

Dunkin' - Now A Done Deal?

Have you wondered why there has been no evidence of work having begun on the approved Dunkin' location next to Dollar General? That plan was discussed at Planning Board meetings in November and December 2022, again in January 2023, and approved by the Planning Board February 14, 2023. Dunkin's plan was approved at that meeting in conjunction with the "Condo Lot" subdivision of the land owned by Avanru Development Group. Stated in those minutes, Avanru would still own the land and Dunkin' will own the building, parking lot, and green space. The driveway around the parking lot to the drive-thru would be for common use and the tenants. The May 2021 **Clarion** reported Dunkin's original presentation to the April 13, 2021, Planning Board, "...request[ing] a public hearing in May for Phase I of the development of the approximately nine acre commercial property at the intersection of Upper Walpole Road and NH Route 12."

At the end of June 2023, Dunkin's owner, NPG of North Reading, Massachusetts, (forming Ball Park Realty, LLC) purchased its original hoped-for site at the intersection of Upper Walpole Road and Route 12. The deed, filed July 3, 2023, transferred the site (which contains the old "ball field") consisting of 9.23 +/- acres for \$625,000. The Police Station Committee minutes of June 12, 2023 (see page 7) provides insight into what most likely precipitated this new course of action, and purchase of the parcel by Dunkin' without any purchase

NGP Management Scrivanos Network started in 1980 with a Dunkin' Donuts in Haverhill MA. Since then the Scrivanos Family has grown to 118 Dunkin' locations and employs over 2000 employees.



Image and company details from NGP Management LLC website

From Peggy's Desk

The Walpole Grange held its Annual Awards night in Town Hall Tuesday, July 18; it was a very happy occasion. Originally scheduled for the Common, the rain clouds persuaded them to move inside Town Hall. Kathy Yardley presided over the evening's events.

The Business Award, which isn't given annually, was resented to Watkins Tavern owned by newcomers to Walpole, Eric Brandolini and CJ Lederman. They have created a handsome B and B within the Hooper Mansion and a popular Bar with a light menu. Watkins Tavern is a welcome addition to Walpole.

Pinnacle View 4-H was recognized and applauded for its 77 years of serving area youth by developing leadership and service skills which benefit members personally as well as enhancing the local community.

They participate annually in the Cheshire County Fair with the animals they raise and groom. Membership is not limited to Walpole residents but encompasses several adjoining towns. Their scrapbooks which trace their projects and their members were on display for everyone to enjoy.

The Teacher of the Year award went to Heidi Westover who leads and teaches by example a healthy lifestyle. Heidi appeared with her three young boys whom someone suggested they be given good behavior awards for standing quietly with their mother as she spoke eloquently about her teaching activities.

The Grange made two Community Citizenship awards this year because nominations were strong for two

Town Project Information Meeting

Wednesday, August 23
Walpole Town Hall - 6:30 PM



Updates on:

- Infrastructure Projects
- Middle Street Upgrade
- Brownfield Site
- Community Power
- Police Station Study

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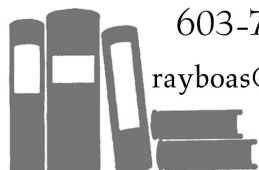
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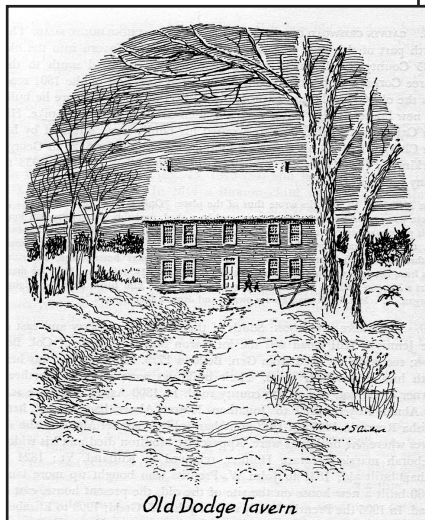
INCORPORATED 1835.

Speaker Announced for 2023 Banquet

Chas Street, president of The Walpole Society for Bringing to Justice Horse Thieves and Pilferers of Hen Roosts and Clothes Lines ("Horse Thieves"), has announced the speaker for the biennial banquet: local author, historian, entrepreneur and publisher of the *Clarion*, Ray Boas. Ray's talk is titled *Turnpikes and Taverns* and will be a delightful exploration of the history of Walpole and the Horse Thieves.

beef, or vegetable lasagna. The meal will include rolls, salad, vegetables and dessert. There will be a cash bar run by the Alyson's. Doors will open at 5:00 pm and dinner will be served at 6:00. And as always, our popular membership poster will be handed out as Horse Thieves arrive for the banquet.

Only Horse Thieves and their guests are allowed to attend the banquet. If you are interested in joining the Horse Thieves,

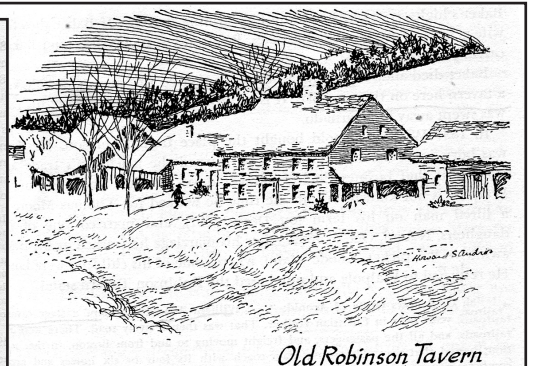


Old Dodge Tavern

— DRAWN BY HOWARD S. ANDROS 1962

The biennial banquet (held every two years) will be September 21 at the Alyson's Orchard banquet facility. Invitations to the banquet were mailed to members in late June, and reservations were pouring in even before the banquet speaker was announced by President Street. If you are a Horse Thief and have not received your invitation, please contact Lewis LaClair, clerk (contact information provided below).

The banquet will be similar to the last three banquets with a fabulous meal "home cooked" by the officers and committee under the supervision of Chef Tom Murray. Again, this banquet "Riders" may attend with one guest at no cost. Our price for the banquet remains unchanged at \$25/person. As always, "tickets" are non-refundable. As in the past, entrée options are the very popular roast



Old Robinson Tavern

please contact Lewis LaClair, Clerk (756-0001, or LLaclair@Advancedrisk.com). Membership is open to any man 18 years or older who lives in Walpole, who pays a \$2 lifetime dues and signs the membership book.

— Lewis LaClair

Concert

Northeast Men's Summer Chorus

The Northeast Men's Summer Chorus will perform in concert on Friday, August 11 at 7:00 PM at the First Congregational Church on the Common in Walpole. The concert is free with donations accepted to benefit the church.

The chorus meets the second week of August each year and includes singers from a number of northeast states. The performance will include a wide variety of music including musical theater, pop, patriotic, glee club and spiritual selections. The group is always looking for new singers. More information is available at www.singingvacation.com.

— Jana Sellarole

Continued from Page 1, Peggy

people. Paul Looney was presented with a Citizenship Awards for his work as Chair of the Walpole Broadband Committee and Chair of the Walpole Power Committee. The Broadband Committee brought better internet service to the Town of Walpole by working with Consolidated Communications and the Power Committee has brought cheaper electricity through its work with CPCNH. Paul is a member of the Board of Directors of CPCNH. In addition, Paul is a Trustee of the Congregational Church and its Zoom manager. In his spare time, Paul is a skilled potter.

Dr. Charles Shaw was also awarded a Community Citizen of the Year Award. Chuck has an extensive resume of community volunteer work in addition to his professional life as a veterinarian. He served on the Fall Mountain Board of Education, co-chaired the group to save Walker Road, serves as Trustee of the Congregational Church, worked to restore the Church's historic steeple, and for many years served Walpole as the Town Health Officer. He is currently an active member of the Walpole Foundation Board of Directors.

— Peggy Pschirrer

The Walpole Foundation

The Walpole Foundation has a job opening for a friendly, outgoing individual that would enjoy working as a Maintenance person. The job will entail lawn care, snow shoveling and maintaining the properties. If you would like to find out more, please email or call the Walpole Foundation at thewalpolefoundation@gmail.com, or 603-756-3595. To find out more about The Walpole Foundation please visit our website thewalpolefoundation.org.

— Bert Wiemers

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on Walpole Happenings**
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PHOTO: CINDY WESTOVER

Teacher of the Year Heidi Westover and sons with Kathy Yardley.

Attention Walpole Residents!

**The Town Clerks Office
will be closed**

AUGUST 7-11

**We will be attending
Certification Classes
in Concord.**

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as well.**

*Walpole's Stonehenge
at Distant Hill Gardens*

PHOTO: RAY BOAS



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(also available on our website).



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- **Communion Sunday** is every first Sunday of the month. All are welcome at the table. We use Covid-safe, sealed communion elements. Internet worshippers on Zoom take part using their own bread and cup.
- **Bible Study** is on summer hiatus and will resume after Labor Day.
- Join First Congregational for Worship and Study on Zoom using the link found on our website.

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<http://stjohnswalpole.org/>

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For more information, visit the church websites.



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The Big Read

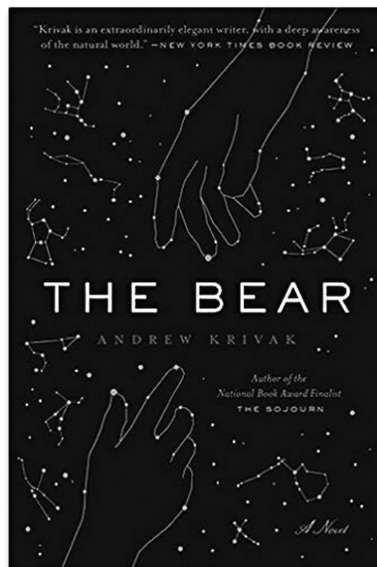
**Join New Hampshire Humanities
and the Walpole Town Library to read
and celebrate Andrew Krivak's *The Bear***

The Walpole Town Library, in partnership with New Hampshire Humanities (NHH), will support the statewide NEA Big Read of *The Bear* by Andrew Krivak. An initiative of the NEA and Arts Midwest, a Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the power of a shared reading experience.

Set in a post-apocalyptic future, *The Bear* is a story of the last two people on earth—a father and daughter. The novel explores powerful themes about the importance of intergenerational storytelling, our complicated relationship with the environment, and how to prepare for an unknown future.

The Big Read will take place from September through November 2023. Copies of the book will be available at the library courtesy of NHH and Gibson's Book Shop. The Walpole Town Library will host a several programs to include a book discussion, film screening, lecture, and children's program.

For more information, please contact the library director at jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org



poletownlibrary.org or 603-756-9806.

New Hampshire Humanities (NHH) funds and supports programs that inspire curiosity, foster civil dialogue, and explore big questions. An independent, statewide nonprofit, NHH made possible last year 587 free public programs and digital broadcasts reaching 17,859 residents in partnership with 210 organizations in 121 communities, to engage all citizens, regardless of their age or educational level. For more information about New Hampshire Humanities, please visit www.nhhumanities.org.

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is an independent federal agency that is the largest funder of the arts and arts education in communities nationwide and a catalyst of public and private support for the arts. By advancing equitable opportunities for arts participation and practice, the NEA fosters and sustains an environment in which the arts benefit everyone in the United States. Visit arts.gov to learn more.

Arts Midwest supports, informs, and celebrates Midwestern creativity. We build community and opportunity across Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin, the Native Nations that share this geography, and beyond. As one of six nonprofit United States Regional Arts Organizations, Arts Midwest works to strengthen local arts and culture efforts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, state agencies, private funders, and many others. Learn more at artsmidwest.org.

— Jane Malmberg

Walpole Cub Scouts

Mum Fall Fundraiser

Walpole Cub Scout Pack 299 is taking orders for their Mum Fall Fundraiser from now through August 23. This is a very popular fundraiser and we have a limited amount of mums available.

The mums are between 15-18 inches across and are planted in 9.5 inch pots. Colors available are yellow, red, orange, bronze, purple, pink, and white. Priced at \$22.00 each, the mums will be available for pickup on Sunday, September 17, on the Walpole Town Common between 9:00 and 10:00 AM.

You can place an order by finding a Cub Scout from Pack 299, or you call Debbie Pawelczyk at 603-445-5475

— Debbie Pawelczyk

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Continued from Page 1, Dunkin

contingencies for approval by the Town of its intended use.

The Keene Sentinel reported on Walpole's Police Station Committee April 23, 2023, stating in part, "...The committee has looked at five potential properties for a new police station, four of which were not disclosed during a recent presentation by selectboard member Steven Dalessio. He presented the committee's ideas to the Walpole Grange at the town hall April 18, saying that the four undisclosed sites are private because they are currently not for sale. The fifth site is the baseball field lot at the intersection of Route 12 and Upper Walpole Road, where a Dunkin' Donuts had been proposed in 2021."

The Police Station Committee's June 12th minutes stated: "...The committee has communicated with property owners on Route 12 to discuss possible purchases. The Committee agrees the most desirable piece of property is a three-acre portion of the 9.4 acres owned by the European Company who owns Stop and Shop, Hannaford's etc." The communication with the agent for the "ball field property" in all likelihood prompted the

purchase by Dunkin with the hopes of subdividing and selling a parcel to the Town for the new Police Station.

Avanru Development did not respond to the **Clarion's** request for comment on the change in Dunkin's plans. In answer to questions from the **Clarion**, Town officials confirmed that NPG understands it must again present its site plan for development of this parcel to the Planning Board for review, comment, and approval. Those replies, and comments documented in minutes, lead to the conclusion that Dunkin is moving forward with its new plan with the understanding the new police station will be situated on land they will subdivide from their nine plus acres. Thus, "A Done Deal?"

— Ray Boas



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Friends of the Library

Preparations for our annual Book Sale are in full swing. The Friends of the Library Book Sale will take place at the Walpole School gym on the weekend of October 27 - 29. We are currently looking for community help with the following:

Book Donations at the Chicken Coop (behind the Hungry Diner)

Wednesday, August 16 and 23, 10:00 AM to noon Thursday, August 17 and 24, 5:00 to 7:00 PM Please no textbooks, encyclopedias, or travel guides older than 5 years. We can only sell books in excellent condition, so please no dirty, damaged, moldy or mildewy books.

Book Sorting at the Chicken Coop

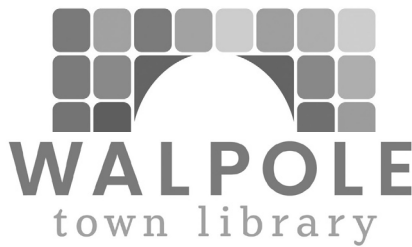
Every Wednesday morning, 10:30 to 11:30

Every Thursday afternoon, 4:00 to 5:00

Also note that our plant sale at the Reuse Center is ongoing. We are currently focusing primarily on house plants and perennials.

We are very grateful for all of your help! Please call 603-439-7778 with any questions.

— Jana Sellarole



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.

August Happenings at the Walpole Town Library

- **Climate Farmer Stories Exhibit**, August 1-30

The Walpole Town Library is hosting *Climate Farmer Stories*, a new multimedia exhibit that shares the stories and portraits of 13 Upper Valley farmers who are using agricultural methods that mitigate and adapt to climate change and help build a food supply that can withstand the impact of climate disruption. View the exhibit during the month of August at the Main Library!

- **Virtual Author Talk with Bestselling Authors Lisa Jackson & Nancy Bush** Monday, August 28, 7-8 PM via Zoom

Bestselling authors (and sisters!) Lisa Jackson and Nancy Bush will discuss their latest books in this Zoom webinar. To register and receive the Zoom link, email Jane Malmberg at jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org. Presented in collaboration with the Langley-Adams Library in Groveland, MA and the Tewksbury Public Library in Tewksbury, MA.

- **Kids Pop-Up Summer Code Club Grades 2-5**

Wednesday, August 9, 2-4 PM at the Main Library

We will be doing *Hour of Code* activities with many projects to choose from. Space is limited so that each participant may have their own computer to use.

CHESHIRE KIDS

by Erik Doescher

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THAT THIS ICE
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IN WALPOLE?

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THE COWS
AGAIN..



DOESCHER
08/23

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Police Committee Minutes

June 12, 2023

Steve Dalessio called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were Trevor MacLachlan, Jay Punt, and Peggy Pschirrer; Cheri Watkins and David Adams were present on Zoom.

Andrew Dey and Chief Justin Sanctuary were on vacation.

The agenda focused on potentially available property for the new Police Station. The Committee has communicated with property owners on Route 12 to discuss possible purchases. The Committee agrees the most desirable piece of property is a three-acre portion of the 9.4 acres owned by the European Company who owns Stop and Shop, Hannaford's etc.

Amy Booth called Peggy Pschirrer to report that she now represents the agency handling the property on Route 12 next to Shaw's and that is under contract to Dunkin and will close June 30. The new owner is interested in selling acreage to the Town of Walpole. Its sales agreement protects the ballfield on the property for a year.

The Committee agreed they should look for options for the ballfield and negotiate for space for the new station with exits on the Upper Walpole Road.

RFP's have been sent to potential architects, but no one has responded at this time.

The next meeting of the Committee will be on August 7, in the Selectboard office at 6:30 PM.

A public meeting will be held August 23, in Town Hall (see page 1).

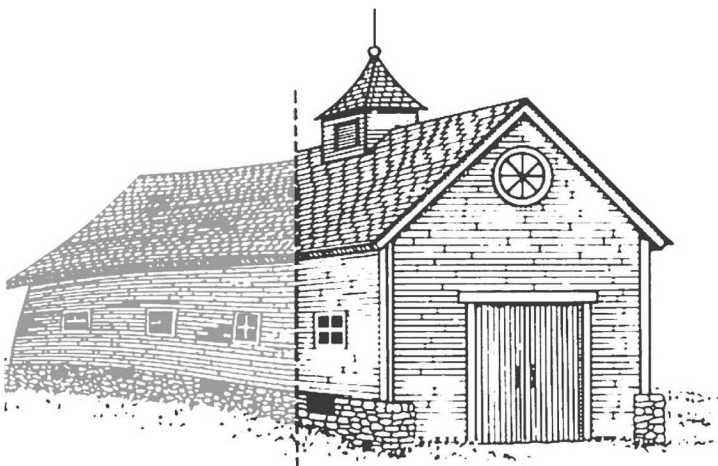
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Did You Know That...?

Explorations into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

...low lying areas along the Connecticut River in Walpole are not strangers to flooding? In the last 150 years there have been at least eight flooding events worthy of mention, and two significant hurricanes that also brought flooding damage to our area. Those hurricanes were the Long Island Express (September 10-22, 1938) and Irene (August 20-28, 2011).

Frizzell's *History Of Walpole* relates flooding on River Road properties at the south end of town. Water rose six to seven feet at Fred Smalley's farm near the intersection of Hall's Crossing Road and River Road, the waters probably



Stereoview - March 17, 1868, with the west side of the Covered Bridge carried away by ice.

The low area at the bridge crossing to Westminster, Vermont, has seen much flooding. Although not a flood, on March 17, 1868, the west side of the Covered Bridge was carried away by ice. The west end of the bridge again collapsed when the abutment was undermined October 20, 1869. A new covered bridge opened October 31, 1870, and was replaced with a new steel bridge in 1911, following arson on the wooden bridge. The flood of 1913 almost reached the road surface of the steel bridge.

The flood in 1913 occurred March 23-26, with record breaking rain flooding major rivers in central and eastern states. Deaths in thirteen states exceeded 650.

The bridge to Westminster during the Flood of 1913. Waters spread all the way to the railroad underpass astonishing the watching crowd.



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also cascading down streams in the area flowing to the Connecticut. Close to the Westmoreland line and the Houghton Brook, four feet of water in barns necessitated the moving of cattle and horses.

Probably the most destructive flood in our area was in 1927. Beginning Thursday November 3, by November 4 water reached twenty feet above the Bellows Falls Dam. The bridge to Westminster was again covered by water, as were the fields to the west up to the railroad bed. "On Saturday the river came over the bank in North Walpole by what is now the Aumond's store washing away a dwelling; on through the old River Street



The total washout November 4, 1927, in North Walpole at the east end of the Arch Bridge.

railroad underpass taking with it everything north east of the Arch Bridge as far as Vine Street where it struck a ledge. The two houses on the west side of Vine Street were carried away." In Walpole Village, "Friday the rising water caused tense anxiety. About 7 AM the river began to overflow its banks, by nine the meadows were flooded; Cold River Bridge and the railroad bridge were submerged. All day long people thronged the river bank near the Village bridge watching. It was an awe-inspiring sight to see the madly dashing flood batter and swirl around the piers of the bridge, ... everyone felt the bridge would go down and it was great news on Saturday morning to see it held." This was big news. "There were 150 people staying at the Red Mill Inn on Friday and Saturday being reporters and photographers from Pathe, Paramount, MGM, and National Geographic..." reporting on the flood.

High water and flooding are also noted in Frizzell in 1933 and 1936. Significant was the Flood of October 8 and 9, 2005, on Cold River in Walpole, Langdon, and Alstead. Route 123 towards Alstead's center was devastated, and your writer and his late-bride housed for about six months one gentleman who lost everything. The stone arch bridge over the Cold River in Walpole, adjacent to Aubuchon Hardware, was a total loss. Some of the same locations experienced flooding again July 3, 2013. Unlike the July 2023 serious flooding in Vermont, Walpole was mostly spared, but the flooding patterns are ominous even as we become smarter in improving our infrastructure for such events.

This stone bridge over the Cold River on Route 123, adjacent to Aubuchon Hardware, replaced the Covered Bridge that burned in 1907. It was lost in the flood of October 2005.



Looking up the hill March 1936, on the original Route 12, towards the now intersection of Upper Walpole Road and Route 123.

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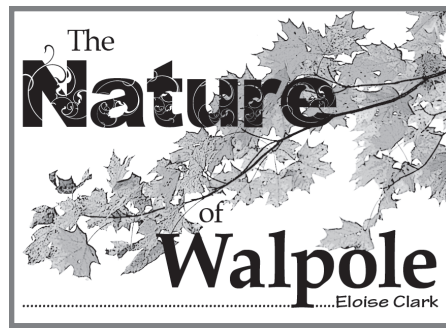
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Meadows are abuzz with hundreds of species of pollinating bees, wasps, beetles, flies and butterflies in August. The foundation for such activity is the chest high bloom of goldenrod and aster flowers we find in "old fields". Unlike your mowed lawn or the hayfield across the road, the old field is a rich home for wildlife. It's also a transitory one as it is a habitat changing from grassland to forest.



Other insects also take advantage of these fertile pollinator fields. There are 12 species of pollen wasps (Vespidae). They use their short tongues to graze the tiny, shallow flowers of Queen Anne's Lace. Flies have very short proboscises and can also be found on this flower. The Syrphidae flies are called "flowerflies" for their preferred food source. They are also called "hover flies" for their ability to fly suspended in air using their one pair of wings. Their bodies have yellow and



pincher-like mandibles to gather pollen. In contrast, butterflies and moths have very long, coiled "sippers" with which to probe deeply into flowers. These insects are "accidental" pollinators. Butterflies and moths don't deliberately gather pollen. However, some pollen grains may cling to their bodies and hitch a ride to the next flower.

According to The Xerces Society Guide to Attracting Native Pollinators, the bee family has about 400 species of mining bees (Adrena). There are more than 500 species of sweat bees (Halictidae) including 43 species of the showy me-

Perhaps you've watched what happens to a hayfield if it's left uncut? Over a period of years, there are a succession of plants that will occupy the space until trees dominate. The transition from grass to goldenrods is followed by briars—blackberries and black raspberries. Sun-loving trees such as white pine, birch and aspen are next. Shade-tolerant trees spring up in the shadow of these, including hardwoods. Because of forty inches of rainfall annually, our forests are lush with a variety of species. This natural process is called succession. Trees are favored to dominate the landscape of eastern North America.

Asters and goldenrods are proven providers of nectar and pollen. There may be as many as ten species of each occupying an old field. Canada goldenrod is the most common of these, while the stunning New England aster has deep purple petals surrounding an orange corolla. Wetter meadows host Joe Pye weed, boneset and snakeroot. A bee is especially equipped to sip the nectar of these tiny flowers. Its mouth has a short tube-like proboscis. Bees also have



tallic green types. Solitary mason bees (Megachilinae) have more than 300 species, including 140 species of leafcutter bees. The Apidae includes more than 600 species including carpenter bees and bumblebees. Did you know there are almost 50 types of bumblebees? These 1,540 species of bees are all native to eastern North America. Only one species, the honey bee (*Apis mellifera*), is native to Europe.



black stripes to mimic the warning colors of bees. I like to call them "wannabees". They are quite harmless.

Beetles are a family represented by about 30,000 species in North America alone. Beetles that pollinate flowers prefer those with strong odors. Milkweed beetles (*Tetraopes*) are in the longhorned beetle family. Look for these inch-long insects with their striking red-orange color and black markings. Many beetles are known as "mess-and-soil" pollinators. They will eat and transport pollen but also chew on the host flowers. Any rose gardener is familiar with the damage Japanese beetles can do to the beauty of their blooms.

After insects have pollinated the goldenrod and aster flowers, tiny seeds develop. They have fluffy parachutes to travel by wind, if they are not first eaten by sparrows and goldfinch. The latter will not even nest until this month when seeds are abundant. Visit a meadow now. Watch as sparrows erupt from the cover provided by these colorful clusters of flowers. On a sunny day, observe myriad winged pollinators "grazing" the blossoms. I like to imagine old fields and wet meadows as the diminutive "Serengeti" of our landscape, teeming with life.



Walpole Recycling is undergoing a transformation over the summer with the demolition of our storage trailers and construction of new storage facility. We have opened up some more space for brush and compost during construction. The old green "recycle" trailer area has become a new loading dock for our trucking vendors. Brush should be placed as far back from the trucking dock as possible. This helps our truck drivers to access our dock without getting tangled up in loose brush. The truckers can become moderately to even quite "salty" if this is to occur.

Big Apple reuse artist Michael Albert was back to running his famous art program at the Walpole Recycling Center in July, and he is eager to return to us next spring on earth day. Michael Albert unveiled new artwork created for the Walpole Recycling Center called the R-E-U-S-E letters! The Michael Albert art experience is open to the public and involves using our mixed paper to create art. Musical performances will be on offer at Walpole Recycling in August, and, as always, we have an open mic on the karaoke machine. Please keep any and all trashy lyrics to an absolute minimum. And no trash talking either. Thank you.

Keep recycling Walpole. –

– Ben Hoy



Hooper Fall Festival

Please save the date for the 3rd Annual Fall Festival to be held September 30 at the Hooper Institute. We will make our own apple cider, invite some farm animals to join us and have many new surprise guests, games, crafts and activities. **Save the date** and see you there.

– Helen Dalbeck

The last remnants of our storage trailers are being recycled in the metal container. Our metal vendor, Schnitzer Steel of Concord, New Hampshire will take the tires off for us, and pay the town of Walpole for all of that heavy steel. The tire removal was a special request, please do not throw tires in metal container.

PHOTOS PROVIDED



Pictured is our new trucking dock with a waterfront view (where the green recycle trailer was located). Our truckers are dealing with less brush to maneuver around with the new dock, which keeps them smiling and satisfied.



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One of several epic downpours this past month was heralded by a sky approaching the apocalyptic...

PHOTO: JAN KOBESKI



Following My Passion

Six years ago I took my teenage daughters on a 3-week trip to Italy.

I had spent time there as a college student, then again in my mid-30s, and was eager to get back and share Italy with my daughters.

Research is my passion. I am not interested in following the well-trodden tourist route; instead focusing on more off-the-beaten path experiences. Especially intimate experiences with locals. Spending time with them offers opportunities to look into their lives, traditions, and culture.

PHOTO: KARIN MALLORY



Castelmezzano – Basilicata, Italy

I returned from that 3-week trip with my daughters beaming from the adventure, but also curious about when I would be able to get back. The itch to figure out how to get more Italy into my life did not let go until I realized that perhaps I could create a small travel business and share unique adventures in Italy with guests. So, I created a trip. Then another. And the next year.... four more. I currently bring three groups in the fall and three in the spring. This year, *Karin Mallory Presents: Intimate Trips to Italy* celebrates its five-year anniversary!

One of my first trips was centered around a truffle festival. That just happened to converge with a motorcycle rally. There was music. And dancing. And vintage bikes. And truffles. And a mission to find a certain mug on a string which, once obtained, could get us free wine in a number of bars. More importantly.... There was not another American in sight! Next year we will be in Sardinia to join an overnight procession to a hilltop monastery. Our reward will be a taste of the rarest pasta in the world. A pasta so intricate and difficult to make that only a handful of women know how to make it. We will experience Sagra (local food festivals) and see artisans at work in their studios.

The common thread in all of these experiences will be spending time with locals, many of whom, over the years, have become friends. I've spent nearly 30-years as a massage therapist. My hands and shoulders are becoming tired. If I had not created this Italy travel business, I would have had to figure out new work going forward. I am incredibly grateful to have followed my passion and created work I love! Boy, do I love Italy! Almost as much as I love sharing it with my guests!

– Karin Mallory



Announcing... a special event every Saturday from August 5 through October 14 at the Walpole Heritage Museum

A Mystery Unraveled – August 5 at 12:30 PM – the jumbled contents of a forgotten box yield insights into Walpole's history. Rutherford Witthus discusses both the discoveries and the methods used

Civil War Medicine – August 12 at 12:30 PM – Bill Sommers, in period appropriate garb, describes nineteenth-century medical practices and exhibits the instruments used

Walking Tour of Walpole – August 19 at 10:15 AM – meet at the museum's sign at 32 Main Street to take an architectural tour of town with Walpole author Bill Ranauro

The Understory – August 26 at 12:30 PM – explore the world of undergarments with Joanna Andros, who will share the many examples in our collection

Clock-making in Walpole, 1784 - 1804 – September 2 at 12:30 PM – Lindy Larson shares his knowledge of clock-making with particular emphasis on Gurdon Huntington, whose recently restored tallcase clock in our collection will be a feature of the program, along with a discussion of the development of timekeeping.

Come visit the museum at 32 Main Street for a special presentation, a closer look at our surprisingly varied collections, and an opportunity for an engaging discussion every Saturday we are open. The Walpole Historical Society will be open on Saturdays from July 29 through October 14, from noon until 4 PM, as well as by appointment. Visit us at walpolehistory.com.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mushroom Meander

With the Morel Quandary Club, Thursday, August 31, 4 to 5 PM at Distant Hill Gardens in Walpole. Join Harris Center naturalist John Benjamin and mushroom enthusiast George Caughey to search for the fantastic fungi of summer. From russulas and waxy caps to puffballs and wolf's milk slime, come get your 'shroom on. Space is limited, and registration is required at harriscenter.org/events. For more information, contact Susie Spikol. Co-sponsored with Distant Hill Gardens & Nature Trail.

– Audrey Dunn

Walpole's Rail Trail

The grass has been cut all along the Cheshire Rail Trail in Walpole; it's a great time for pedestrians, bicyclists and equestrians to explore the 7 plus miles of State-owned Rail Trail within the town's borders. The Walpole Conservation Commission has funded brush hogging of the Rail Trail under a State-issued permit. The Rail Trail will be brush hogged a second time later in the summer so that the grass and weeds can't grow too high.



Trail users in Walpole can enjoy views of forests, farmlands, historic railroad features, the Connecticut River and Vermont. The trail surface is mostly grass/weeds and dirt, with some wet and muddy spots. In Walpole, the usable trail extends from behind the CITGO/JiffyMart in the north to the Westmoreland border in the south. The Cheshire Rail Trail then continues southward to Keene and beyond. The Rail Trail is accessible from Blackjack Crossing Road, Halls Crossing Road, River Road, the Walpole Gateway, Route 123 at the bridge, and the Boat Launch just to the north. There is limited parking at many of these locations.

Please be respectful of the private landowners who abut the trail. Follow trail signs, especially through Homestead Farm. Please practice "leave no trace" principles. Do not litter. No motorized vehicles are allowed (except for snowmobiles). Maps of the Rail Trail are available on the Conservation Commission website (<http://www.walpoleoutdoors.org/trail-maps> and in Town Hall.

— Wendy & Will Grossman



PHOTOS: JAN KOBESKI

Pear Defense

An epic tale of man against nature... or at least some small, furry, yet ravenous part of nature. To recap, two years ago we enjoyed a bountiful harvest of pears - that we did not expect -- from a spindly tree in our backyard. They weren't pretty to look at, but they were delicious. Last year, we eagerly awaited another fruity treat. But the neighborhood squirrels had other ideas. Only one pear survived their assault.

This spring I scanned the branches for this year's crop; then despaired when those within reach vanished. The residue of young fruit on the ground was equally discouraging. We couldn't allow the massacre of '22 to recur. What to do?

Since standing guard seemed impractical, and assuming that fencing could be climbed, we searched for alternatives. Our first line of defense was plastic forks - a Great Wall of them around the base - offset for defense in depth. According to our internet source, squirrels won't cross the tines. However, our tree has two primary roots that extend beyond the mulched area at its base. Forks won't work there, so we're trying chemical warfare - an all-natural spray that claims squirrels find it repulsive. That's the best we've got.

The spray needs to be refreshed every day. The forks just sit there. But it's been more than 3 weeks since our cutlery Maginot Line went up, and I've only seen one gnawed pear on the ground. And there are a bunch maturing up above.

Could it be working? Forks? Really? I'll keep you posted.

— Jan Kobeski

Forks, yes, plastic forks

Gleanings from the Town Minutes

Selectboard June 15 - Granite Bench on the Common: Mrs. Pschirrer commented that a complaint was received about a bench on the Common that they fear is going to burn children because of its material heating in the sunlight. The Selectboard stated that a laminated sign would be placed near this bench.

Selectboard June 22 - Trees on the Common: Mr. Boas opened a discussion with the Selectboard regarding the trees on the Common. ... Mr. Boas put forth the idea of establishing a tree committee open to all Town residents. He would like to submit his proposal to the Conservation Commission. ... Mrs. Pschirrer said that she will bring up the information that Mr. Boas presented when she attends the July Conservation Commission meeting. Mr. Boas proposed the formation of a sub-committee within the Conservation Commission that would focus on trees.

Selectboard July 6 - Health Officer Resignation: Mrs. Pschirrer stated a letter of gratitude would be written to Dr. Chuck Shaw who is resigning as the Town's Health Officer.

Walpole Conservation Commission July 10 - Replacement of Trees on the Common: Mrs. Pschirrer reported that people living on the common are distressed that the five trees taken down on the common (three by the town and two by Liberty Utilities) have not been replaced. Peggy stated there is no money in the budget to replace them. At a recent select board meeting Ray Boas suggested that the board approach the Walpole Conservation Commission about forming a subcommittee to look after trees in town or help find creative ways to raise money to replace the downed trees. She asked the commissioners if they would be interested in forming such a subcommittee or helping raise money to purchase replacement trees. ... A discussion followed about what types of trees could successfully be planted on the common, fundraising, and who should be responsible for the project. The Commission hopes that Mr. Boas will attend the next meeting to present his ideas and commissioners who were absent for this meeting can participate in the discussion and decision-making.



Nibbled pear

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From the Far Side of Walpole

Observations by William Moses

Life In A Beaver House (as told by Elwud)

Sitting on the front porch sipping some shine with cousin Zack and the topic of Lost Pond came up. It always does when we have too much sipping shine.

"How 'bout we do an overnight fishin' trip to Lost Pond," muttered Zack. Well as usual, I cant resist a challenge, so I turned to Velma, got the evil eye, and she said "I'll pack you some food. When will you be back?"

"Well it's a one overnight hike and a second day ta get there...two days of fishin' and two days back, so this is Friday, which means we should be back by next Friday."

We loaded our backpacks with frozen hamburger,, a couple of steaks and cans of beans and a package of hot dogs. We then grabbed our poles, bait and backpacks and headed to the Pond. On the way, Zack grabbed a couple jugs of shine, just to take off the night chill, he said.

Well we arrived at Lost Pond on Saturday, set up camp and proceeded to fish. By Monday our thirst was getting to us, and we started sippin'.

At some point we noticed several beaver huts around the pond.

"i understand that the huts have several feet inside above the water level, so they can be dry inside the hut," said Zack.

"I'd like to see that," Elwud said.

"You wouldn't dare do that," challenged Zack.

"Challenge accepted!," I yelled.

I proceeded to disrobe down to my under drawers and I jumped into the water. I swam to the bottom of the hut, found the entrance, and went inside. Sure enough, at the top of the hut was about four feet of open space. At this point the shine began to wear off and the water turned to just short of freezng. Time to exit before hypo temperture set in. After twenty minutes I couldn't find the exit hole.

I yelled to cousin Zack to start dismantling the hub, which was not an easy task. Finally he got a hole large enough for me to get through, but not without multiple scratches all over my body. Fortunately, a half jug of shine reduced the pain. But the cold water had my body looking like a frozen popsicle.

Zack checks the coals from last night's fire and starts throwing a light coating of dirt over the coals, and then lays two blankets on top. "Get down on top of the blankets," he says, and then throws another blanket over me. After half an hour I could feel the blood moving through my veins. I got up, dressed and felt fine.

I thanked Zack and said, "Let's head home."

"What did we learn from this trip?" asked Zack.

"Well sir, first of don't sip too much homemade brew, and second, do not enter a beaver hut in sub zero temperature!"

Two days later we reached home, looking beat, with no fish.

"Did you have a good time?" asked Velma. "Did you eat all the fish?"

Before I could shut him up, Zack blurted out the whole story and got the full Velma 'you idiot' look.

Nothing more was said. Zack headed home, and I fell asleep on the couch.

Reader Commentary

Thank You

On behalf of Boy Scout Troop 299 and Cub Scout Pack 299 of Walpole, I would like to thank the following sponsors that supported our recent concert fundraiser:

Jancewicz & Son, Steve Dalessio, Firstday Cottage, Matt Beam Plumbing & Heating, Graves Trucking, Walpole Creamery, Lt. Col. Charles Street, Dan's Water Treatment Service, E.E. Houghton Co., Inc., Walpole Veterinary Hospital, and Northcott Wood Turning.

We also thank all the people who donated at the concert and bought food at the concession.

And special thanks to George Wells who is a very generous friend and supporter of the scouting program in Walpole.

We appreciate the continuing support of all these companies and individuals for the youth of our community.

– Scott Northcott



FROM THE CLARION...

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

One Year Ago (August, 2022) – Trash Talk - The paper shredder has been seeing a good deal of action, and we are approaching enough shredded office paper to make our first shredded paper bale. Shredded office paper bales will be sold to help offset the cost of the shredder.

Three Years Ago (August, 2020) – Library Director, Justine Rogers Fafara, has left Walpole's Bridge Memorial Library to work at the library in Newport, NH. Justine came to the library in 2015 and fearlessly led the library through expansion of our programming and building.

Five Years Ago (August, 2018) – July 2, 2018, was a significant day in the annals of the George L. Hooper Property on Prospect Hill Road when Hooper Trustees, Steve Dalessio and Peggy Pschirrer completed the historic sale of Hooper properties to Fred Dill.

Seven Years Ago (August, 2016) – Southern Vermont Idol - Daniel Hartigan of Walpole and Elizabeth Varone of North Walpole have been competing against entrants in the amateur singing contest from Bellows Falls and southern Vermont and New Hampshire.

Nine Years Ago (August, 2014) – The Walpole Players' 5th Annual Summer Theater Camp, under the astute leadership of Jim Skofield and Carolyn Norback, was held the first two weeks of July. For the first time, Skofield and Norback were assisted by "junior counselors" who had attended camp in previous years.

Eleven Years Ago (August, 2012) - A number of black bear sightings were documented. The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department estimates that the black bear population of the state is around 5000 animals inhabiting virtually the entire state.

MILESTONES

Passed

Robert E. Harrington

June 30, 1943 - June 20, 2023

Jacob Thomas Guggisberg

January 19, 1994 - June 22, 2023



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Memorial Day to Labor Day 2023

Please join the Fall Mountain Friendly Meals (Meals on Wheels) in raising \$10,000 between May 29 and September 4, 2023! The Family Foundation will match donations dollar for dollar up to \$10,000. Because we are a 100% all volunteer organization, all money donated will go to providing food for local families! The people who benefit from your generosity are so very grateful for your help.

Three Ways to Donate:

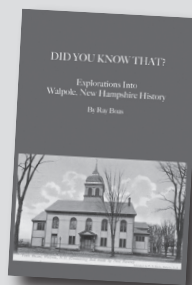
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OR MADE IN PERSON AT:
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Langdon, NH

OR MADE BY CREDIT CARD AT:
<https://www.fallmountainfoodshelf.org/>

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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
September deadline: August 22

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

The Walpole Clarion on-line:
thewalpoleclarion.com

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

August already? And, 2023 already? Today I looked at a certificate on the wall in my bookshop. Thirty-three years ago this month, I attended the *Out-of-Print and Antiquarian Book Market Seminar* in Denver. I had been dabbling with books part-time, issuing my first catalogue ten years earlier, but I became a full-time bookseller following my retirement from the US Navy Supply Corps, January 1990. I had promised myself this seminar.

Even before becoming a teenager, I was collecting books. I had my first printing press and a complete photo darkroom at age 11. I "worked" in my childhood basement hour upon hour. I decided I wanted to print a newspaper for the kids at school, but quickly realized I could not do so with a small 3x5 inch letterpress. But, not discouraged, my enjoyment with printing and photography continued. At the Navy Supply Corps School, then in Athens, Georgia, I became editor of the base newspaper. Later, while completing my post-graduate degree, I took a magazine writing course as an elective, and began getting articles published. These common threads have run though my life for decades - we need not say how many, but these threads combined bring you your **Clarion**.

My daughter and grandson stopped by yesterday, and he was asking about various collections and things I have. I told him that if he has an interest to follow it and expand upon it. One never knows where it will end up. While reviewing the third draft of your August **Clarion**, and rereading Karin's *Following My Passion*, it hit me again. What matters is doing something that brings you, and hopefully others, pleasure. Stay well and enjoy.

— Ray Boas, Publisher

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Final 2023 Concerts on the Green

**Savings Bank of Walpole
to Host Community Cookout**

**Sunday, August 13 • 5:30 PM
On the Green in Walpole**

Followed at 6:30 PM by the final Summer Concert
featuring The Residential Band.

"Our Community Cookouts are SBW's way
of thanking our customers, friends,
and neighbors in the Monadnock Region,"

– Mark Bodin, President, Savings Bank of Walpole

AUGUST

6 • Brattleboro American Legion Band

13 • The Residential Band