalessio; Peggy Pschirrer, Paul Looney, and Rod Bouchard

Assistant County Administrator for Cheshire County) discussed the research undertaken for New Police Facilities for Walpole. Built in 1996, the current 1,800 square foot police station sits on two tenths of an acre to the rear of the North Walpole Fire Station. From there, to arrive in southeast Walpole (the hill on County Road near the Surry line) can be a twenty minute drive, if there is not a train passing through.

The current facility is woefully lacking. See *The Beat* on page 10 for further details on the station's deficiencies.

The committee working on the new police facility has extensive background in accomplishing this task, but in conclusion stated they wish to "reach out to the community to find out what the community would like to see in a new facility besides the upgraded police requirements". One possible addition mentioned would be a new public meeting area for everyone's use. As these projects develop, the *Clarion* will keep you up to date with significant details.

— Ray Boas

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The Walpole Players¹ Present **Hansel & Gretel**

by the Brothers Grimm; adapted by P. Michael Wright



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Oct. 21 & 28
at 7:00 PM**

**Saturdays,
Oct. 22 & 29
at 4:00 PM & 7:00 PM**

**Tickets:
\$10/Adults,
\$7/children under 12**

**Tickets can be purchased in advance at:
Galloway Real Estate, 47 Main St. in Walpole
Mascoma Bank, 53 Main St. in Walpole
Online at TheWalpolePlayers.org
Or at the door.**

Call 603-756-2535 for more information.



Garlic Saturday

On Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM, the Hooper Institute will be hosting a garlic planting demonstration in the Walpole Community Garden with the garlic maven herself, Fritze Till!

The Hooper Institute and Garden address is 165 Prospect Hill Road Walpole, NH 03608. Donations accepted to support this wonderful community garden. Any questions, please contact Helen Dalbeck at hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net, or call (603) 756-4382. Thank you!

– Helen Dalbeck

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Poster by Fritze Till

Grange Harvest Dinner

The 13th Annual Harvest Dinner, presented by Walpole Grange #125, will be Saturday, October 15 at the First Congregational Church. Delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings made by the Grange's excellent cooks. Take-out only, with pickup from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. Tickets are \$15 per person, available at Galloway Real Estate or by calling 603-756-3677.

– Kathy Yardley

Welcome Newcomers!

AT LAST! The time is almost here for the town to gather on the Town Common to meet all the new people in town, and to introduce yourselves to them. We will be eating delicious local baked goodies, drinking fresh apple cider, listening to great live music, maybe even winning some raffle prizes – and definitely having a great time!

Let's Party!

There will be representatives from town organizations available to tell you about all the things that Walpole has to offer. This event is free and open to all Walpoleans, young, old or in between. There will be games for the kids, so be sure to bring them, too! They might even be able to sit in a fire truck!

The Walpole Town Common, Saturday, October 1, 2:00 to 4:00 PM (will be re-scheduled in case of rain) Brought to you by the River Valley Seniors at Home Welcoming Committee.

For more information, contact Tara Sad at 603-756-4861. See you Saturday

– Tara Sad

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Did You Know That...?

Explorations into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

Town pounds gave way to private-property enclosures around the time this pastoral scene was painted in 1887 – Library Of Congress

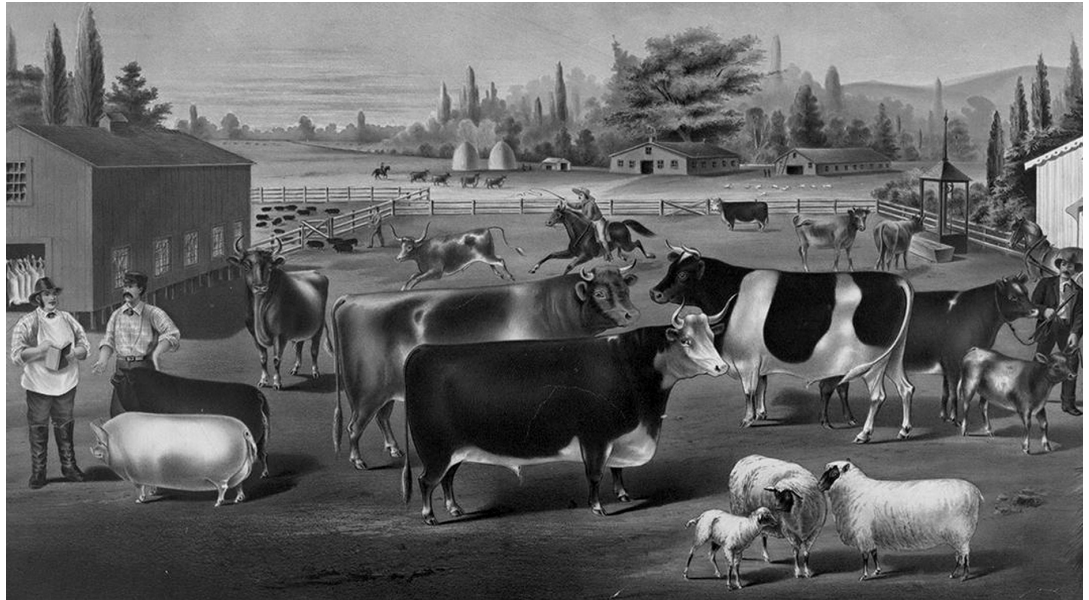
...it appears Walpole

built four Town Pounds, but in two different locations, and possibly a fifth in a third spot? New England's Town Pounds originate from England and Europe. The word 'Pound' dates from the 15th Century, coming from 'impound', or 'to shut up in a pen or pound'. Here, in the 18th and early 19th Centuries, animals, particularly cows and pigs, were not fenced in but allowed to roam and graze on the central "Common" lands of a town. But, should animals wander and destroy property or crops, they were taken to the Pound.

The New Hampshire legislature, in July 1828, passed several bills governing the operations of Town Pounds. Even earlier, an elected Town official was the Pound Keeper, or Pounder. His duties were to confine errant animals in the pound where they remained until claimed by the owner, who had to pay a fee for its release. A system of markings was established, with those identifying marks registered with the Town Clerks. Town meeting and other records show a mark could have been "a hole through the right ear," or "a slit in the left ear," or even "a cut off tail."

In Walpole, it was voted in 1765 that "every man was to give one day's work to build a Pound." The location was not documented, but most likely was at the top of the current Old North Main Street where the Meeting House was being constructed. Benjamin Bellows was planning at the time for the village to be centered here. But, as population moved south, a new Pound was built at the south end of Main Street on Col. John Bellows land adjoining James Bundy, Jr.'s blacksmith shop, which was located on the south side of what is now South Street. Two years later it appears another pound 40 ft. by 40 ft. and 6 ft. high of stone, was built here by Manoah Drury.

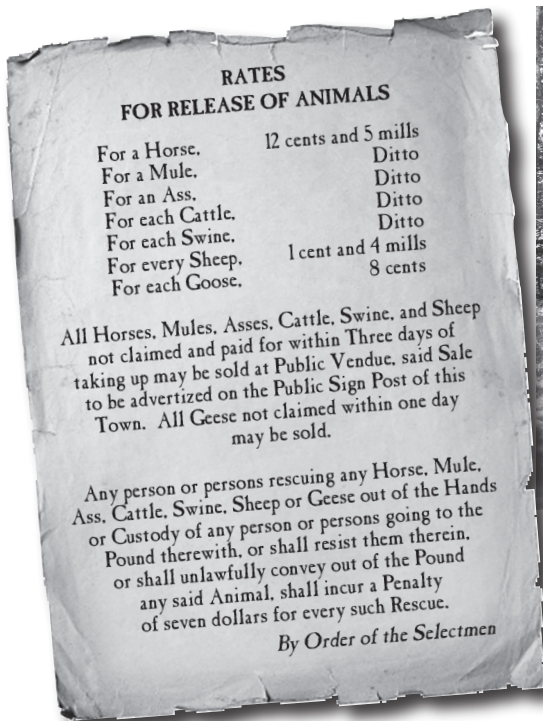
With the population beginning to settle to the top of Prospect Hill, it was voted in 1784 to build a Pound on Maj. Benjamin Bellows land near the corner of Antipas Harrington's land there. A new Meeting House soon was built here, and a Common laid out. In 1793, it was voted to "to remove old Pound and build new on westerly corner of common 40 feet 40 feet x 10 feet high." Again, this was at



Marlborough, NH, Town Pound

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Alstead Town Pound located on Route 12A

Facsimile of mid-1800s Pound poster

the top of Prospect Hill, Walpole's current Common not being laid out until the 1830s. When the Hooper Institute School was built in the 1920s, stones from the Pound were used in its foundation.

Usually built of stone, Pounds were built in an assortment of styles. Some were square, some rectangular, and even round Pounds have been seen. Generally they were 8 to 10 feet high and two feet below ground so animals could not dig their way out. There is a Pound nearby in Marlow, and of interest is the Pound just south of Alstead Center on Route 12A, built in 1797, according to the Alstead town history, but its sign reads 1767. The early Alstead government first centered here on the

farm of Timothy Delano. For a real treat, pack your picnic basket and blanket, and head to the original, now abandoned, Marlborough, New Hampshire, Town Center (1776). This was the site of the Meeting House on the 3rd NH Turnpike, now Frost Hill Road. The Pound, built here in 1783, was restored along with this entire area in 2005, resulting in this peaceful location. When driving through old New England towns and you spot a tall stone enclosure, now you will know what it was.





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Outdated and Deficient Walpole Police Station

Photo: Ray Boas



Mark your calendars for October 29, National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The DEA encourages the public to remove unneeded medications from their homes as a measure of preventing medication misuse and opioid addiction. Follow local news media for locations available for deposit between 10 AM to 2 PM on October 29. While the misuse of prescription drugs remains a major concern that each of us can take action to prevent, today most of the drug use and overdoses are from illegally manufactured and distributed drugs. The drug overdose epidemic in the U.S. threatens public health, public safety, and national security. As mentioned in last month's article, the Walpole Police Department building has been damaged, and our officers threatened, by out-of-state persons involved in drug-related criminal activity. Walpole is not immune from the crime problems often found in urban areas.

The Walpole Police Study Committee (WPSC) was established to explore building a new police station to improve public safety. Built in 1996 and located at 4 Russell Street in North Walpole, our building is severely inadequate and not up to current operational standards. While structural repairs have been made given recent damage, a long-term solution is needed. Details on what is needed

and why were provided at the September 20 Infrastructure Improvements public meeting hosted by the Selectboard.

Spaces within the current building are used for multiple, overlapping law enforcement and non-law enforcement activities, causing inconvenience, delay, and security issues. Improved, properly ventilated and secure space is needed for evidence storage, crime scene analysis and the handling of hazardous materials. Safe, secure holding cells are needed, including separate areas for juveniles. There is no acceptable space for interrogations or private meeting spaces for attorneys or crime victims/witnesses. There is no space for officer training or officer lockers. Safety improvements are needed, such as reinforced concrete walls and ballistic windows/doors. Further, the sally port is too small and cramped given the increase in the number of persons being arrested and the increase in numbers of vehicles that need to be processed for evidence prior to impoundment.

Having an approachable, community-friendly interior and exterior is also essential for collaboration and information sharing. Our building has no space for community meetings. There are no accessible public restrooms. There is no separate kitchen space. Some police stations offer recreation rooms and basketball courts to engage youth and publicly accessible community cafés to have "soda/coffee with a cop". Some departments offer internet safety exchange locations to address the rise in online drug buying and selling transactions. Others also have permanent, secure drop boxes for unused prescription medications.

WPSC will balance operational needs with community desires in our police station design. What can you do? Remain informed.

— Cheri Watson

Walpole AED Locations

(Automated External Defibrillators)

Locations:

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

Walpole School – Primary*
18 Primary Lane

Walpole Town Pool*
(*shared - during summer season)
14 Bundy Lane

North Walpole School
17 Cray Road, NW

Walpole Town Hall
34 Elm Street

Walpole Recycling Center
Rte 123, North Walpole

Dartmouth-Hitchcock, Walpole Clinic
11 Westminster Street

Bensonwood Homes
6 & 10 Blackjack Crossing Road

LaValley's Building Supply
40 Meadow Access Lane

Hooper Golf Course
166 Prospect Hill Road

Congregational Church
15 Washington Street

Chamberlain Machine
14 Darling Lane

Jake's Market
51 Main Street

Bowman Dental
48 Meadow Access Lane

Hubbard Park
30 Upper Walpole Road

Savings Bank of Walpole
North Meadow Plaza

Mascoma Bank
53 Main St, Walpole

Walpole Town Library
48 Main Street

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

Transportation

SWRPC to Host NH 12 North Corridor Meeting

On Wednesday, October 26, at 6:30 PM, the Southwest Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) will host a meeting to discuss the NH 12 North Corridor.

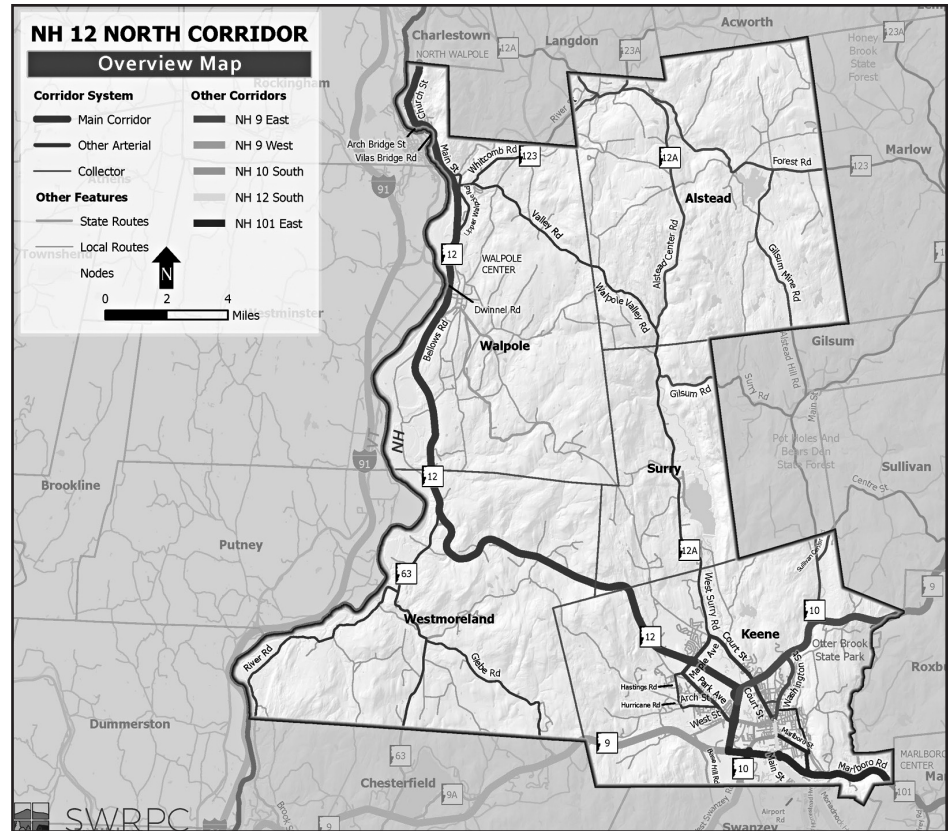


SWRPC

The NH 12 North Corridor is one of eight major transportation corridors in the Southwest NH Region, facilitating north-south traffic movements between Keene and Walpole. In addition to NH 12 this Corridor also includes parts of NH 63, and 123 as well as non-numbered State routes in Walpole, Westmoreland, Keene, Surry, and Alstead – the five Towns identified as part of the Corridor. This corridor is important for commuting, tourism, commerce, and other reasons. The NH 12 North Corridor connects much of the Southwest Region with major cities in northern New England and Canada via I-91.

Compared to other corridors in the Southwest Region, NH 12 North has more transportation modes than most, including some sidewalk infrastructure, access to the Greyhound Bus, some limited local transit, passenger and freight rail access, and the Cheshire Rail Trail.

Is this corridor part of your regular commute? Are you satisfied with current travel conditions, or do you feel that improvements and investments are necessary to improve traveler safety and convenience or comfort? Do you wish there were better transportation options in this area, such as enhanced public trans-



MAP: SWRPC WEB PAGE

sit? Would you like to see improved conditions for cyclists and pedestrians?

If you have questions, comments or concerns about transportation on the NH 12 North Corridor, please attend the Zoom meeting on Wednesday October 26, 2022 at 6:30 pm, hosted by SWRPC. At the meeting, SWRPC will present information about existing conditions on the Corridor, and then take feedback from meeting participants regarding transportation challenges, opportunities for improvements and project ideas. Comments and local knowledge from

users of the Corridor are critical for understanding our Region's transportation needs, and comments will be used to inform the update of SWRPC's Long Range Transportation Plan, Southwest Connects.

This meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday October 26, 2022 at 6:30 pm. To find more information and instructions on how to join the meeting, go to: www.swrpc.org/12n

We hope to see you there!

—Andrew Smeltz



The recently-installed AED unit outside Jake's Market to the left of the front door—For other AED locations in Walpole see page 10.

Keep Up on Walpole Happenings
Visit The Walpolean
<https://thewalpolean.org/>
Sign Up to FOLLOW BLOG VIA EMAIL

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

Walpole Veterinary

Open House

The Walpole Veterinary Hospital staff and Dr. Shaw are excited to invite Walpole and the surrounding communities to our Open House. On Saturday, October 29, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, the clinic will be open to the public to come into the facility and see what happens "behind the scenes" and view the treatment, laboratory, X-ray, surgery, kennels, large animal space and supply areas.



There will be outdoor activities as well. Liz Shaw will be doing two sheep herding demonstrations with her working dogs and sheep. Our own Dr. Meagan Coneeny will be singing for a couple of hours. Several farms will be present to show and sell their products. Hamburgers, hotdogs and beverages etc. will be provided.

We look forward to seeing everyone on the 29th.

– Chuck Shaw

The Walpole Foundation

An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) outdoor station has been installed at the entrance of Jake's Market. This life-saving piece of equipment was purchased by the Walpole Foundation. It is enclosed in a cabinet that includes an audible alarm, fan, heater, night/day light and visual warnings.

An AED, or automated external defibrillator, is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's a sophisticated, yet easy-to-use, medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.

There are other locations in town that also have an AED, which include Mascoma Bank, the Dartmouth Hitchcock Clinic, the Town Library and the Town Hall. The PulsePoint AED is an excellent app to find other locations. The Walpole Fire Station / EMS also offers CPR classes on a regular basis. You can sign up at wellness@walpolefireems.com.

Other News: The sewer/water line repair is completed at Spencer's Restaurant. Both the sewer and water lines were replaced with new lines. The bricks are back in place on the sidewalk in keeping with the building. Another job well done!

– Alberta Wiemers

Book Sale

Friends of the Library

Our big annual book sale is coming up this month on October 28 through 30 at the Walpole Middle School gym.

Friday, Oct 28, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM will be our Preview Night (See below)

Saturday, Oct 29, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM – Book Sale

Sunday, Oct 30, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM – Book Sale (\$5 per box all day)

We have a very impressive selection of high quality books this year. Pre-sale reminder: Friday, Oct 28 (5-8 PM) is our Preview evening. It is your chance to be among the first to see and buy books for a \$25 entry fee.

Thank you to all who donated books to the sale, and to the many volunteers who sorted those books this summer. For now, we are pausing book sorting until Wednesdays, October 12, 19 and 26, from 10:30 to 11:30 AM. Please note that you can donate books (in excellent condition) year round at the Reuse Center. One last note: if your organization would like a table at the book sale, please call 603-439-7778 to find out more.

Thank you for your ongoing support! See you at the Book Sale!

– Jana Sellarole



Special events every Saturday through October 15 at the Walpole Heritage Museum!

Behind the Scenes – October 1 at 12:30 PM - join us for a tour to find out what the museum keeps in all those spaces you can't usually see when you visit.

The Decorative Wall, Part Two - October 8 at 12:30 PM - discussion of stencils and murals found in local homes with Christopher Sink and Walpole artist, Dutchie Perron.

Canes and Walking Sticks - October 15 at 12:30 PM - discussion of examples in our collection with Joanna Andros. Long used for enhanced support and mobility, canes and walking sticks also conveyed social status, power, and fashion. Visitors are welcome to bring a special walking stick to show during this discussion.

Come to the museum at 32 Main Street for a little refreshment and some extra insight into the variety of our collections and the history of our community. The Walpole Historical Society will be open every Saturday from noon to 4 PM through October 15, as well as by appointment. Visit us at www.walpolehistory.com.



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"Great Decisions"

Climate Change

During our September "Great Decisions" meeting on *Changing Demographics*, the declining and aging population of Walpole was seen as cause for concern for the future vibrancy of our community. Without immigration, the population of the United States would decline by nearly 10 million in the next 30 years, and this decline would affect rural states most acutely. Ways to attract immigrant families, along with the need for affordable housing, jobs and public transportation in New Hampshire, were discussed. Thank you to all, and especially Peggy Pschirrer, for a lively, stimulating exchange of ideas!

Now we tackle *Climate Change*! Are you hopeful or in despair? There is certainly an abundance of books and articles on this hot topic, and we welcome your observations.

"Great Decisions" will meet at 6:00 PM on Monday, October 17, in the Walpole Town Library. We will begin the discussion with a 20-minute *Master Class* video from the Foreign Policy Association. While the ideological divide in the U.S. on climate change has impeded governmental action, extreme weather events have made this inaction far less tenable.

The Foreign Policy Association's *Briefing Book* (magazine with the bright blue cover image, available at the library) presents an overview in the article *The Renewed Climate Change Agenda* by Ronald J. Bee. A copy of the article can be emailed to you upon request; please contact the library director: jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org.

Also at the library are copies of a Foreign Affairs article, *Can Green Hydrogen Save the Planet?* by S. Julio Friedmann, published September 15, 2022. References to climate action would not be complete without mentioning *Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming*, edited by Paul Hawken, published way back in 2017. We will also examine the recent *Inflation Reduction Act* and its clean energy incentives and tax credits.

There is much to consider. Please join us on Monday, October 17, either in person in the Hubbard Meeting Room at the Walpole Town Library or via Zoom. For the Zoom link, contact Jane Malmberg, Library Director, in advance of the 6:00 p.m. meeting: jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org.

– Sue Kibbe



Women of Walpole

The Women of Walpole held their first meeting of the new season at Katie Beam's house and enjoyed a presentation by Megan Fulton MCVF Crisis & Prevention Center on their hard work on prevention and support to victims of domestic violence, stalking, and sexual harassment. Our next meeting will be on October 19 at 200 pm at the home of Amy Howard at 21 Colonial Drive. Christie Winmill will be making a presentation related to collections at the Historical Society. All women working or living in Walpole are invited to join us. New and old members are always welcome.

For further information, please feel free to contact Susan Johnson at 603-313-4018. See you on the 19th!


– Susan Johnson

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Pinnacleview 4-H

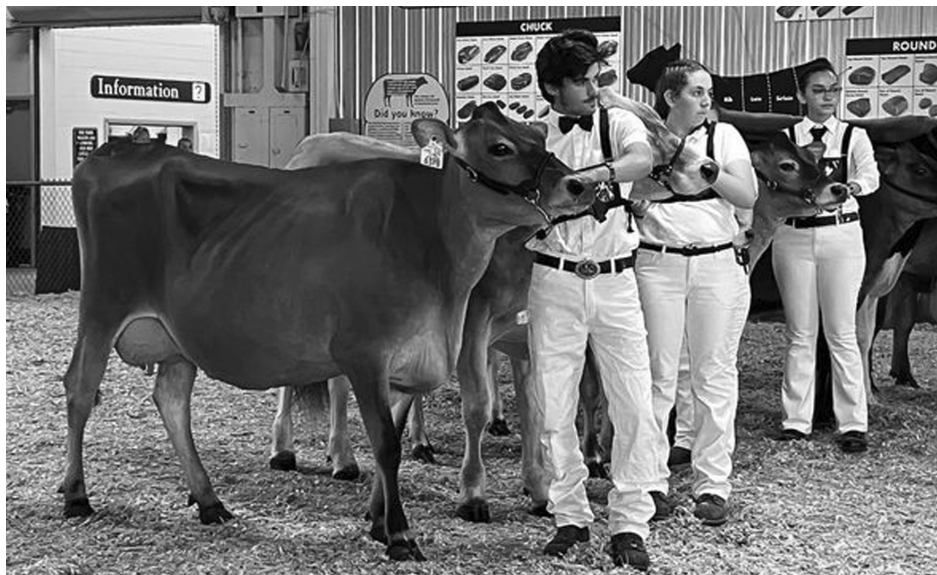
Club Enjoys a Successful Fair Season

Fair season has come and is almost gone. Pinnacleview members participated in the following fairs: Cheshire, Cornish, Guilford (VT), Franklin County Fair in Greenfield, MA and The Big E.



County fairs give 4-H members the opportunity to learn or improve many skills, from how to fit and show their project animals, to learning about conformation and breed characteristics, goal-setting, and working together as a team to get things done. One of their big challenges at Cheshire Fair is staffing a shift at the 4H Food Booth. The proceeds from this booth help fund Cheshire County 4-H Activities. At fairs, older club members work together with the newer members to help each other with whatever they may need. Showing at The Big E allows our members to spend time with 4H members from across the New England States. We get to show our cattle, and compete in other educational contests such as Dairy Quiz Bowl and a Clipping Contest. We learn about foods and nutrition by creating original recipes for both grilled cheese sandwiches and milkshakes.

There was a seven member team from NH this year, representing Cheshire, Sullivan, and Merrimack Counties. New Hampshire had the smallest delegation, but we were able to exhibit some class-winning heifers. Abigail Putnam, Ashlynn



Edward Gowdy exhibits Crescent Casino Nova at Eastern States



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Smith, Lianna Lee and Edward Gowdy all won their classes. Edward ended up as Reserve Champion for the 4H Jersey Show. Our dairy quiz bowl team came in fourth place out of 5 other teams. New Hampshire was awarded the Best Jersey Herd. The clipping team: Edward Gowdy, Colton Stark, and Abigail Putman came in fifth out of six teams. The Milkshake team of Ashlynn Smith Colton Stark and Alanna Lee came in fifth with a maple flavored milkshake.

The NH Dairy Quiz Bowl Team: The two 4H'ers on the left are from Merrimack County, Grace Hodgdon and Ben Tutko; the two to the right are Ashlynn Smith and Colton Stark, both from Sullivan County.

In October, two of our members, Edward Gowdy and Ashlynn Smith, will be traveling to the National 4H Dairy Conference in Madison, WI. They will join a team of five delegates representing NH. The conference coincides with World Dairy Expo, and so our youth will get to visit farms, The Hoards Dairyman headquarters, NASCO, and ABS. They will be able to see some of the best cattle in the world being exhibited. Overall it has been a great fair season, and I hope there's many more like it.

Upcoming activities this fall will include tending to the flower beds in Walpole, and possibly hosting a scarecrow contest. If you or your family would like to learn more about 4-H in Cheshire County then please contact the UNH Cooperative Extension office in Keene at 603-352-4550 for more information.

– Ashlynn Smith



New Hampshire Grill Cheese Contest Team: Ashlynn Smith, Alanna Lee, and Colton Stark from Sullivan County

The Pears

The Astonishing Harvest of 2022

When we moved into our village home a year ago we had no idea that we had become the fortunate possessors of a pear tree. First, no one had mentioned it during the sale process; I couldn't have identified a pear tree if my life depended on it. What proved to be the pear tree was (and is) a fairly unsightly thing standing by its lonesome in the back yard. Very tall, partially dead... altogether un-gainly. I'd actually thought of having it removed.

Then we began discovering pears on the ground. And they kept coming – throughout the late Summer and early Fall. They were a little on the scruffy side, slightly misshapen, dinged here and there. But delicious. Juicy. And all we had to do was pick them off the ground.

And there was, as they say, the rub. We had competition. That scraggly tree proved to be a member in good standing in the local ecosystem. Quite a few critters – large and small – were more than ready to feast on those pears. Squirrels, chipmunks, and an assortment of insect life fixed their beady little eyes on the base of that tree, primed for falling fruit. Of course, I'm bigger than they are and an apex predator, but they get up much earlier than I do, so by the time I traipsed into the yard, I was greeted

by the morning's bounty — perhaps a dozen newly fallen pears — at least five of which had already been partially consumed by no-longer-present wildlife and currently home to bees, flies, battalions of ants and the occasional hornet. Still, even after these depredations, the daily haul was considerable. We enjoyed many dozens of pears and gave several more to friends and family.

Through the winter we occasionally wondered if there was something we should be doing to ensure another

Pear

PHOTO: JAN KOBESKI



pear fest this year. After all, we had done nothing last year to foster the crop. With fingers crossed I inspected the tree this Spring, and to my delight I could count at least a dozen budding pears within easy reach; since most of last year's harvest had ripened higher up and out of sight, things looked promising.

But I had forgotten, or underestimated, our furry friends. When next I looked a few weeks later, all of the original dozen had vanished. It seems they weren't just in easy reach for me, but also equally inviting for the wildlife. And the squad wasn't waiting around for gravity to do the hard work for them — they went straight to the source.

Did they devour them right on the branch? Carry them off to some burrow reeking of pear juice? Never saw any actual pear pilferage, but again, they get up earlier than I do... and they were very thorough. There was never any tell-tale evidence of furry gluttony – no half-eaten husks on the ground. Nothing. The fruit simply vanished. Maybe aliens...

So, the photo at left is our 2022 pear harvest. All of it. It dangled from the end of a very spindly branch probably ten feet up. I carefully cut it down before it could ripen; we kept it in the kitchen window for a week or so (under heavy guard); then cut it in half and shared it for lunch.

It was delicious.

I'm learning to despise squirrels.

– Jan Kobeski

Gleanings

from the Town Minutes

Conservation Commission - September 12 - Walpole Gateway Update: Alicia stated the parking area looks great. John and Lew staked out a 24' x 24' area. Lew recommends using Surepack with an 8-10" minimum depth. The excavated material can be put further down the hill to the left to block people from going into the brook.

John stated he talked to Mark Houghton about what the commission plans to do and to get an estimate from him on the work. Lew said it is possible the fire department may want a larger area for rescue vehicles. Alicia said she would like to talk about that further before they make final decisions. Peter said he would wait before ordering split rail fence.

Lew stated that, if a few trees were cut, the parking area could be seen from the kiosk. Steven asked if the gate will be left

open. Alicia said as soon as there is signage, Surepack, and a split rail fence, the gate will be opened.

Hooper Forest Update: Alex Barrett of Long View Forest reported that the invasives have been treated in the Hooper Forest. He then distributed copies of the Hooper Forest Timber Harvest Prospectus and a harvest map. First Alex discussed the map and where and how harvest would take place. He described the types of trees they found in the various areas. They buffered around the lean-to, and he said they would have to clean up the bike trails when finished.

Wood pricing was discussed, and Alex explained how payment is made. He estimates this timber harvest could bring in roughly \$20,000 - \$30,000, depending on the type and condition of the wood. Alex suggested having a walk-about to make the public aware of what is happening during the timber harvest. Alicia said the Hooper Institute Board should be involved, and it was also suggested to contact the bike riders who use those trails.

Planning Board - September 13

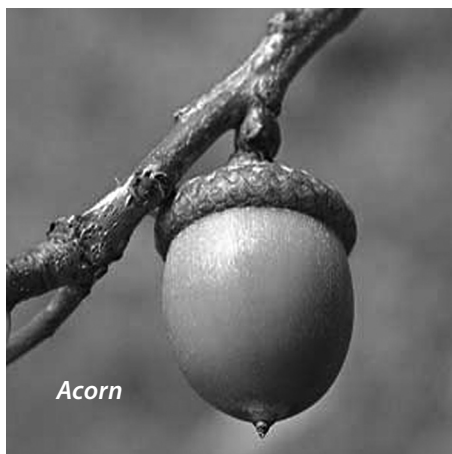
- Discussion of Expansion of Walpole Fire Department: 278 Main Street - Mike Petrovich, architect, present to discuss setback to Firehouse Lane as a problem. This discussion was postponed until next month. Mr. Miller said this is going to be an expansion that includes more ladders, emergency things, places where people can sleep, elevators. Walpole has two distinct fire department districts, Walpole and North Walpole, with the Cold River being the boundary between the two. This expansion will affect the Walpole district.

Selectboard - September 8

- JP Pest Services Purchase Order and Agreement: Ms. Mayberry moved to sign the purchase order and agreement for JP Pest Services in order to remove a vermin infestation in the Town Hall and the amount not to exceed \$2,600. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

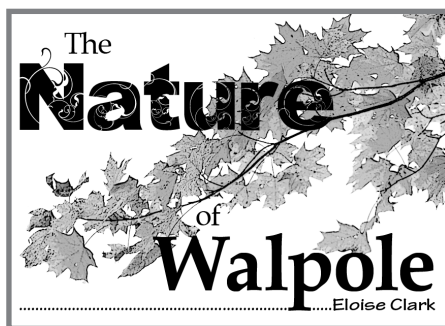
My mother did several types of needlework in her retirement I remember a *Tree of Life* emerged from one of her tapestry efforts. It looked like a very symmetrical fruit tree festooned with fruit and birds. Which native tree in Walpole would be a fitting emblem of the tree of life? I nominate the *Quercus rubra*, the Northern red oak. Ecologists identify the whole oak family as “keystone species”, meaning oaks are very important to the environment.

Oaks are best known for the bushels of acorns they produce. At this time of year, they spatter down from tree limbs and pelt the ground with a stinging bounce. Acorns are considered “mast” along with beechnuts and other nuts. Each acorn contains protein, carbohydrates, fiber and a whopping 20 grams of fat, along with calcium, phosphorus, potassium and niacin. No wonder squirrels look so fat by the end of autumn! Acorns are also stored by mice and chipmunks or eaten by deer, bear, wild turkeys, blue jays and humans.



Acorns look nothing like the oak flowers where they originate. The acorns are enormous compared with their natal flowers. These bloom in mid-May; about the time the black flies emerge. The male flower is a long, pendulous stalk. It cascades about four inches from a bud that has opened. Attached down the length are tiny greenish flowers that contain the pollen. The female flowers are also tiny. They are tucked besides the leaf buds at the tips of the branches. The pollen is transferred by wind from male to female. You might find withered male catkins on your driveway after flowering is completed. The red oak takes two years to produce an acorn.

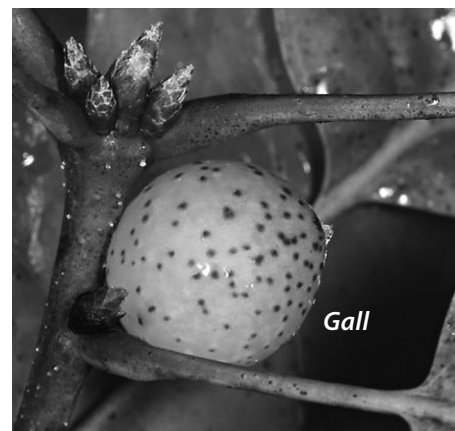
In the springtime, young, fresh, tender oak leaves provide food for an astonishing 952 possible caterpillar species to eat. These caterpillars in turn provide food for 96 percent of nesting songbirds and their chicks. These include our familiar chickadees and nuthatches as well



Red Oak

as many migrant birds that return in the spring: warblers, tanagers, wrens, vireos and flycatchers.

Oaks provide another service to insects. They form galls. These structures can be located on a bud or new leaf or even a tender woody stem. Any of these sites can be used by a tiny wasp or fly to lay its egg. There is a chemical message in the egg that directs the plant to form an enclosure around it. The shapes and even colors of these compact compartments are unique to each family of in-



sects. Amazingly, the oak tree can host more than 800 different types of galls!

You’ve probably found the chartreuse green oak-apple gall on the ground in late May. This one-inch in diameter orb is decorated with tiny cranberry colored spots. If you investigate inside you’ll find a complex structure of green filaments. At the center of this is a very hard “pit”. Were you to break this open you would find the larval stage of the Cynipidae wasp. By July the gall has turned brown and leathery. A small hole on the side indicates where the adult of this tiny, 1/16” wasp has exited.

The bark of oaks is alive with lichens and mosses growing on the surface. The crevices in the bark offer hiding places for spiders and insects. These are food for chickadees and nuthatches through the perilous winter season. Wild turkeys and vultures regularly roost for the night in the branches. Hawks use branches as perches to hunt by day. A mature oak can support the stick nests of hawks, owls, eagles, great blue herons and crows.

A dead or dying oak tree continues to support a myriad of life. Fungi soften the dead tissue to extract nutrients. Carpenter ants move in and excavate their tunnels. They draw pileated woodpeckers whose long, rectangular galleries of gouges are visible from afar. Other woodpeckers create their own cavities. As the heartwood or center of the tree hollows out, bats, skunks, gray fox and raccoons find shelter.

When the tree finally topples earthward, a bear might curl up beside it or amongst its fallen branches for a winter snooze. Eventually, invisible bacteria and the mycelia of fungi break down the cellulose and return the nutrients to the soil. The soil is refreshed, a place just waiting for that next acorn to sprout. The mighty oak does indeed grow from the tiny acorn (and even tinier flower) grow.

The April-May 2022 issue of *National Wildlife* magazine (page 31) was helpful for this article as well at Galls and Gall Insects by Ross Hutchins.

Inaugural Concert

The Bellows-Alcott Pianoforte, Once a Relic, Now a Living Treasure

What If, after more than one-hundred years of silence, this instrument could once again make music? What would that reawakening be like, sound like? Tentative? Exultant?

To find out, the Walpole Historical Society engaged the wonderful composer-musician Ben Cosgrove to explore the possibilities, and limitations, of this 230-year-old pianoforte. While Ben is not a player of early instruments, we believe his deft touch, technical mastery, sensitivity and the inspiration he finds in landscape, place and environment are the perfect elements for bridging the centuries. Ben will provide an evening of original works that evoke the past but are fully contemporary.

The Bellows Alcott pianoforte was built by Frederick Beck in the last years of the 18th century in London, where it purchased by the Bellows family and brought to Walpole. It must have been not just a symbol of status, but a connection to that wider, more cultivated world so much more distant then than it is now. But, as the instrument aged and piano technology developed, it lost its pride of place and became a bit "old fashioned".

Wonderfully, though, Henry Bellows lent this instrument to the Alcott family during their residence in Walpole in 1855-1857. This generous act would be echoed in a pivotal moment in Louisa May Alcott's 1868 novel *Little Women*. As Louisa wrote in an 1855 letter to a cousin, "...we have got a piano at last. Mr. Bellows has left us his for the winter. Isn't that nice?"

The pianoforte was donated to the Walpole Historical Society by Henry Bellows' daughter, Ellen Bellows Endicott, many years ago. The instrument was preserved but not played until now.

In 2020-21, the Museum raised \$20,000 from the community to fund master-craftsman Timothy Hamilton's restoration. Our intent is to launch a series of Annual Concerts featuring the pianoforte that explore a wide variety of musical styles and periods. An additional \$6,000 has been raised from a small group of generous sponsors to launch this Inaugural Concert which will be held on November 11, 2022, at 600 PM at the Walpole Unitarian Church.

— Christopher Sink



Inaugural Concert Walpole Historical Society Music Series

Composer-Musician Ben Cosgrove
will perform original compositions
on the newly restored
1790's Bellows-Alcott Pianoforte

November 11, 2022 6 PM

Walpole Unitarian Church

Advance tickets:

General Public \$25, Members \$20

Advance ticket orders must be received
prior to November 1, 2022



The restored pianoforte.



WALPOLE HERITAGE MUSEUM

WALPOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY TICKET ORDER FORM

November 11, 2022 Inaugural Concert of Our Bellows-Alcott Pianoforte

Walpole Unitarian Church, 6pm. Pianist and composer Ben Cosgrove.

Ticket price for Members purchasing in advance: \$20
(\$25 at the door for Members and the public)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Number of tickets: _____ Total: \$ _____

No tickets will be mailed. Your tickets will be held at the door under your name.

Please mail this form and your check to: Walpole Historical Society, P.O. Box 292, Walpole, NH 03608

www.WalpoleHistory.com
www.BenCosgrove.com

The recycling center in Walpole is dependent on good relationships with local mills that process many of our recyclable commodities. Our volunteers help to keep things running smoothly at Walpole Recycling and the Walpole Reuse Center. In some cases, the help that is volunteered to our recycling center goes beyond helping out on the recycling line.

Walpole Recycling Center volunteer Jeff Miller offered up the chance to tour our cardboard recycling partner, APC Paper, in Claremont, New Hampshire. As soon as we walked through the door at APC Paper, there was a grand welcoming back for long time paper mill executive Mr. Jeff Miller. He helped introduce and refine recycled craft paper from the early 1990's to his recent retirement from the recycled paper industry. Getting away from virgin paper was difficult in the early 1990's, but now the recycled kraft paper industry has seen increased demand. The Claremont paper mill produced virgin paper from 1900 up until APC paper began its 100% post-consumer content campaign in 1990.

The APC paper mill manager gave us a spirited tour of the bowels of every facet of the recycled paper industry. He informed me that Walpole, and many small towns participating in NRRRA's programs in southwestern New Hampshire, have been delivering some of the cleanest content that they see at the mill. The cleaner our recyclables are, the less work we are putting on our recycling partners (with the extraction and handling of contaminants). Our cardboard bales



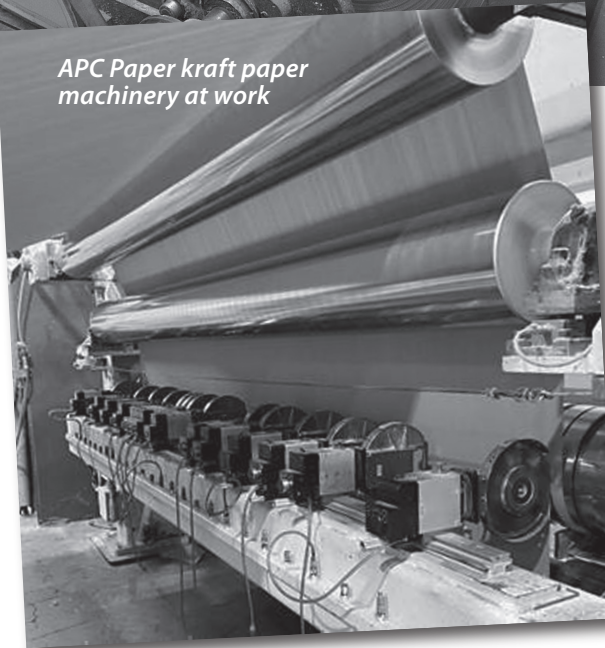
are pushed into running water where the process of pulling contaminants such as tape, staples, ink, styrofoam, and lost keys begins. A magnet pulls the metal from the brownish cardboard stew, and a screen helps catch plastic and tape. In the main control room, the manager controls the consistency and thickness of the recycled paper using sophisticated equipment that I cannot explain. The brown cardboard stew goes through a water purifier that separates the fiber from the water. When the fiber makes its way to the rollers, air is introduced to dry out the fiber and creates the finished kraft paper product. This kraft paper becomes paper bags, lawn and leaf bags, fluting, Amazon paper, and those super helpful brown paper coffee holders that keep your hand from burning. APC paper has recycled with Walpole for several years, and has just begun recycling Alstead's baled

cardboard as well. Thank you to Jeff Miller and our partners in recycling at APC paper in Claremont for showing us their finely tuned recycled product that helps to keep trees in the earth, and quality product on the consumer shelves. Keep recycling Walpole!

Sincerely yours in recycling
- Ben Hoy



APC Paper kraft paper machinery at work



PHOTOS PROVIDED

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Walpole Town Library

October is a busy month at the library. Here are some program highlights for the month.

Adult Programs:

Caregiver Support Group. Tuesday, October 11, 2:00 PM, Main Library. Are you caring for a relative, a friend, a neighbor? A new Caregiver Support Group will start in the fall at the library. Walpole resident Judy Epstein will facilitate the group. Judy has worked as a mediator and facilitator and has many years' experience counselling caregivers and leading support groups. Come to share information, seek support, and get ideas from others in the same situation.

Finding Ways to Reduce Your Final Exit Footprint: Natural Burial. Thursday, October 13, 5:00 PM, Main Library. Lee Webster, from New Hampshire Funeral Resources introduces ways we can plan for a more planet-friendly exit through eco-conscious home care practices and sustainable natural burial options. Registration is recommended.

Crafternoon. Friday, October 14, 1:30 PM, Main Library. This month we will make a beautiful autumn luminary. Registration is recommended.

Check 'Em Out Book Discussion Group.



Saturday, October 15, 9:00 AM, Main Library.

Craft with Friends. Mondays 2:00-3:00 PM, North Walpole Branch. Come share projects you are working on. Bring a friend or come meet new ones. All are welcome!

Great Decisions at the Library. Monday, October 17, at 6:00 PM, Main Library. The topic this month is Climate Change.

Social Justice Group: Wednesday, October 19, 6:30 PM, Main Library. This month we welcome noted authors, journalists and local activists, Rich and Sandra Neil Wallace to our discussion. The Wallaces are Keene residents who are involved with several social justice initiatives in that community. Rich serves on the advisory board for the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College and Sandra is a co-founder of the Koenig Sidall First Generation Scholarship Fund. Together they started a nonprofit, based in Keene, The Daily Good, which aims to make a difference in the region by focusing on

Diversity and Inclusion, Food Security, Health and Well-being and Literacy.

For more information or to register for adult programs, please call Jane Malmberg at 603-756-9806 or email jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org.

Kid/Teen Programs:

Read to Toby. New Day! Thursdays, October 6-December 8, 3:00-4:00 PM. Main Library. (*No meeting October 27). For beginning, reluctant, and comfortable readers ages 5-16. Bring your own book or choose one of ours. To sign up for a 15-minute slot, call the library at 603-756-9806 or email Julie at jrios@walpoletownlibrary.org.

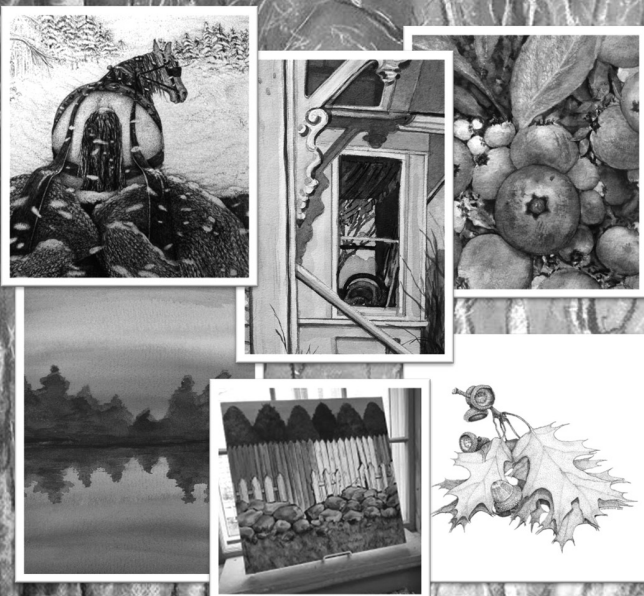
Collage Art with Michael Albert for Tweens & Teens. Friday, October 7, 4:00-6:00 PM, Main Library. American pop artist, Michael Albert, brings his "Modern Pop Art Experience" to the Walpole Town Library. Mr. Albert will teach his trademark style of art, a technique of collage work made from cereal boxes. His presentation is followed by a hand-on collage workshop where participants aged 11 and up can create their own collages. Registration is recommended.

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

— Jane Malmberg

The Road Not Taken ~ Artistic Interpretations of the Poetry of Robert Frost

Corinne Dodge ~ Judy Krassowski ~ Ingeborg Seaboyer

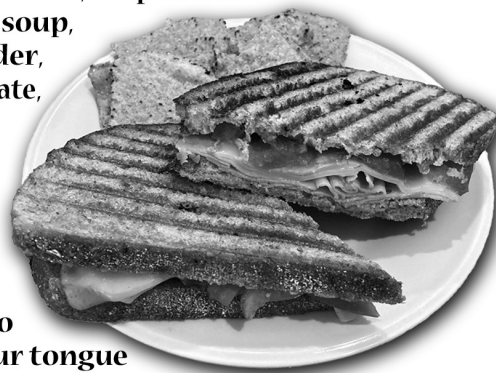


Sept.-Oct. 2022 at the Walpole Town Library
& the North Walpole Branch Library

Autumn colors, fall leaves,

a bite in the morning temperatures –
all this ushers in the most beautiful time
in New England.

When you need a warm-up after your brisk afternoon walk, stop in for some hot soup, mulled cider, hot chocolate, or toasty panino. We have all of that plus various pastries to tempt your tongue and warm your heart.



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Parlor hours:
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Fiber Optic Upgrade

Consolidated Communications Upgrading Fiber Customers to Fidium Fiber Internet.

We have worked with Consolidated Communications to build a 100% fiber network that allows us to continue to innovate and improve communications—effectively making our town's network future proof. It's because of this that we're excited to offer Consolidated's all-new Fidium Fiber internet to our community. This welcome move is designed to upgrade our home internet experience, and Fidium is proudly grounded in a customer-first approach to service.



Consolidated is now ready for current fiber internet customers to call them to make the upgrade. By upgrading to Fidium now, you can get the first-year new customer pricing. Consolidated offers this special pricing for a limited time to all their existing fiber customers—and they have set up a special Fidium phone number for you to schedule your professional installation. The transfer to Fidium Fiber is free, but installation appointments can get filled up quickly, so call today: 1.866.402.0444.

Switching to Fidium Fiber internet offers a lot of great benefits for our community. They are offering 1 Gig fiber internet for just \$70/ mo., and you'll have additional speeds to choose from. Plus, if you have a Consolidated email address, you can keep it. Once you upgrade, you can choose from their streaming TV partners, including DIRECTV Stream and YouTube TV, both of whom offer local channels.

We're excited about the new Fidium Fiber internet and we're confident you'll really enjoy the new experience. You can visit FidiumFiber.com/Walpole now for more information on speeds and prices, but you have to call 1.866.402.0444 to upgrade your service.

– Jeff McGiver

(Editor's note: The Walpole Broadband Committee worked for a number of years to facilitate bringing fiber optic service to Town (see June 2021 CLARION. This article explains details of what is now available).

Zoning...

And Non-conforming Uses

The term "non-conforming use" refers to an existing use of land or buildings that does not conform to the specific requirements of the Walpole Zoning Ordinance. Usually, it refers to a use which legally existed prior to the enactment of a zoning requirement or provision, but which no longer complies with the newly enacted provision. The term can apply either to the actual use of a property; e.g. a commercial use in a residential zone; or to an existing property's non-conformance with the dimensional requirements specified in the ordinance; e.g. minimum lot size, minimum road frontage or building setbacks from the property line.

Walpole's Zoning Ordinance provides that any legally pre-existing, non-conforming use may continue in its current state in perpetuity. Such uses are often referred to as "grandfathered." But if such use is intentionally discontinued for a period of one year or more, it may not thereafter be re-established with-

out approval of the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) after it holds a public hearing on the matter.

Walpole's Zoning Ordinance also provides that a legally existing non-conforming use may be expanded, enlarged or even changed to another non-conforming use, but only with the approval of the ZBA when it finds, after a public hearing, that the expansion, enlargement or change will not materially increase the hazard or nuisance value of the nonconformity with respect to the surrounding properties in the same zoning district.

When a question arises as to whether a particular use or piece of property is legally non-conforming, it is the responsibility of the Selectboard, in their capacity as the administrative and enforcement authority of the Zoning Ordinance, to make that determination. Such a determination may be appealed to the ZBA if there is disagreement with the Selectboard's decision.

Questions on this and any other zoning matter should be referred to the Selectboard office.

– Walpole's Zoning Board of Adjustment

Walpole Players Auditions

The Walpole Players will be holding auditions for its upcoming production of Truman Capote's heartwarming story, "A Christmas Memory" on Sunday, October 2nd at 2:00 PM, and Wednesday, October 5th at 6:00 PM. This is a one act play about a young boy's loving relationship with his eccentric aunt, and their yearly tradition of baking 30 fruitcakes for Christmas to send to "people we admire". The production will be directed by Mike Wright. Auditions will be held at the Helen Miller Theater.

Characters:

- Truman – a bookish man who narrates the story.
- Buddy – a young boy.

- Sook Faulk – an elderly woman, 60-something. Innocent, and childlike.
- Mr. Haha – a man who illegally sells whiskey and runs a saloon. He is called "Ha-ha" because he never smiles.
- Aunt – a very severe and judge mental woman.
- Uncle – angry, unpleasant.

Performances are planned for December 8th, 9th, and 10th at the Helen Miller Theater in Walpole, NH. If you would like to audition but cannot make the audition times, you may contact The Walpole Players through their website at www.thewalpoleplayers.org

– Mike Wright



**Our
student reporters will return
in the November Clarion.**

Pavilion Project

A Bensonwood Collaboration for Walpole Primary School and the Community

PHOTO PROVIDED

If you have not seen it yet, put it on the to-do list! Bensonwood (located at 6 Blackjack Crossing Road in Walpole) just completed building a pavilion right outside the Walpole Primary School for our students, staff, and community members to use and enjoy. This pavilion provides an outdoor classroom space for our staff and students, and cover for community members during rain showers or bright sunny days. Through our Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, set-up to help support schools during COVID, we purchased picnic tables so teachers can bring their classes outside for lessons, enjoy an outdoor snack or lunch, and for our Hooper program to use when harvesting the fruits and vegetables from the garden.

This project was funded by the Walpole Schools Outdoor Education Program. The Walpole Schools receive a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation each school year. This grant is made possible by gifts from Leslie S. and Lola M. Hubbard Fund. We would also like to thank Bensonwood for donating their time and materials towards this project. The crew was determined to have this project completed before the kids arrived on the first day of school and they made that happen. Our Walpole community truly puts our students first, and we can't thank you enough for that.

The pavilion is a beautiful addition to our Walpole Primary School and we are so excited to share it with everyone!

— Justin Cassarino

The Bensonwood Team

Bensonwood's shared vision states that "we are an integral part of our local community". We believe that our company should play an active role in working for the good of our community



(towns where we live and work.) Many Bensonwood employees, several who are also Walpole residents, took part in the designing, building and raising of the Walpole Pavilion.

Brendan Leary was the Bensonwood Project Manager, coordinating with Principal Justin Cassarino and the Beam Team to bring the pavilion to life. Jeff Coleman, Bensonwood Project Resources Manager, scheduled production and hired Mark Houghton of E.E. Houghton Company, to dig the piers. Sam Edson, a Bensonwood Engineer who has kids that attend the Walpole Elementary School, stepped up and volunteered his time on the weekend to install the roof, and enlisted the help of Steven Dumont, Bensonwood Architectural Project Manager, and Andrew Dey, Chief Operations Officer at Unity Homes.

Timberframe Team Leader, Paul Boa, designed the structure and supervised the raising. Paul recruited two of his less-experienced timber framers and used it as an educational opportunity. Paul also brought in Dennis Marcom a Bensonwood timber framer for almost 43 years, who retired in 2019.

Bensonwood's Shipping/Receiving and Procurement teams also reached out to local vendors for discounts on purchases and shipping of the materials.

The Bensonwood team appreciates the opportunity to provide this pavilion for the students and staff at the Walpole Elementary School, and we look forward to the possibility of future collaborations in support of our local community.

— Stacey Nachajski



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From the Far Side of Walpole

Observations by William Moses

Conservation Officers Rule 1

Swear I caught a glimpse of Elwud on the TV screen. I jumped into my truck and raced to his home. When I arrived at the end of his mile long driveway, I spotted him laying under the apple tree in the front yard with Old Blue, his favorite hound.

I jumped out of the truck and yelled, "Hey, what's new? Saw you on the TV show. Thought I'd run over and see what's it all about."

"T'werent me!" he shouted, so loudly that Old Blue jumped and ran behind the barn.

From deep in the bowels of the house, I heard Velma yelling, "Tell him how you lost your license and that thar expensive fishin' pole."

"This sounds serious", I respond. "Best you tell me about it. Is there anything I can do?"

"Well sir, Velma was naggin' me 'bout somethin' she wanted fixed. I said 'I told you I would fix it and you don't need to remind me every six months!' Well sir, I decided I need some quiet time, so I grabbed my Orvis fly rod and Old Blue and we headed for Newell Pond. Parked Ol' Bessie at the end of a dirt path and walked into a favorite spot of mine, a sandy little beach. Been there 'bout an hour and was feelin' really good, when Old Blue started growlin' and gettin' restless. I look back at the path and here comes some big guy in a forest green outfit, with a big badge and side-arm. Looked like a modern day version of Matt Dillon, except without a horse."

"Whatcha doin'", he asks.

"Just sittin' here relaxin'", I reply.

"Can I check your fishing license?" he asks.

"Aint fishin'", I reply.

"That's a fishing pole in your hand and the line is in the water, so I need to see your license!"

"But I aint fishin'", I repeat as I reel the line, showing there is no hook on the end of the line.

"sides I aint got no license, which I dont need, as I aint fishin'"

"Is that your truck down at the end of the trail?" he asks.

"Yessir It is, aint she a beauty?"

"There is no registration or inspection sticker on that vehicle!" he says, rather gruffly.

"I know", I says, "But like I aint fishin', I

aint driving the truck on the highway!"

"And just how do you plan on getting home?" he asks.

"Well sir, there's this old two track through the woods and over the hill, that I have been known to use."

Now he is on his phone and I hear his conversation clearly. "I need a tow truck at this location to haul an unregistered vehicle! I will be making an arrest of an individual for fishing without a license and operating an unregistered vehicle."

"Wait, you're arresting me?" I shouted.

"Yessir. And we are impounding your truck, taking your fishing rod and you will lose your right to fish in NH for at least one year."

Again, from the bowels of the house, I heard Velma shout, "For once in his life, he remained silent. Good thing too or he would still be in jail. Bad enough to lose that expensive Orvis rod. Losing his license is no big deal, he aint ever had one nohow."

Elwud looked at me and said, "Can you drive me to 12 Solutions so I can get some beer?"

"Whats the matter?" I ask, "You all out of your home made brew?"

"Oh, didnt I tell ya? They found my still and confiscated that, too!"

I had nothing more to say. I drove Elwud to get his beer. While there, got me a 30 pack. Couldn't see any reason he should drink alone.

1991-2021

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FROM THE CLARION...

A sampling of what we've reported in more than 11 years of publication:

One Year Ago (October 2021) – The state of NH in 2019 enacted a law - SB 53 - that allows Communities to buy power in a way that will increase competition and provide more choice. In Walpole, the Select Board formed the Walpole Community Power Committee, and tasked it with determining whether the residents of Walpole could benefit.

Three Years Ago (October 2019) – A group of citizens have formed a Broadband committee and have begun the process of looking for a way to bring broadband internet service to as many Walpole residents as possible. Broadband Service is defined as 25MB download and 3 MB upload.

Five Years Ago (October 2017) – Walpole is the newest home to a FIRST Robotics club! FIRST is a national program that creates an environment filled with competition, learning, and sharing. The new team, Mechanical Madness, is run through the Cheshire County 4-H."

Seven Years Ago (October 2015) – Walpole's own Jim Skofield has received the 2015 Carol Otis Hurst Children's Book Prize for his latest children's book, Bear and Bird. The story's synopsis begins: "One spring evening an old bear finds a young bird, still learning to fly, has fallen to the ground. When the bear lifts the bird to safety, a friendship begins."

Nine Years Ago (October 2013) – The Walpole High School Class of 1958 celebrated its 55th Class Reunion with the Vikings. High school class reunions are pretty routine, but how about one which necessitates a 10,000 mile round- trip plane ride with dashes through foreign airports to meet connecting flights. Several members of the Walpole High School Class of 1958 recently did just that.

MILESTONES



Born

Macauley Fitzgerald Mickle

August 24, 2022

9 lbs., 21.25 "

To Kelsey Fitzgerald
& Matthew Mickle

Grandparents:

Tom & Sue Fitzgerald
of Walpole

Bruce & Gail Mickle
of Westminster

Born

Mila Jones Beer

August 26, 2022

10.1 lbs., 22.05 "

To Maria Jones & Jesse Beer
of Weymouth, MA

Grandparents;

Joe & Mary Beer of Walpole
Maruza Andrade & Warren Jones
of Puebla, Mexico



Wed

Elizabeth Varone & Benjamin Reynolds

September 24, 2022

Elizabeth is the daughter
of Maura & Stephen Varone of Walpole

Benjamin is the son
of Donna & Shawn Reynolds of Peterborough

Passed

John Jackson

March 3, 1926 - August 5, 2022

Amy Stechler

June 23, 1955 - August 26, 2022



You may wish to visit <https://vtdigger.org> and click on the Newsletter link
on the menu bar to sign up for "VTDigger by Email."

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

November issue deadline: October 22

Tara Sad: Copy-Editing

Jan Kobeski: Layout & Design

The Walpole Clarion on-line:

thewalpoleclarion.com

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

Last month I related to you a powerful article from VTDIGGER, an on-line Vermont news source. That article said in part, "...If you don't have a local news source, you don't know what's going on in your community, and it's very hard to engage." Just this week they reported, "Waterbury journalist struggles to keep local news alive."

Lisa Scagliotti founded the *Waterbury Roundabout* in May 2020, as a web-based publication, to fill a void following the closure of the town's weekly free paper. She then formed a partnership with the *Barre Montpelier Times Argus*, to deliver a new free weekly, *The Waterbury Reader*, to households in Waterbury and nearby communities. That partnership ended, with the last print edition on Friday, September 23.

Scagliotti will continue with her on-line news, hoping to secure some revenue source. The print version is departing because "The Waterbury Reader didn't yield the advertising revenue it needed to cover all the costs of production, printing, postage, among other expenses." The print version was losing \$800 to \$900 a week. A weekly is tough to produce for small communities. Jeremy Paulus, who published *The Walpole Gazette* weekly from 1986-1993, told me he did so at a loss.

Which brings me to again thank the *Clarion's* advertisers, and encourage you, the benefitting readers, to thank them as well with your business and kind words of thanks. Thank you.

— Ray Boas, Publisher

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Chris and Caitlin Caserta
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Sunflowers were on full display at the
Walpole Elementary School gardens.

