

## 2023 Town Meeting Your Vote Matters

### Annual Budget Hearing

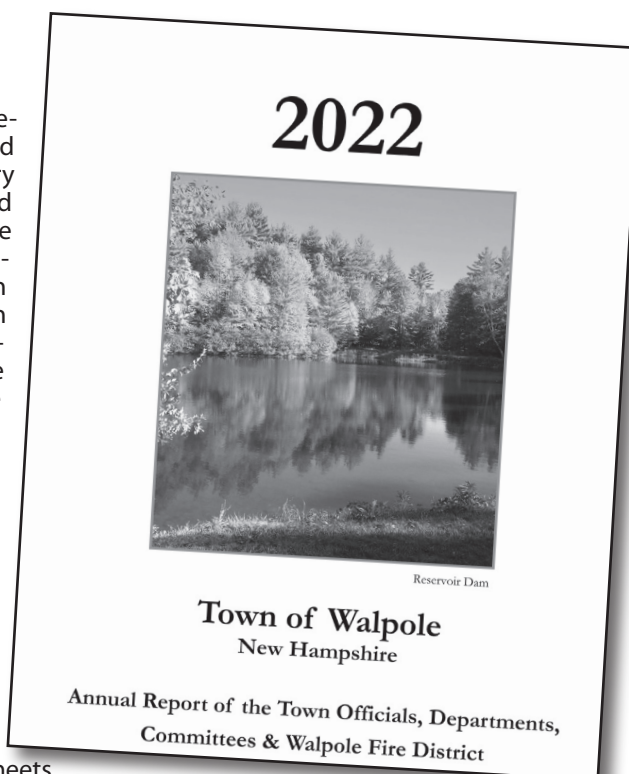
The annual public hearing for presentation of the 2023 Budget and Warrant Articles was held February 8. Back to all in person, with no need for Zoom participation, besides the Selectboard and Town staff members, there were four residents in attendance along with your Clarion publisher. Not a controversial meeting, but it would be nice to have more voters in attendance. Those attending this year had good questions.

Selectboard Chairman Steve Dalessio opened the meeting stating, "We faced significant headwinds when we started the 2023 Budget in September 2022. High inflation, supply chain problems, and damaged infrastructure were a few. With the help of our department managers and careful review, we overcame these headwinds and prepared a budget that meets the town's needs and invests in our most important asset, our employees.

"We finished \$319,894 under the 2022 budget of \$4,350,696. This amount rolled into our unassigned fund balance, and the unassigned fund balance is approximately \$2,265,476. Our budget for 2023 is \$4,537,202, or an increase of 4.29%. For reference, the 2022 budget increase was 5.6%.

"In 2022 we completed a salary survey of all positions in the town. After receiving a 6% salary increase, we learned that our hourly employees were fairly compensated compared to towns of similar populations and budgets. However, the survey showed that our department

Continued on Page 6



### Town Meeting

#### Voting at the polls

Tuesday, March 14, 2023,  
7AM to 7PM

Walpole Town Hall  
and St. Peter's Church

Town Meeting will reconvene  
Saturday, March 18, 1:00 PM  
at the Walpole Town Hall  
at which time the  
Warrant Articles 4-15  
will be voted upon.

### 2023 Warrant Articles

At the polls Tuesday, March 14, voters will elect Town Officers for their respective terms, and vote on two proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments that were submitted by petition. The only competition for a Town position this election cycle are four candidates vying for three Library Trustee positions (see page 3). Article 2 on the ballot conforms the penalties for violating Walpole's Zoning Ordinance to the NH statute. Article 3 adds a section to the Zoning Ordinance "...for the purpose of preserving the unique and distinctive appeal of the towns character and commercial development..." This article and its amendment is explained in detail on pages 4 and 5 of this issue.

Continued on Page 2

### From Peggy's Desk

February has been a roller coaster of weather. As I sit down to write it is 17 degrees after 50 plus yesterday. The evidence of bulbs to come under my flowering trees gives me hope for spring. February is also the month of public meetings for budgets to appear on March ballots.

Sadly, the February 8 public meeting for our Town Budget had very few members of the public. We are never sure of the implications of low attendance. Is it because we, as Selectboard members, are trusted to do our best to control our spending, or is it because no one is interested. Of course, I want to believe the former. Budget preparation, and budget oversight are constants in our work. This year, the 2023 budget has been held to a

Continued on Page 2

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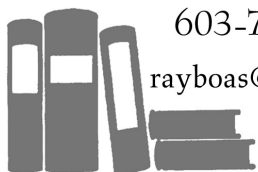
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Continued from Page 1, Peggy

4.29% increase without consideration of the warrants which will be discussed and voted on March 18. Walpole's control of spending is reflected in our healthy unassigned fund balance of two and a half million dollars. We use those funds to purchase large ticket items such as a new truck for the Highway Department and a new police car. And yes, we participate in State pricing programs.

Recently, the former Broad Band Committee met with Jeff McIver and Bob Hanscom of Consolidated Communications, Inc. (CCI) to discuss their new product FIDIUM. Anyone who transferred to CCI's fiber optic services within the last two years have received emails, letters and perhaps calls from CCI urging subscribers to switch to this new product which is less expensive and faster. The special pricing ended January 31, 2023, but the company is still eager to transfer customers to this new product. The committee was frank in its discussion of the problems which have occurred as many of us have moved to Fidium. Mr. McIver welcomes anyone who has a continuing problem to let him know so any issues can be resolved. Mr. Hanscom is actively involved with Consumer services and is available to talk to groups about FIDIUM.

All Walpole residents who are customers of Liberty Utilities will, in March, receive notification from Community

Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) information about a new power program which will offer you opportunities for cheaper power. The Walpole Power Committee will hold a public meeting to answer questions and explain the offer after those letters are received. Paul Looney, who chairs the Walpole Power Committee, is a member of the CPCNH Board of Directors and he and Dennis Marcom, his alternate, are actively participating in process of finding cheaper power for us all. In addition to the work they are doing with CPCNH, we are researching Community Solar Fields and the potential for a solar roof at the Recycling Center.

The Walpole Police Committee has reached a stage where it is not only actively looking for land but also preparing to reach out to architectural firms. The Committee has agreed on the needs of the new station, sketched a rough outline of a new building, and learned the essentials of a safe, energy efficient structure. This committee will also schedule public hearings in the future for community education and input.

Every day is a busy day in Walpole. Enjoy each one and be sure to vote on Tuesday, March 14 at Town Hall or St. Peters in North Walpole for your choice of those people you want to represent you. Town Meeting is March 18 at 1:00 PM in Town Hall. It will be a pleasure to see you there.

– Peggy Pschirrer

From Page 1, Warrant Articles

Articles 4 through 15 will be discussed and voted upon Saturday, March 18. First will be the Town operating budget for the year 2023, to be raised by general taxation. Articles 5 through 12 are specific money related articles to set aside funds for reserve funds, something that is done annually, and for the purchase of equipment. Equipment purchases include a new police cruiser and equipment, also done annually, and a 6-wheel truck for the highway department. Of these eight money related articles, six are to be funded from the Unassigned Fund Balance (see Annual Budget Hearing article) including the highway department truck costing \$250,000. The vehicle purchases are made from NH State contracts that have been negotiated in the best interests of State entities. The State contracts provide a cost saving with proper competition, not to mention the Town's benefiting from the State's contracting expertise and time needed for a proper competitive purchase.

Finally, Article 13 modifies and expands the criteria for elderly property tax exemptions for those who qualify. Small changes, and not that many participants in Walpole, but a help to those who need it to stay in their Walpole homes. Article 14 is a "housekeeping" article bringing Walpole's Veterans' Tax Credit to meet legislative guidelines to now include active-duty veterans. And, lastly, Article 15 provides "to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting."

And that will be it for another year. Become involved in your Town. Come to the polls on Tuesday the 14th, and the Town Hall on the 18th.

– Ray Boas

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## Candidate Statements

*When there is competition for an a position on the ballot, the Clarion invites those individuals to submit comments requesting your vote. This year there are four candidates for three Library Trustee positions.*

✱ Hello, my name is **Erin Bowen** and I am running for one of the open Library Board of Trustees positions this year. I was elected to the board last year to complete a previous member's term. I have lived in the Walpole and Fall Mountain community since 2002. I am a Para Educator at the North Walpole School and a mother of three who attend WPS and FMRHS. I am a member of the Walpole Parent Teacher Group and the First Congregational Church of Walpole. We do a lot of volunteering throughout the community as a family. My children and I enjoy participating in a lot of the library's activities throughout the year, especially the summer reading program. I am excited to help our library grow into the future. Please vote for me on March 14th. Thank you for your continued support, I look forward to seeing you at the polls.

✱ My name is **Susan Johnson**, and I am running for reelection as a trustee at the Walpole Town Library. Voting for me will give you a candidate with many years of

library experience in a variety of libraries offering a useful perspective on library operations.

Serving on the library board for the last 3 years has been engaging and rewarding. From the beginning I have been involved in extra projects to help our library grow and become a vital resource to the town including Drewsville and North Walpole. I served on a subcommittee to hire our librarian, Jane Malmberg, worked with the library board to reopen the North Walpole branch and most recently served on a subcommittee to develop the new library logo. I feel the first 3 years are only a start in becoming a useful library trustee. To continue to make our library a vital community asset, please give me your vote on March 14th.

✱ My name is **Katherine (Kathy) Nerrie** and I am running for Library Trustee. I have lived in Walpole for over 40 years and have served as a Library Trustee for over 25 years. I am an active member of the Board and serve on numerous committees and regularly attend our monthly meetings.

I have also been the treasurer for the past 18 years. The responsibilities of the treasurer are numerous, and I believe I have served the board well in that capacity. I love tracking income, expenses,

budgets, and producing reports for the Board and the Town. I am asking that you vote for me in the upcoming election so that the Library Trustees have continuity in this very important job. I have and will continue to put in the extra time needed to ensure that our Board is an asset to our community. Thank you.

✱ Hello, I'm **John W. Winter** and I hope to seek your vote for Library Trustee. I see the library as a necessity for our town's children for after school activities to study and engage in social groups and a foundation of knowledge, assistance, and entertainment. If you allow me to serve you, I would not only work to bring a fresh independent perspective, but also actively seek to expand the library within our community.

I believe our Library is one of the most important parts of our community. It's a place where people of all ages can come together to appreciate books, music, movies, and culture. It would be a lifetime honor to serve on the Board of Library Trustees.

## Walpole Community Power Update

On January 4 the Walpole Community Power Committee recommended the Walpole Select Board move forward with the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH). CPCNH was recommended over other vendors because the committee feels CPCNH is a better long term opportunity. On January 11 the Select Board agreed with the recommendation and signed the necessary documents to move forward with CPCNH.

CPCNH will be negotiating the purchase of power and setting rates between February 27 and March 3. Our

Energy Aggregation Plan, approved at the 2022 Town meeting, requires we only launch Walpole Community Power if we can meet or beat the Liberty default rate. That is still the requirement.

An informational meeting will be held at the Town Hall Wednesday, March 22 at 7 PM. Topics at this meeting will include: the new negotiated electric rates; options for purchasing an even greater proportion of renewable power; how to opt out of the program; and, how it will work. We hope to see you at this meeting.

— Paul Looney

## Candidates for Town Office

**Candidates Filed for  
Town of Walpole Election  
Taking Place March 14, 2023**

### Selectboard

for Three-Year Term

(Vote for One)

**Steven Dalessio**

### Town Treasurer

for Three-Year Term

(Vote for One)

**Stephen J. Varone**

### Trustee Of Trust Funds

for Three-Year Term

(Vote for One)

**Robert Kimball**

### Zoning Board

for Three-Year Term

(Vote for One)

**David Edkins**

### Planning Board

for Three-Year Term

(Vote for Two)

**Jason Perron**

**Trevor MacLachlan**

### Cemetery Trustee

for Three-Year Term

(Vote for One)

**Dale E. Woodward**

### Library Trustees

for Three-Year Terms

(Vote for Three)

**Erin Bowen**

**Susan Johnson**

**Katherine Nerrie**

**John William Winter**

Paid For By Steve Dalessio

**RE-ELECT STEVE DALESSIO**  
March 14th **WALPOLE SELECTBOARD**  
**Experience & Commitment**

**Current Selectman (4 as years Chair)**

**Member Planning Board**

**Hooper Trustee**

**Supporter Friends of the Library/Historical Society/Friends of Hooper**

**Past President Walpole Horse Thieves/Committee Chair BSA Troop 299**

## Fall Mountain School District

### FMSD

Fall Mountain School District's deliberative session was held February 9 in the school auditorium. The year-old Budget Committee joined the Board of Education and administrators on the podium. The Budget Committee began budget discussion with a Power Point illustrating its work over the past year. A startling, but not surprising slide, was the steady decline in student population over the last several years: in 2000 enrollment was 2,202 students; today's enrollment is 1,418 and is projected to drop to 1,358 in the coming year. Several speakers during the deliberative session quoted these numbers in questioning the budget.

The Budget Warrant calls for a \$35,059,225 operating budget, not including the special appropriations by special warrant articles. If this budget is defeated, the default budget is \$35,791,563, which is the same as last year's budget. Two amendments were made from the floor to increase the operating budget, and both were defeated so the session moved on to consider Article 2.

Article 2 asks the voters to approve the cost items included in the bargaining agreement reached between the FMR School Board and the Fall Mountain Teacher Association. The agreement calls for increase and benefits for each of the next three years: 2023-24 \$478,593; 2024-25 \$488,540; 2025-26 \$462,203. The Article funds a 3-year labor contract with an average increase of 4%. There was limited discussion and few objections, so the warrant was approved by the deliberative body.

When you come to vote March 14, read all the school warrants carefully.

– Peggy Pschirrer



## FMSD Article 9

### Recommended NO Vote

The petition Warrant Article 9 on the school district ballot asks the voters of Walpole to direct the school board to appoint a committee to determine the feasibility and suitability of the withdrawal of Walpole from the school district. The petitioners believe that having local control over the education of our children would be better controlled by local residents rather than the current school board structure. Several board members stated that this warrant sounds very much like the Charlestown withdrawal of a couple of years ago which was voted down.

An amendment was presented to fund this study with \$30,000 of district monies. The school district's attorney advised that this amendment was not legal. The original wording asked for no money to be used, and adding money as an amendment would not be allowed under state law.

After discussing the pros and cons of this petition warrant article, the school district attorney advised the audience that this warrant article was only advisory. He explained that warrant articles of this type should appear on the town's ballot, not the school district ballot. To be voted on at the polls March 14. The school board does not recommend this article.

–Steve Dalessio



## Top Ten Reasons to Vote "YES" for Article 3

**VOTE**  
☒ **Yes**  
☐ **No**

- Preserves Walpole's beauty, character, and identity.
- Protects your property values.
- Allows for local pro-business development.
- Unlimited establishment of health care facilities, schools, places of worship, government facilities, banks, gasoline fueling stations, and professional offices.
- Caps growth of 'formula businesses' (think Dollar Tree and KFC) at 12.
- Keeps Walpole's landscape humane.
- Reduces likelihood of tear-downs by formula businesses in our village.
- Continues Walpole's heritage of using zoning to protect itself.
- Employs a type of zoning widely used throughout the United States.
- It builds on the Walpole Master Plan, adopted in 1998.

**Article 3 is endorsed by John Janiszyn of Pete's Stand.**

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## I Feel Good!

We live in a uniquely beautiful place! Walpoleans before us wanted to keep our village beautiful, our town scenic, our businesses pleasant, and so... they moved Route 12 from the village, they stopped the pulp mill, they passed zoning ordinances so big-box retailers went elsewhere. They took action to preserve Walpole. I say to them "THANK YOU!"

We too have an opportunity on March 14 to continue that wonderful heritage ... just by voting "YES" to Article 3.

You can, just by voting "YES" to Article 3 on March 14, control the growth of little-box chain stores and food stands in Walpole. It's awesome! Our town will avoid a re-branding to "Dollarstoreberg" or "Fastfoodville" and a re-shaping into an ugly, drive-through, vehicle dominated, landscape – as has befallen so many formerly bucolic American towns.

Much positive response to the proposed ordinance has been received. Most people know that our Walpole village has the same commercial zoning as Route 12, and they also know that any building there could be torn down to make room for a dreary formula business. A "YES" vote on Article 3 will save our village.

Most everybody knows a "YES" to Article 3 will preserve the beauty of Walpole. And some have offered helpful, thoughtful, and really insightful suggestions to "revise" the proposal for consideration at a future time, "study" it some more, perhaps "limit it to the village," or "rely on the normal channels" for zoning rules – in short – to "perfect" what they see as merely good, or even great. I say that's fine – but let's approve Article 3 now, and tweak it later.

AND I FEEL GOOD! I'm super confident we're going to seize this possibility of success and get this done now – to preserve Walpole. So, I respectfully ask YOU to please vote "YES" to Article 3 on March 14. And if Article 3 is approved, WE'RE ALL GOING TO FEEL REALLY GOOD!

– Tom Winmill

## New Library Logo

The Walpole Town Library is excited to debut a new logo and branding! Because the library belongs to all of us, and because we're so excited about the launch, we wanted to share some of what went into the design process. You can also read the March library newsletter or stop by to learn more.

### Why Does the Library Need Branding?

If you had a friend whose voice always sounded different, you wouldn't recognize them immediately when they called. It's the same with communications from organizations. Having consistent branding, including a logo, fonts, and colors, will help messages from the library feel more cohesive and recognizable, increasing awareness and engagement.

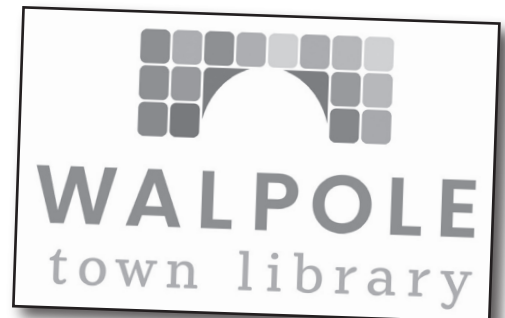
### Informed by Our Community

The project kicked off with a survey in which 118 residents from Walpole, North Walpole, and Drewsville shared their thoughts on the library and our community. Reading their responses, we were inspired to create branding that honored the history and beauty of our home while doing justice to the library as a modern community hub where all are welcome and information abounds.

### Inspired by Our Home

Part of our research and ideation process included searching countless photos taken in and around the library, to try and capture how being in our library makes you feel. Soon, we noticed a common element in several of our favorite photos — the front window of the Main Library.

So what is this shape we've adopted as our logo? First, the obvious — it's a window. But it's not a window looking inwards on the library, it's a window looking out. Out to our town, our little corner of the world. And what is a library, but a window to the world? Something that lets us look out to the wider world



from a place that's cozy, comforting, and familiar.

Then we saw something more — it's also a bridge. And what does a bridge do? It makes connections. It takes you places. It makes difficult, even seemingly insurmountable, tasks easier. Just like a good library. We also loved that this bridge concept evokes the old Arch Bridge in North Walpole, and calls to mind the name Bridge Memorial Library.

Lastly, it's a bench. Benches are gathering places, a gift to the community, and a place to rest, to read, to take in the world. Just like our library.

### The Colors of Our Lives

While The Clarion prints in black and white, our new logo is best enjoyed in full color. That way you can appreciate the rainbow of colors that were inspired by life in our community, from red barns to green fields to the cool blue river and beyond. We also love how the range of colors evokes a sense of both diversity and community — a place where all are welcome and engagement is encouraged.

### Come See for Yourself!

Whether you see the Walpole Town Library as your window to the world, a bridge that connects you to your community and beyond, or a bench that beckons you to relax and crack open a good book, we hope you enjoy the new logo and we hope to see you soon!

— The Walpole Town Library  
Board of Trustees

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First Congregational  
Sunday, 10 AM

<https://walpolenucc.org/>

Worship meets in the sanctuary and  
is online live on Zoom.

Masks are optional in the building.

- **Communion Sunday**, is every first Sunday of the month. All are welcome at the table.

- **Community Potluck Supper:**

March 25th at 5:30 PM.

Bring a main dish, dessert or side dish; beverages provided. Donation containers provided for World Central Kitchen's work in Ukraine, Turkey, and elsewhere. All are invited!

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St. John's Episcopal  
Sunday, 10 AM

<http://stjohnswalpole.org/>

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Walpole Unitarian  
Sunday, 10 AM

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.....

For more information, visit the church website.  
Links may be clicked from the CLARION  
Walpole On-Line Resources page.

## Women of Walpole

The Women of Walpole met on February 15 for a wonderful presentation by Louisa Stonehill. Louisa spoke to us about Ashuelot Concerts and their work in the area schools introducing the children to instruments and classical music.

In March, WOW will meet on March 15 at Traditions Real Estate. Please note this will be an evening meeting at 6:30 pm. We will welcome Don Caruso, the CEO of the Cheshire Medical Center, who will present on the future of the hospital system.

Our April meeting on April 19 will be a tea party at the home of Tricia Houstoun. Please look for details in the Clarion or Walpolean on this and future meetings. We welcome any woman working or living in Walpole to attend this and any WOW meeting.

For further information and to join our email list, please contact Susan Johnson (pete\_suejohnson@verizon.net or 603-313-4018) or Carolyn LeBail (carolynle-bail@gmail.com or 714-717-4184).

— Susan Johnson

Continued from Page 1, Budget Hearing

heads' salaries in some cases needed to be adjusted. To offset an 11.7% increase, we adjusted the medical benefit from a zero deductible plan to a \$1000 deductible plan and increased the employee contribution to 15%."

With a 12-month inflation rate in 2022 of 6.5%, the budget increase of 4.29% shows attention to detail on behalf of Town fund administrators, particularly since the increase is less than in the past. Also noted during the meeting was the careful work by department heads resulting in savings during 2022 of over \$300,000 in budgeted funds now reallocated to the unassigned funds account. Walpole's unassigned fund balance includes amounts that have not been expended as budgeted, and now are not otherwise obligated. These funds are then available for any other purpose. Many Warrant Articles to be acted upon on March 18, that if approved, will be funded utilizing these unassigned funds and not from further taxation. The meeting concluded without a line-by-line detailed discussion of the 2023 budget.

— Ray Boas

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The Walpole Clarion



## CHESHIRE KIDS

by Erik Doescher

I READ THAT LOUISA  
MAY ALCOTT USED  
TO COME HERE AFTER  
SCHOOL TO READ  
AND PLAY GAMES.

I HOPE  
THAT SHE  
GOT  
BETTER  
RECEPTION.



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## The Walpole Players

After many years working in a leadership position with The Players, Lisa Bryan has stepped down as President, though she will continue working with the group. She may even help produce a future show. We want to extend our HUGE thanks for her dedication, hard work, organization and commitment to the Walpole Players.

We have voted in new board members. Juliana Stevens joins us as President, Jenny Plante as Vice-President, Barbara Kasper as Secretary and Tom Winmill will remain on as Treasurer. Judy Epstein, Meg Kupiec, Tom Durnford, Jan Kobeski and Jim Baucom round out the Board.

The Players are looking forward to their Spring production of *Grumpy Old Men, The Musical!* Save the Dates; May 12th, 13th, 19th, and 20th. This year's Cabin Fever Radio Follies won't be happening in March, but we hope that a Fairweather Follies will happen this summer on the Common; plus another short staged reading on the Common like last year.

We plan to finally bring back our Theater Camp this summer. Camp will be open to any child (5th-8th grades -10-14 years old) and will be held within the last 3 weeks of July. See next month's Clarion for more details.



## Walpole Town Library

For more information, visit the library website - <https://walpoletownlibrary.org> or call 603-756-9806.

Links may also be clicked from the CLARION On-Line Resources page.



- **Wiggle Time.** Mondays, 10:00 AM, Main Library
- **Story Time.** Wednesdays, 10:00 AM & 5:30 PM, Main Library.

The Players are always looking to add extra hands to each performance, so if you would like to be on our email list please sign up on our website OR send a quick email to us ([walpoleplayers@gmail.com](mailto:walpoleplayers@gmail.com)) with your talents or interests; Business Sponsorships, Lights and Sound, Singing, Choreography, Directing, Intermission Snack Donations, Hair, Makeup, Props, Costumes, Set Building, Audience Seating, etc We will add you to our Friends and Volunteers List and you can decide when and how you want to share your talents! Come "play" with us!

— Jenny Plante

## North Walpole

**Village District Budget Hearing**  
will be held on  
Tuesday, March 7, 2023  
at 70 Church Street  
Commissioner's Meeting Room.

**Village District Annual Meeting**  
will be held on  
Tuesday, April 4, 2023  
at St. Peter's Church Basement.



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# Did You Know That...?

Explorations into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

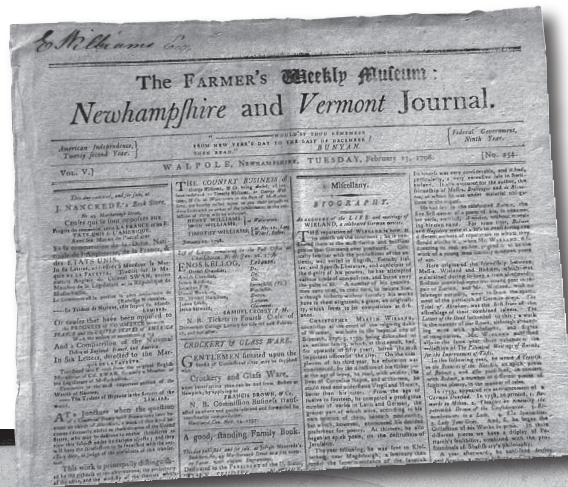
...there were more than 30 mills in Walpole, North Walpole and Drewsville from the late 18th through the early 20th centuries? The word 'mill' usually conjures images of large brick complexes, such as seen in Lowell, Massachusetts, in Manchester, NH, along the Merrimack River, and the smaller pretty complex in bucolic Newmarket, NH, on the Lamprey River. Often termed "domestic mills", Walpole's mills were small, situated along brooks, and often operated solely by the owner. Walpole founder, Benjamin Bellows, had a mill on Blanchard Brook in the northern part of Town. In the 1800s, mills populated Great Brook in the southern part of Walpole. But more about those in future writings.

My interest in water powered mills began when I built a working grist mill model with an overshot waterwheel for my sixth-grade science fair project. Since, while "shun-piking" on backroads, I often discover remnants of old mills, and from 1995 to 2002 my bookshop was in a cider mill atop the waterfall in New Preston, Connecticut.

The Cold River begins its 22.6-mile-long journey at the outlet of Crescent Lake in the northeastern corner of Acworth. Now a minor stream, it was a powerful river in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, powering sawmills, gristmills, shingle mills, clothespin mills, woodworking mills, and paper mills.

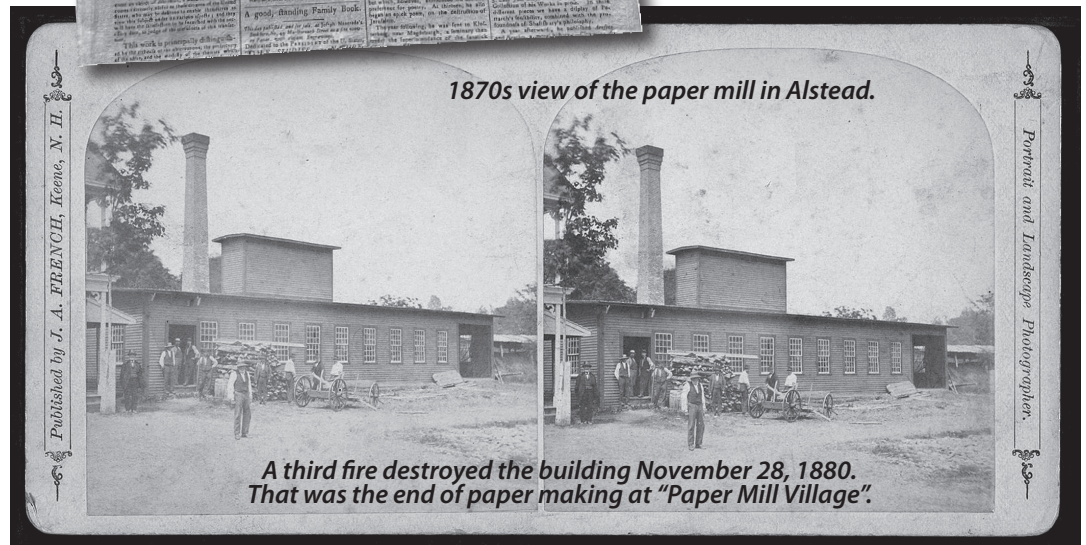
The American Revolution interrupted the supply of paper from England, leading to the building of New Hampshire's first paper mill in Exeter in 1778. Two years earlier, a mill was built in Sutton, Massachusetts, by Abijah Burbank. Elisha Kingsbury had a linseed oil mill in Alstead on the Cold River, and in 1792, built a paper mill using the same dam. Many early Alstead settlers had come from Sutton, and may have brought paper making knowledge with them to Elisha's advantage. Water from the Cold River was channeled along the north side of what came to be called Millot Green to power the mill. The area became known as "Paper Mill Village" for years, still retaining that nickname.

*The Farmer's Weekly Museum of February 13, 1798, most likely printed on paper made in Alstead.*



established by Isaiah Thomas, and those newspapers were published in Walpole from 1793 until 1810. The coarse paper sheets, measuring about eighteen by eleven inches, used at the Walpole print shop in all likelihood came from the Alstead mill.

Isaiah Thomas bought and sold many paper mills over the years. Printers often did this to ensure a supply of paper for their needs. June 14, 1813, Isaiah Thomas and his wife, Mary, bought the Alstead mill from Caleb Burbank for \$3,000, which he later sold in 1817 to two other Worcester, Massachusetts men for the same amount. In his opus, *The History of Printing in America*, first published in 1810, Thomas described the papermaker's art, and estimated there were about 195 mills in the United States with 2,500 workers involved in rag collecting and paper making.



Paper at that time was made from old rags, and rags were collected from all over the state to be made into paper here. Rag paper is distinctive, and it lasts. The entire process could comprise another article. The New Hampshire Journal; later The Farmers Weekly Museum, was

And one last footnote. I never made my own paper, but I got my first printing press in 1957, and tried to print a newspaper. Not something you can do with a small 3x5 letterpress. In my collection now, however, I have ten different letterpresses.

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## Protect Walpole - Your Town

### Vote YES on Article 3

As someone who served on the Walpole Planning Board for many years, I can tell you that if you think that either the Planning Board or the Zoning Board are pro-active in trying to protect the character of our town and keeping us from being inundated with junk shop development and multiple drive-thru food joints, you are sadly mistaken.

If I came to town with a large bankroll and a group of talented land use attorneys, I could build a complex that would include a KFC/Taco Bell, a McDonald's drive thru, a Krispy Kreme doughnut shop, and another gas station, all in bright corporate colors and golden archers anywhere along RT 12. As long as the New Hampshire DOT approved my traffic study, traffic lights and all, there would be NOTHING to stop me. This could even happen outside the commercial industrial district.

When Tractor Supply came to town, a few of us had to beg the developer to revise the original design so that the plain gray box of a building would have a bit of character. Same with Jiffy Mart.

It was at the Tractor Supply session that the developer told us that our procedures and ordinances were so full of legal loopholes that we could be run over by any sophisticated developer. Nothing has changed since then.

One would hope that the people who we voted for on the Zoning and Planning Boards would work together to ensure that development was done in a way that reflects the architecture and character of this great town we live in. Instead Zoning spent much of last year trying its best to shut down the Home Away From Home child care center in town, and floating a warrant to stop floppy flags in the Commercial Industrial district.

And please understand that over the last 10 years, had the Planning Board changed one or two words in the Site Plan Review for building design, they would have prevented eye sore buildings like the Dollar General and Family Dollar Store, and more.

With over 1,000,000 vehicles passing through Walpole every year time is running out, and Article III may be the only way to save us.

– Eric Merklein

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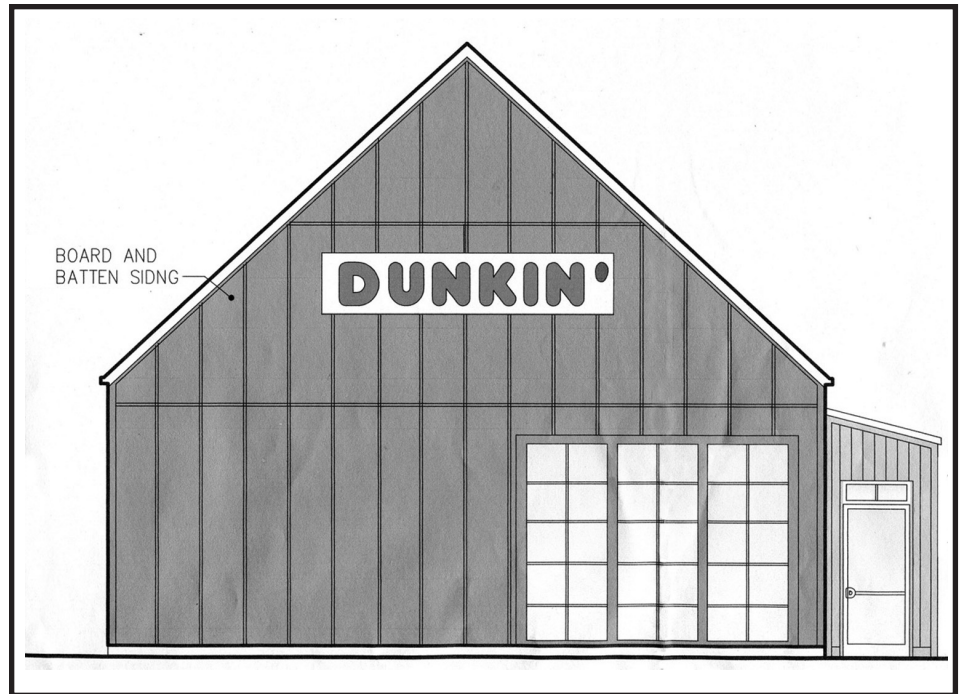
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## Dunkin Done Deal

At its meeting February 14, the Planning Board unanimously approved the site plan for the Dunkin 2,000 square foot coffee shop and drive thru facility on Route 12 adjoining Dollar General and to its south. Complicating the process for a number of months was the proposal to subdivide the property, which includes the location of Dunkin, into three Condo Lots, sharing the road frontage to be utilized by Dunkin. At its January meeting, Chairman Miller stated he had met with the town attorney about the issue of condo lots, and basically agreed with the attorney's position that the condo subdivision had to correspond with Walpole's current subdivision regulations. Since the proposed condo lots had no road frontage, the Board could not approve the subdivision as presented.

The proposal for the Subdivision into Condo Lots was withdrawn. Now the lot will remain one parcel of just over three acres with this "parent lot" initially housing Dunkin. The proposed appearance of the coming Dunkin will be barn-like in appearance. A common drive area will be designated along the building, leading east to the rear of the lot, and loop to Red Barn Lane to facilitate traffic flow. This right of way also will provide access

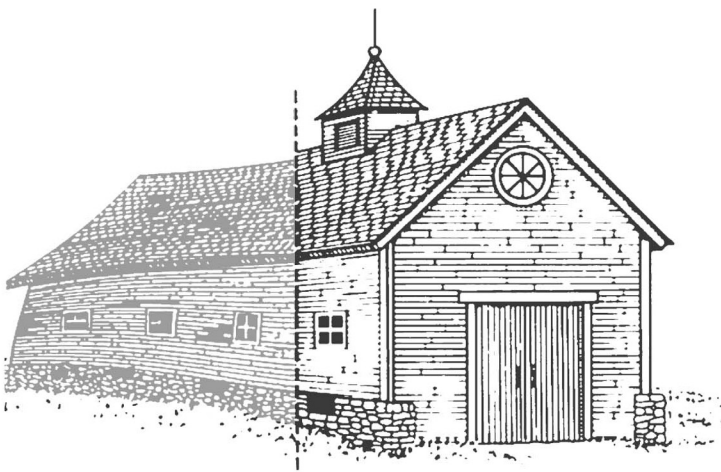


to the back part of this property which, in accordance with Walpole regulations, may have one additional building. Thus, instead of three commercial buildings on this site, there can be two. The second structure, if forthcoming, will have to come before the board facing the same site plan requirements and review.

— Ray Boas

*The "Front Elevation" of the Dunkin - what we will see from Route 12. This is the "colonial" architectural rendering submitted with the site plan and now approved by the Planning Board. Interestingly, Dunkin's professional architect mislabeled this the "Left Elevation," and the south side of the building (towards the Plaza) is labeled "Front Elevation."*

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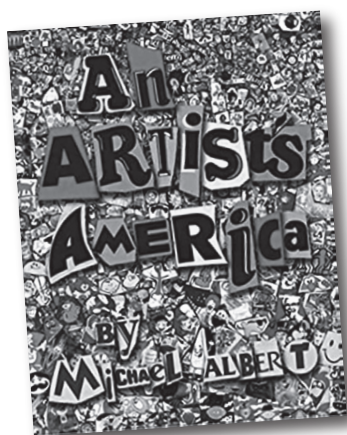
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# Trash Talk

An educational smorgasbord  
of everything trashy  
From the Recycling Center

Meet American pop artist and author Michael Albert who will be visiting on Saturday, March 4th for a special session of art-making from 10 AM to 3 PM at the Walpole Reuse Center! Albert is the author of an artist autobiography titled, *An Artist's America* (Henry Holt, 2008) and is nationally known for making art from cereal boxes and other printed cardboard consumer brand packages. He has been bringing his nationally renowned "modern pop art experience programs" all over the USA for over a decade.



The "modern pop art experience" in-person workshop includes an artist appearance (meet the artist), artist talk and presentation where Mr. Albert introduces himself to the group, shows examples of his work, and tells the group about the project they are about to do – a hands-on collage workshop where the participants create their own collages using the same materials he uses to create his serious works of art. He finishes with a free poster giveaway and signing. Mr. Albert brings about 20 different prints (which he has self-published in limited quantities) for each participant to choose from as a special gift for coming to the event.

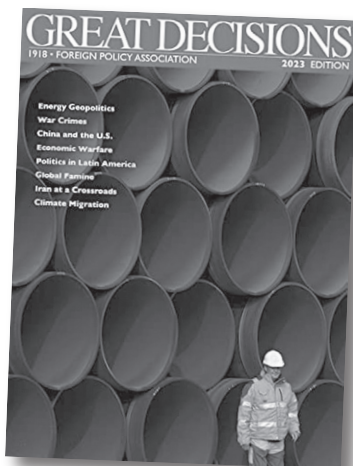
Be sure to visit the Walpole Reuse Center and thank a volunteer for keeping our shop open during the hours that Walpole Recycling is open to the public: Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. All physical donations to the Reuse Center are brought through the main entrance and weighed by an attendant. We only accept clean, fully-functioning, reusable items. All monetary donations go to the Fall Mountain Food Shelf. The Friends of the Library monetary donations help fund the purchase of new books for the Walpole Library. Thank you for keeping reused items in circulation, and keep recycling Walpole!!

– Ben Hoy

## Great Decisions

### War Crimes

"Great Decisions" will resume on Monday, March 13, at 6:00 PM in the Hubbard Meeting Room of the Walpole Town Library. Our first topic is "War Crimes," and the discussion will be moderated by Adrian Basora, former United States Ambassador to Czechoslovakia and subsequently to the Czech Republic. Adrian is currently a trustee of the Foreign Policy Research Institute and chairs its Eurasia Program.



The Foreign Policy Association (fpa.org) publishes an article on each "Great Decisions" topic. Now available at the library is "War crimes: What are they? How can they be prosecuted?" By Francine Hirsch, the article discusses the history of international attempts to codify and prosecute war crimes.

This will be the first of two examinations of War Crimes, followed on April 3 with expert commentary from the Honorable Patricia Whalen, former judge at the Bosnian War Crimes Tribunal, and Dr. James Waller, Cohen Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College.

For additional information, a copy of the article, or the Zoom link contact: jmalmborg@walpoletownlibrary.org.

– Sue Kibbe & Ron MacLachlan



## Scouting Help Wanted

The Scouts Troop and Pack 299 (formerly known as Boy Scouts) of Walpole are in need of adult (over 18) leaders. Experience, while helpful, is not needed as training is provided. While camping and other types of outdoor activities are a special focus, as Whit Aldrich used to say when he was a Scout leader, "Scouting has something for everyone." Anyone interested should contact Scott Northcott at 603-756-3690 evenings, or email at northcott.sj@gmail.com.

– Judy Northcott

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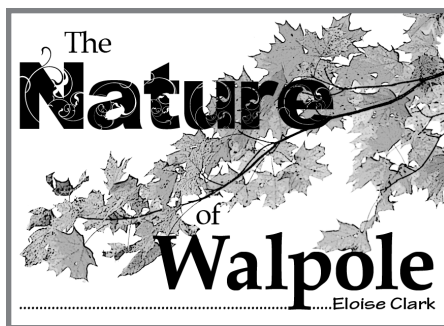


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**M**arch is a month of chancy living for wildlife. While the warming sun eases winter's grip, it is still weeks until the leaves sprout, signaling the beginning of the new growing season. Woodpeckers are one group of birds that are equipped to handle these dicey conditions. If you keep a birdfeeder with sunflower seed and suet, you have probably been visited by the downy, hairy and red-bellied woodpeckers.



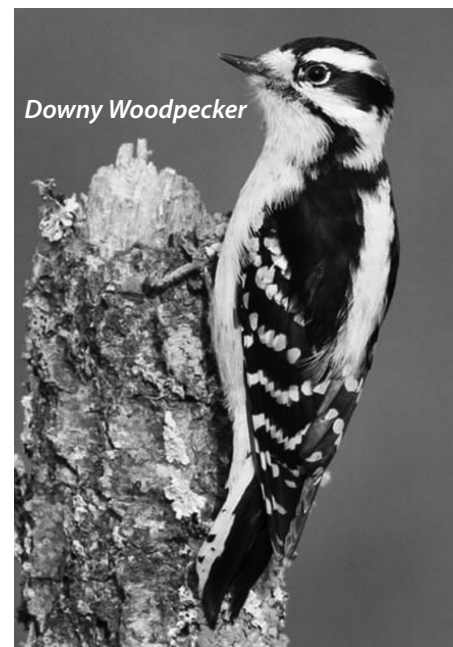
The downy woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) and the hairy woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) look very much alike. Both species have a white belly and back with speckled black and white wings. They both also have black and white streaked faces. Males will have a prominent red spot on the back of the head while the female is without this splash of color. Size helps to tell them apart. The downy is 6" long while the hairy is 9". The downy is a compact bird with its bill about half the length of the head. The hairy looks a bit like an awkward teenager with a much longer neck and bill. Its bill is almost as long as the head.

Both species do "drumming", a welcome sign that spring is on the way! Using their beaks they beat a loud, repetitive sound. They will use hollow trees, dead tree branches and buildings. We had one in our neighborhood that drummed on a metal guardrail. What a racket! The drumming is to proclaim their territory to other males and attract a mate.

You might also hear either of these woodpeckers making lighter taps as they excavate wood boring insects from dead or dying trees for food. They also carve distinctive nests in dead trees. The downy makes a round entry hole about the diameter of a golf ball into the soft wood of a dead tree. The interior is shaped into a comfortable nest for its nestlings. Hairy woodpecker holes are rectangular in shape, about the size of a deck of cards. They will use live wood for their nesting cavities.

If you see a tree excavated with long, rectangular holes, these "galleries" are made by the pileated woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*). It is searching for carpenter ants, its main food in the winter. The pileated is crow sized. Its distinctive black and white pattern and loud "cuk, cuk, cuk" call grabs our attention. Both males and females have a bright red crest. Their softball sized nesting hole is the entryway to an impressive cavity one to two feet deep. I've watched pileated feed on Virginia creeper berries in the autumn, black cherries as well.

The red-bellied woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) is our latest addition to the woodpecker family in Walpole. As its name indicates, it is a bird with origins in the Carolinas but has worked its way north over the past few decades.



The back of its head is bright carmine red. The wings and back are a black and white checkerboard pattern. Its chin and belly are a soft beige color with a tinge of pink, not really a visible "red belly" as advertised.

Two other woodpeckers return to our region with spring. The yellow-bellied sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) is 8" tall. It has a black and white pattern on wings and back with a scarlet red throat and forehead in the male. True to its name it drinks sap from trees. It also catches insects and eats fruit and berries.

The Northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) is the only ground-feeding woodpecker. It probes the ground looking for ants, almost half its diet. It catches insects in the air and eats fruit, berries and seeds. This large, 13" woodpecker can be identified by a white rump-patch. It has beautiful coloring, especially its yellow tail feathers. Its "woikawoikawoika" call is distinctive. It also nests in tree cavities. Its hole is about the size of a softball.

Woodpecker holes are much sought after by other birds and mammals. They offer snug quarters during the coldest nights of winter, as well as nesting opportunities for the spring. Flying squirrels are famous for piling into the deeper nesting cavities and cuddling to conserve heat.

Thanks to Don and Lillian Stokes *Field Guide to Birds of the Eastern Region* for some of this information.





### Summer Work Program for Teens

Do you enjoy working outside on farms growing vegetable 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 in vegetable and flower gardens plus prep for and learn about a cut flower CSA get you excited? There are some requirements. You must be a resident of Walpole and turning 14 by June 17, 2023. You must have a working personal email. You will 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 late August. The pay is \$7.50 / hour, and the work schedule is negotiated with each mentor. It is a real commitment to show up, work hard in intense summer weather and to do good work. Did I mention you will also have fun? You will!

**2023 Mentors:** Malnati Farm, Abenaki Springs Farm, Hooper Garden Assistant. **Hooper Institute Morning Camps** (2 weeks only). Five positions open. (4 in Day Camp, 1 for Adventure Camp.) For applications, email Helen [hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net](mailto:hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net) or call (603) 566-2805.

### Flower CSA

Subscriptions are now open! Each subscriber gets six bouquets of beautiful flowers and herbs over six weeks (one each week) grown, foraged and arranged by the Hooper Institute and helpers. The cost

is \$120. Pick up is Friday afternoons, 165 Prospect Hill Rd, Walpole NH. The season is likely to begin by July 1 and end mid-August, based on available blooms! Email Helen [hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net](mailto:hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net) or call (603) 566-2805.

– Helen Dalbeck

### Mrs. Whippie

This July we say goodbye to the wonderful Mrs. Becky Whippie who is retiring after 24 years of dedicated Hooper Institute teaching here in Walpole! Becky is a career educator who knows her way around a cow, in the garden, forests, maple sugaring, crafting with kids, carving a spile; illustrating a farm plan and a lady slipper, storytelling, driving a tractor and picking apples. And that isn't all! She makes the best apple cider, ice cream in a can, mint jelly, blueberry cake and lilac lemonade. She has integrated literacy and art into her lessons, composting and soil making with tool use, pine tree study and cone identification with crafting, seed sowing and winter tracking with the discovery of the riches of the world we share with other living things. We so appreciate all Becky has done for the Hooper Institute over the years, for the children of Walpole and for what she teaches us every day. She has been a joyous colleague, friend and mentor to many. There will be a celebration and party of course, date and time to be announced! Thank you Becky, and we will miss you!

PHOTO PROVIDED



With change comes opportunity. Do you wish to work as an EDUCATOR for the Hooper Institute? Inquiries to Helen Dalbeck [hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net](mailto:hooperinstitute@myfairpoint.net) or (603) 566-2805

– Helen Dalbeck

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How about porcelain platters, community-made quilts, medals of merit, silk umbrellas, wooden egg crates, photograph and autograph albums, bushel baskets, top hats and straw hats, rocking chairs, railroad timetables, swimming suits, portraits painted in oil, china dolls, checker boards?

Join the Walpole Historical Society and share in the fun of our mission to collect, preserve, and communicate the history of our town as captured in the panoply of objects in our collection. We design exhibits, organize speakers, and offer events and we welcome your participation in all we do, as well as your suggestions and ideas.

Interested? Call us at (603) 756-3449 or use the membership form below to join, and visit [www.walpolehistory.com](http://www.walpolehistory.com) to learn more.

– Christie Winmill

## Hooper Hill Hoppers

How nice it is to hear and see snowmobiles on our trails again!! These are definitely the best conditions for riding we have had in years. Thank you to groomers Ken Whiton, Larry Leclerc and Matt Beam, and our loyal 'trail clearers' Marcia Galloway, Quill and Shirley Gorton! Please use caution while on the trails, and be on the lookout for downed trees, water bars and livestock fences. If you come across any hazards while riding, please contact us at 603-756-3604.

Stay tuned for our Annual Golf Tournament in June, and start thinking about putting together a team, sponsoring a hole or donating a raffle prize!

We are always looking for new volunteers to help with bridge repairs, trail clean up, grooming and event help. Contact Katie if you are interested in helping: [katie@gallowayservices.com](mailto:katie@gallowayservices.com)

– Katie Beam

## Kudos

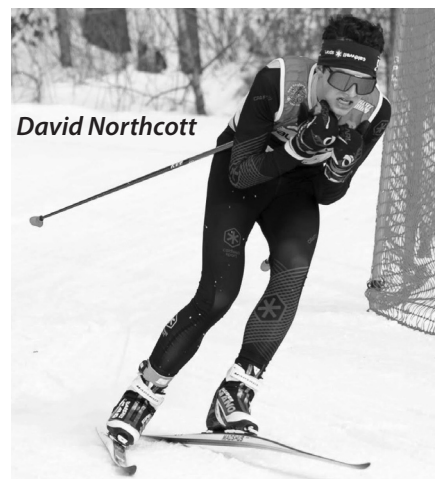
### David Northcott Earns Top Spot for Junior Nationals

On Sunday, February 19th, Walpole's David Northcott was named to the 2023 New England Nordic Ski Team, which will compete in the Junior National Cross-Country Ski Championships in Fairbanks, Alaska in March. David was the top qualifier in the Under 16 category and was joined on the team by five other skiers in his age category from New England. The selection took place at the Dublin School, which hosted the Dublin Double Eastern Cup, the final race of the season for the New England Nordic Ski Association. David won the 6km classic race in a time of 16:34, putting an exclamation point on his outstanding season of skiing. He skis for both Fall Mountain Regional High School and for Caldwell Sport in Putney, Vermont.

David's parents are Chris and Kate Northcott of Walpole, who both coach cross-country skiing for Fall Mountain. David's younger brother, Matt (13) also skied in the U16 category, finishing 30th. Let's all wish him well and cheer him on as he represents Walpole at the Junior Nationals in Alaska.

Photo: Kate Northcott

– Jim Baucom



David Northcott

  
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## Pete's Farm Stand

### Says Vote YES for Article 3

Pete's Stand has been a pillar of the Walpole community for over 40 years. Founded by WWII veteran Peter Janiszyn, Pete's is still owned and operated by the Janiszyn family. Peter's son Michael still works the fields, as does grandson John and John's wife Teresa.

The Janiszyns have always been passionate about preserving Walpole's agricultural heritage, beauty, and charm. That's why they are telling their friends and supporters to vote "Yes" for Article 3 on March 14.

This article would amend Walpole's zoning ordinance to ensure that corporate chain businesses like McDonald's and Dollar Tree can't move in en masse and overtake Walpole. These chain businesses (also called "formula businesses") would be limited to 12 in number. As an example, Baskin-Robbins is a formula business. Walpole Creamery is not. Post offices, places of worship, schools, government facilities, banks, gasoline fueling stations, professional offices, or health care facilities would not count as formula businesses.

Pete's Stand manager Teresa Janiszyn expounds on why voting Yes on Article 3 is so important:

"A national chain will outcompete a local business every time. They can take losses. They have the buying power, the lawyers, and the economic sway to run a local business into the ground. The profits of these chains don't stay in the communities they occupy. They siphon money out of the community, pay paltry wages, and pay the minimum in tax."

John Janiszyn reflects on the agricultural implications of allowing formula businesses to run roughshod in a community:

"I don't want to see all of this prime ag land wasted on an Arby's or some other chain owned by a subsidiary in another country. These lots could go to farmers or small businesses that would add to the community. When we open the door to these formula businesses, we become like every other strip mall town in America. Walpole starts to look like Albuquerque which looks like San Bernardino which looks like Houston. Let's preserve this beautiful community."

Join the Janiszyns and vote Yes on Article 3 on March 14th.

— Dan McCollister

## Walpole's Self-Reliance

### VOTE March 14th!

On the March 14th FMRSD Budget ballot you're going to see two petition warrant articles that pertain to Walpole's self-reliance within our schools: Article #8 and Article #9. I urge voters to learn about these articles and vote as this has a huge impact on our town and our children's education.

Article #8 addresses the intention and purpose of the Budget Committee created last year. This article proposes that the Committee shall be an advisory committee only. This means that we as voters will continue to vote on a budget as proposed by the School Board. Currently the Budget Committee is a statutory committee, and it is their proposed budget that we vote for or against. Last month the Budget Committee proposed a budget with significant cuts including the reduction of two Walpole teaching positions. Many Walpole parents and community members were concerned about these reductions and the impact on our students and teachers.

Article #9 is being proposed to give each town in the district control over their own PreK-8 School budget. Since the inception of the Fall Mountain Cooperative District there has been strife and disagreement between the towns that make up the district, revolving around educational spending, and how we apportion expenses.

Three years ago, Charlestown explored a withdrawal from the district predicated on saving money and providing a quality education at a lower cost. The withdrawal was widely voted down within Charlestown and around the district.

Walpole has long prided itself on the quality of our schools and the education and experience they provide to our children. It makes Walpole an extremely desirable place to live, and for educational professionals to work. In order to maintain the level of education that we want to provide to our students, we need to be able to have control over our own school budget.

There is not enough space to cover the entirety of the subject at hand. Due to timing, this year's vote on Article 9, will be "advisory" only. This means the outcome of the vote will not impact anything other than making a statement about how the voters of Walpole feel about having control over our schools and the education we provide.

The contention that has existed among the towns in our district and will inevitably continue to exist well into the

future, can in my opinion, only be alleviated by each town managing their own schools and own budgets at the PreK-8 level. Due to the legal makeup of Fall Mountain being a cooperative district in NH, we cannot accomplish autonomy by changing the FM Articles of Agreement. The only way we can have direct control over our own school is if each town develops their own PreK-8 District.

I have spent a considerable amount of time exploring and trying to understand the issues our towns face through my involvement as a Tri-Chair on the Articles of Agreement Committee (2019), hours upon hours combing through our districts budget documents and apportionment formulas in the last few years, and 1.5 years on the school board (2021-2022). In my opinion the only reconciliation for our district towns over disagreements on educational spending, is to develop our own PreK-8 Districts and to structure some other agreement for our students to attend the much loved Fall Mountain Regional High School. I think this is the best solution that will appeal to all towns, seeking more control and autonomy over their schools.

— Craig Vickers

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## Gleanings from the Town Minutes

**Selectboard** - February 2 - Rabid Wildlife: Mr. Dalessio stated that he researched the rabid animal complaint. Ms. Pschirrer commented on a fox den on a property in the village. Mr. Dalessio stated that police will refer to NH Fish and Game animals that they are not able to dispatch. He stated that baby raccoons were captured and sent to a rehabilitation center. Mr. Dalessio was advised by the police department that there are no new problems with wildlife within the Town. Ms. Mayberry commented on the process by which residents can be notified when animal issues arise. Ms. Pschirrer stated there are open compost piles located within the Town.

## WES Girls' Basketball

### Team Caps Amazing Season

On February 4th, the Walpole Girls Basketball Team celebrated a very exciting victory after winning first place in the King/Queen of the Court tournament held at Keene High School.

First, they played in four games to start the round-robin. This would determine if they made it into the final Championship round. Their first game was against Winchester, VT. About an hour later, they played Keene B Team, Marlborough, and Chesterfield in successive games. Winning all those games, they were able to play in the final round, celebrating their final victory before winning the whole Championship for the Girls B bracket. The team took home a gorgeous trophy, now displayed in the school's hallway for everyone to see.

The Walpole girls, undefeated throughout the entire season, played Chesterfield once again on Wednesday, February 15th in the league championship game in Hubbard Gymnasium at Walpole Elementary School. The game was close throughout, with Walpole holding a narrow lead through all four quarters. The Cavaliers overtook the lead in the final minutes, and held onto it, to defeat Walpole by three points, 45-42. Despite the heart-breaking loss, the Walpole girls team held their heads up high in reflection of an amazing season.

– Sophia D'Alessandro (Grade 8)

## Prime

### A Middle School Obsession

Have you ever been on a run and been so thirsty? You don't want to drink any water because of cramps? Well you are going to buy Prime Hydration. In my opinion it is the BEST hydration drink ever in history.

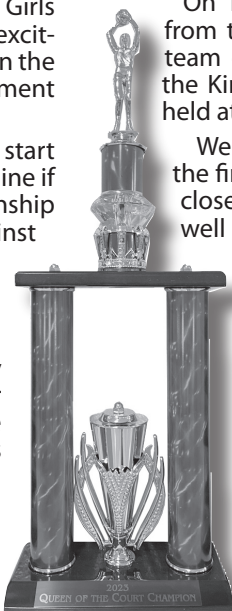
This drink in my opinion tastes way better than Gatorade and is scientifically proven to be healthier than Gatorade. This drink has only 25 calories and only 2 grams of sugar and caffeine free. It is naturally flavored and has no artificial colors.

Prime was founded by two boxers, their names are Logan Paul and KSI (Olajide Olayinka Williams). They both, at first, were enemies and boxers who fought against each other. But after the match

## WES Boys Basketball

### King of the Court Tournament

On Feb 4th, most of the boys from the Walpole boys' basketball team came together and went to the King of the Court Tournament held at Keene High School.



We played our hardest against the first team Marlborough. It was close but in the end we played well enough to win. Next we played Chesterfield and Keene b team. While we lost to Chesterfield, we won against Keene. We had two hours until our next game to prepare for the championship against Chesterfield.

We started off the game good, close the entire time, even down by just one point at the end of the half. In the end, though, Chesterfield pulled away and got the win and the championship. They ended up getting a trophy and crowns which would have been cool but we tried our best and got 2nd place!

– Joseph Paulette (Grade 7)



they both became friends and created the Prime drink. They both are building their following on social media and have millions of fans all over the world.

Prime has become so popular and is starting to spread globally. You can find Prime in some local gas stations, Walmart, Target and some CVS's. There are currently seven flavors of Prime; Meta moon, Ice pop, Blue raspberry, Tropical punch, Lemon Lime, Grape and Orange. This viral drink is a natural flavored water made from 10% coconut water and contains electrolytes. By the end of this I hope that you will buy Prime instead of Gatorade. Please spread the word that Prime is better than Gatorade, thank-you.

– Olivia D'Alessandro (Grade 8)

## NBA Midseason Report

Hello, fellow NBA fans. Thank you for checking back in for the NBA mid-season report. So far it has been a very exciting season in both the Eastern and Western Conferences. In the East, two of the best teams in the league are fighting it out for the top spot. The Boston Celtics enter the All-Star break with a 42-17 record, followed by the Milwaukee Bucks who have a 40-17 record. In the West, the Denver Nuggets (40-18) are first and have a sizable lead over the Memphis Grizzlies (35-22) and the Sacramento Kings (32-25).

We have had a few big, blockbuster trades happen in the past few weeks. The two biggest involved the Brooklyn Nets who traded Kyrie Irving to the Dallas Mavericks and Kevin Durant to the Phoenix Suns. This could change the playoff picture in the West. The Suns are currently fourth and the Mavs are currently sixth. Both teams will feel that with these new additions they can rise in the standings.

One of the biggest stories of this NBA season so far was when LeBron James broke Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's all-time NBA scoring record. Jabbar's record stood for 39 years before James broke it on February 7th in a game against the Oklahoma City Thunder. LeBron has set his sights on playing for a few more years and will certainly hope to add on to his total. Another record broken was from Luka Doncic. The Mavericks star became the first player in NBA history to register a 60- 20-10 triple double in late December.

After the 2023 All-Star Game, which features Team Giannis versus Team LeBron and will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, the NBA season will continue with about 25 games left in the season. The last regular season games are scheduled for April 9th. Then the playoffs will begin and will end in June with the NBA Finals. Who will make it there and be crowned champions? Can the Celtics go back to the Finals and win it this time? Will the Bucks repeat their title win of 2021? Or will one of the teams in the West do what the Warriors did last season and win the title? It should be lots of fun watching another closely fought NBA playoffs.

– Artemsi Lakin & Elias Tsitsionis (Grade 6)



## Cooper's Crossroad

**Cooper's Crossroad** is a non profit organization in Keene NH. It is run by Christina Major, owner of Dusty Dog Farm in Keene. This farm works with kids in the Keene school district who have experienced trauma. **Cooper's Crossroad** takes place at Elm Farm with acres of growing elm trees and has seven horses that live there: Sierra: a horse retired from work after pregnancy, Porsha: a horse retired from a good life at DDF, Faith: a mare now being trained for the program, Dusty: a 40 year old retired fair pony, Otis: retired for lameness, Findlay: also a horse retired for lameness, and Scarlett: a miniature pony who's living her best life in the program. Elm Farm has also recently received 3 new goats: 1 mom and 2 babies.

Elm Farm holds multiple programs for those who have disabilities or trauma. **Farming for Resilience** which is a program for students of schools in the district and **Pathways to Resilience** which work with individuals, families, and groups. Both programs teach riding, basic equine facts, and focus on a feeling each week. As a volunteer who attends and works at Elm



Farm at a consistent pace, I can say that the environment and managers I work under make everything the best learning experience possible. I have learned about how to manage a barn and how to take care of several equines.

As I conclude this article I want to include some upcoming events and a small interview with the owner and founder of **Cooper's Crossroad**: Christina Major:

Q: What is your favorite part about teaching these students?

A: "My favorite part about teaching is sharing the joy that horses bring into our lives."

Q: When and why did you create Cooper's Crossroad?

A: "CCR was founded in 2017. The seed of the organization was founded when I walked out of a 30 day inpatient program for complex PTSD and trauma. That treatment kick started my own recovery and began my education regarding the negative impact of childhood adversity and trauma over lifetimes. This knowledge allowed me to see trauma through a different lens and left me with a burning desire to raise awareness of the effects of childhood adversity and trauma."

Q: Has teaching in this program changed your own view of the world?

A: "My view of the world has certainly been impacted by this experience. I strive to: 1) share my experiences and educate others on how trauma affects us. 2) to build programs that bring well being to our community. 3) to live a life based on courage, gratitude, compassion and forgiveness."

If you wish to know more about **Cooper's Crossroad** or help support it there is an upcoming Luck of the Irish event on March 26th at Dusty Dog Farm, 700 West St. Keene NH. The event will contain pony rides, food, music, and scavenger hunts through the beautiful trails.

— Keira Doescher (Grade 8)



## Emily Dickinson

### The Poet Who was "Called Back"

Emily Dickinson, a poet who is known for her beautiful and touching poems. Known for the poems that touch the most unlikely hearts, and change them for good. Throughout her life she wrote 1,789 incredible poems. Emily Dickinson lived in a time period where women publishing was not heard of, so despite the numbers she only published a handful of poems throughout her lifetime. After Dickinson passed her younger sister, Lavinia recovered all the poems in a drawer and all of her poems finally got published.

Emily Dickinson was born on December 10 1830 in Amherst Massachusetts. She was born to Edward Dickinson and Emily Norcross Dickinson. She had one older brother, Austin Dickinson, and a younger sister, Lavinia Dickinson. Dickinson attended school at Mount Holyoke Female Seminary. Edward Dickinson worked as a lawyer and politician which provided enough funding for Emily to attend such high ranking schools. His fortune also allowed Emily to stay home and write instead of having an outside employment like teaching and sewing to provide for herself. During her childhood Emily made some close friends, one being Helen Hunt Jackson whom she met at age 6. As they grew their friendship began to fade, although they were once close they were never as close as Abiah Root, Emily's very best friend. The girls met at school and



were very close throughout her entire life. Root was Dickinson's most trusted friend and one who she corresponded with constantly throughout her entire life. They wrote to each other about the happenings around each other's town, especially about the gossip, surprisingly that was one of Emily's favorite things to write about.

Emily began to learn about rhythms and beats when she learned how to play the piano. She's said to not have "leisure for anything", but when it came to playing the piano, she had all the time in the world. She first learned how to play from her Aunt Lavinia when she was a toddler and learned about variation and tempo.

When reading Dickinson's poems you may notice many of her poems relate to flowers. Dickinson always had a very fond love for flowers, she was so fond of them that her father built a flower conservatory next to the house for her.

Emily never really liked people even though she had some close friends, in fact she preferred flowers over actual people and often thought of herself as one. Dickinson once wrote that the dandelion was "a shouting flower" and that it "astonishes the grass".

Emily Dickinson started out as not ever wanting fame, she never thought of actively writing poetry, only after her first poem got published did she finally think of publishing more. Her first poem was published in the *Amherst College Magazine* at the age of 21. In her late 20's she started publishing more actively. However not many were published until 1890, when the first edition of Emily Dickinson's poems were published after her death.

Dickinson died on May 15, 1886 at the age of 56. Before she died Dickinson had her entire funeral planned out. She was buried in a white coffin which was normally saved only for children, instead of being carried out by the "proper" way she wanted the Dickinson servants to carry her out the back door because of the impact they had on her life. On her gravestone in West Cemetery, Amherst Mass, it read "called back" instead of "died" like her mother, father, and sister.

Emily Dickinson Quotes:

"A poem is never finished, only abandoned"

"If my desk were indeed an altar,  
it was a shrine not to God but to my words."

"I am left alone in all my glory."

— Keira Doescher (Grade 8)

# From the Far Side of Walpole

Observations by William Moses

## **Beware the Ides of March!**

Was out driving around Claremont killing time and spotted a local sports bar. Decided to stop in for an adult beverage. Was surprised when I got inside to find my friend, Elwud, sipping on a tequila and looking really sad.

"What's up?" I asked. "Problems at home?"

"Well sir, Velma is barely talking to me and keeps sayin' 'Beware the Ides of March', and I have no idee what that means!"

"Well," says I, "this aint Rome in 44 BC and you aint Julius Ceaser, so I don't know what it means."

"By the way, what did you get her for Valentine's Day this year? Flowers, candy or take her out to dinner?"

"Didnt get her nuttin'. She never uses what I buy so decided not to get her nuttin' this year."

"What did you get her last year?" I queried.

"Well sir, I got her an automatic nail gun to aid her in fixing the leak in the roof. I thought she was so overjoyed, because she didn't speak to me for two weeks. Then I said to her 'Did you like...' and before I could finish she said, 'Shut up!'

"I took that as a positive sign. Then this year when I dint get her nuttin', she stopped talkin' again, so I took that as a good sign. Then she started with this 'Beware the Ides of March' thing, and I cant figure it out."

"Well it's not her birthday, and not your wedding anniversary, so what other date do you think is special to her?" I asked.

"You is smarter than me, do you know of anything that happened on the 'Ides of March' whatever that day is?"

"Well, Julius Caesar was killed by his close friend on that day, but I don't see the connection."

"Oh my geez, ya dont think shes planning on killin' me, does ya?"

"Heck no!" I say, "but if I was you, I would sleep in the barn on March 15, with the door locked, just to be sure! Or you could go out now and buy her some chocolates and flowers and see if that changes her attitude."

"Well sir, what do I say ifn she asks whats the occasion?"

"Tell her it's because she is so special and you appreciate all she does."

"Hahaha, she'll never believe that!"

"You may be surprised!" I said. Finished my tequila and headed home, making a stop at the florist, just in case!

## MILESTONES

### Passed

Gary Smith

March 28, 1958-January 16, 2023

Patsy "Pat" Campbell

November 11, 1936 - January 22, 2023

Esther Elizabeth Lee

Daughter of David & Susan Howell

February 25, 1974 - January 29, 2023

Susan Hope Westney

July 14, 1946 - February 2, 2023

Susan E. (Pickering) Durgin

June 18, 1948 - February 12, 2023

Corey B. Field

March 25, 1937 - February 14, 2023



## FROM THE CLARION...

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

**One Year Ago (March 2022)** – Since June of 2021, the Walpole Community Power Committee (WCPC) has been exploring the community power option provided by NH RSA 53-E. At town meeting this year, Walpole citizens will decide whether to take advantage of this opportunity to vote "Yes" on the Town Warrant article. (Editor's Note: the article was approved).

**Three Years Ago (March 2020)** – Sydney Palmiotto, 14 year-old diabetes advocate, visited Senator Maggie Hassan in her Washington D.C. office February 5. Sydney wrote to the Senator earlier in the month to thank her for supporting continued funding for the Special Diabetes Program.

**Five Years Ago (March 2018)** – Delinquent Taxpayers Owe Town \$669,455. That number was the base amount on February 6. With penalties and interest, the balance due the Town that day came to \$723,380.

**Seven Years Ago (March 2016)** – Almost five years of dedicated work by members of the Walpole community culminated on January 28, 2016, when the Trustees of the George L. Hooper Trust signed documents with the Monadnock Conservancy, a Keene-based land conservation trust, placing a permanent conservation easement on the Hooper Golf Course property at the top of Prospect Hill in Walpole.

**Nine Years Ago (March 2014)** – In 1979 Richard Murray told his wife, Marolyn, and their children that Walpole needed a restaurant with good food reasonably priced. Two months later, January 5, 1980, Richard and his family opened for business, and "The Gathering Place" quickly became just that. A year or so later a customer suggested it just be called Murray's, and so it was. (Editor's note: Murray's closed December 2014, but has been reincarnated as "The Gathering Place" available for private gatherings.

**Eleven Years Ago (March 2012)** - Walpole was named one of New Hampshire's newest HeartSafe communities at a ceremony in Concord on February 17. The HeartSafe program was created to help communities improve their response capabilities to cardiac arrest victims by increasing the number of people trained in CPR.



## Waalpole Conservation Commision

The Walpole Conservation Commission is pleased to announce the launch of their new website: [www.WalpoleOutdoors.org](http://www.WalpoleOutdoors.org)

At their new home on the web, you can learn about the work of the Walpole Conservation Commission (WCC) and the Walpole Trail Committee (WTC); discover open spaces, forests, and trails to explore; view and print trail maps; access important documents, like the

Town Conservation Plan; read the latest news on issues related to conservation in Walpole; and stay informed about upcoming events, like trail days and public walkabouts.

This new website will be a great resource for our community, and hopefully it will inspire you to get out and enjoy all of the natural beauty that Walpole has to offer.

— Kelli Ann Wilson

## Reader Commentary

### Tribute to Pat

The Walpole community lost many old friends this year. One of those was Pat Campbell. Pat's real name was Patsy, but she was always known as Pat. She was a devoted wife to her husband, Hap, for more than 60 years, and together they raised three sons: Doug, Greg, and Jeff.

Pat was active in the Walpole community and was always ready to help others. She was part of the Heart Fund Coffee Hour crew, and for many years hosted neighbors and friends in her home to raise money for the Heart Fund. Pat was a member of the Walpole Congregational Church serving, as Superintendent of the Sunday School for many years. She and Hap belonged to the Walpole Bowling league and enjoyed bowling with friends every week. Pat was a Den mother and active in the Boy Scout program. She never said no when asked to help or bake or give.

Pat was a member of the Walpole

Elementary School PTA. She was famous for her beautiful handwriting and was always asked to fill out certificates, diplomas, invitations, and announcements.

For many years Pat worked as a dispatcher for the Bellows Falls Police Department. She became very fond of her co-workers and was quick to offer support when she heard of someone in need.

These few words cannot begin to do justice to the full life of Pat Campbell. She was a hard worker, a generous hostess, a devoted mother, and a fantastic cook, but more than that she was genuinely interested in people. She wanted to hear about your children and grandchildren and had a friendly word for everyone she met. She had many old friends and continued to make new friends at Maplewood Nursing Home. Pat had a warm smile and kind words for everyone, and she will be missed by many.

— Annette Graves Wilson

1991-2021

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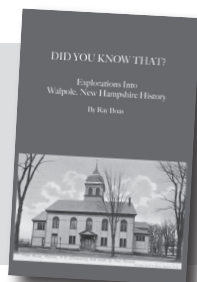
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published monthly for the Walpole community.

Ray Boas, Publisher  
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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](mailto:rayboas@comcast.net)

April deadline: March 22

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

The Walpole Clarion on-line:  
[thewalpoleclarion.com](http://thewalpoleclarion.com)

### PUBLISHER'S CORNER

Bringing you this "election issue" has been one of the biggest Clarion "shoehorn" challenges in my memory. The layout pages of the first two drafts were full, and overflowing, about 28 hours before the closing time. I would not call it necessarily a controversial Town Meeting cycle, but contributing to the information submitted to your paper for publication, there are important issues on both the Tuesday, March 14, Town Ballot, and the Fall Mountain Regional School District (FMRSD) Ballot that you will also receive that day.

On March 14, besides voting for Town officials (for which there is only one "race" with four candidates for three positions) there are two Warrant Articles designed to revise Walpole's Zoning Ordinance. Article 2 brings Walpole more in line with State statutes, and Article 3 is designed to help preserve the unique character and charm Walpole is known for. On this month's pages are several pieces about Article 3, and you should read them. Both of these Articles on the ballot deserve your YES vote.

Not all Articles you see on the FMRSD Ballot are applicable to Walpole residents. The district includes, besides Walpole, Acworth, Alstead, Charlestown, and Langdon. Similar to what Charlestown tried to accomplish in the recent past, Article 9 (by Petition) requests a study be undertaken to see if Walpole should withdraw from the Cooperative District. The School Board and Budget Committee do not recommend this article. By making some last minute adjustments on these pages I have included opinions on both Article 9 and Article 8.

— Ray Boas, Publisher

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