



## DISTANT HILL GARDENS WINS AWARD



Distant Hill Gardens and Nature Trail is thrilled to announce that their 'Distant Hill Accessible Nature Trail and Pavilion Project' has won a \$50,000 award from Kubota Tractor Company as part of the Kubota Hometown Proud Grant Program. The local nonprofit, whose mission is to "make nature and the outdoors accessible to everyone", received the most votes during the two-week public voting period in early August, securing the top prize.

The \$50,000 award will be used to significantly enhance accessibility at Distant Hill, making nature more inclusive for all community members.

Plans include purchasing a solar generator to supply power to the new pavilion, a monitor and portable stand for educational classes and presentations, LED lights, construction of an equipment storage space in the pavilion, and wheelchair-accessible picnic tables. The funds will also cover the gravel needed to extend the wheelchair and stroller-accessible trail by an additional half-mile.

- Continued Page 3

### From Peggy's Desk Walpole Power Committee

The Walpole Power Committee, a small group of dedicated volunteers, continues to serve this community by meeting and planning, and promoting programs will ensure that Walpole residences and businesses enjoy the lowest possible electric rates and services. The group consists of Pau Looney, Chair, Dennis Marcum, Rod Bouchard, Andrew Dey and Peter Dexter. I provide support services to the committee.

In March 2022, at Town Meeting, residents approved an Electric Aggregation Plan which permitted the Town to join CPCNH, Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire. Rod Bouchard as a Cheshire County employee sat on the organizing

- Continued Page 13

### Planting Ahead

On Sunday, September 22, the first four trees were planted on Walpole Town property by the Walpole Conservation Commission (WCC). Previously, tree maintenance and replacements were under the auspices of the Selectboard. Last year, the Selectboard referred a proposal to the Conservation Commission that a volunteer WCC group be established to assist reviewing trees on Town of Walpole properties, to include North Walpole, Drewsville and outlying areas.

On August 7, 2023, the WCC agreed to establish a tree sub-group to assess the condition of Walpole's trees and develop plans to ensure that the beauty and charm of treed spaces in Walpole will continue.

- Continued Page 3

### NEW HAMPSHIRE GENERAL ELECTION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Register to Vote  
Absentee Ballots  
Voting Day

Procedure Details see page 13

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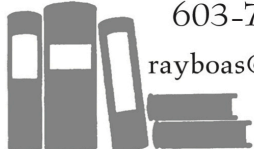


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## Study Updates

### Police Station School Withdrawal

An informational meeting was held September 19 at the Town Hall to update residents on the Walpole School Withdrawal Study Committee Findings and the Police Station Project. There were 57 in audience, and, if you missed this evening, a similar presentation will be given November 20.

Selectboard member Steve Dalessio discussed the proposed new police station advising that each committee member has brought special talents to the group. There are a number of reasons driving the need for a new station including the need for an adequate work environment for the protection of our officers. The interview and holding rooms in the current building are not secure, evidence storage and vehicle impound space are inadequate, and there is no proper entrance and egress for police cruisers.

The property for the proposed site, about 2.6 acres adjoining the south end of Shaw's Plaza, should be owned by the Town by the end of the year, the purchase having been approved at Town Meeting this past March. Current cost projections place the facility (of 8,500 square feet) and land at \$7 to \$7.5 million, with fifty percent coming from grants and donations. With planning still in the works the construction may not begin until 2026 or 2027. The size of the structure was questioned for a community of Walpole's size. Dalessio invites any community group which wishes a presentation and to provide inputs to arrange that with him.

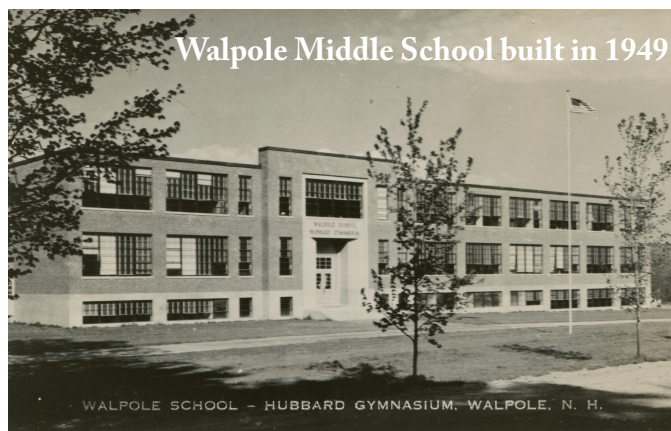
Also at the Town Meeting in March, with an

overwhelming vote of 174 to 11, the Selectboard convened a group to study how Walpole might achieve greater control over education of our preK-8 students. The emphasis is on quality education for our students. Selectboard member Carolyn Vose led the presentation and discussion of the Withdrawal Committee. The committee was "unanimous in saying it does not make sense financially or programmatically for Walpole preK-8 to remain in FMRSD (Fall Mountain Regional School District)." Besides the key point to have control over our students' learning, it was pointed out that Walpole contributes 29% of FMRSD's student body while contributing 42% of the tax base for that education.

Concluding their report, "Therefore, the School Withdrawal Study Committee recommends the Selectboard issue a Warrant Article for vote to form an official committee to pursue withdrawal from FMRSD." This would be a Warrant Article in 2025. Should that Warrant Article pass, the new committee will do its work, and its will findings go to the State for ultimate approval. The end result possibly being Walpole will have its own school board to make decisions for our preK-8 student population.

A lively discussion and question period followed. The next informational meeting about the Police Station and the Walpole School Withdrawal Study will be held in the Town Hall, Wednesday, November 20 starting at 7 pm.

-Ray Boas





Community Tree Planting East Side of Common  
September 22  
-photo Rutherford Witthus



-Planting from Page 1

Aware of a great deal of talent and resident interest in preserving our treed heritage, the WCC asked for volunteers to begin planning, planting and preserving.

Planting of the first four trees on the east side of the Common -two red and two sugar maples – is now underway. This is just the beginning of work by this ongoing group of volunteers. If you wish to help in any way, contact Peter Palmiotto (co-chair Walpole Conservation Commission) at [ppalmiotto@antioch.edu](mailto:ppalmiotto@antioch.edu). If you wish to make a tax-deductible monetary donation for the preservation and planting of trees throughout Town property, your check may be made out to the Town of Walpole, and in the memo block indicate "Walpole Tree Fund". Donations may be sent to the Selectboard Office, dropped off there, or given to a member of the WCC.

-Ray Boas

-Distant Hill from Page 1

This award is a testament to the power of community support. We are deeply grateful to everyone who voted (or tried to vote!) for our project. Your enthusiasm and commitment have helped Distant Hill take a significant step forward in making our trails and programs accessible to all.

The Kubota Hometown Proud Grant Program supports community

revitalization projects nationwide, Distant Hill Gardens and Nature Trail's project was chosen for its focus on inclusion and outdoor accessibility.

Distant Hill invites the public to visit and experience the improvements made possible by this generous grant. The organization remains committed to continuing its mission of creating a welcoming and accessible outdoor environment for people of all abilities.

- Michael Nerrie

RIVER VALLEY  
SENIORS AT HOME

A FRIENDLY VOICE  
ON THE OTHER END  
OF THE TELEPHONE



## When Home is Where You Want To Be

Join River Valley Seniors at Home and Home, Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services for a discussion of local resources and benefits available through Medicare for people who want to age in place.

**Saturday, October 12 at 2:00 pm, at the Walpole Library**

Featured speakers will be Tasha Palmieri and Susan Ashworth from HCS. Older adults and those who would like to know more about services for their family members are especially encouraged to attend

The presentation is **free and open to everyone.**

For more information, contact Tara Sad – 603-756-4861, or [tara.eric@gmail.com](mailto:tara.eric@gmail.com)



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## Craving Connection? Send Some Sunshine

Have you been to Sending Sunshine yet? If not, you are missing out. This joyful community event is hosted by Walpole's own Priscilla Reynolds and has occurred four days each month since June.

If you've never been, here's what you can expect: First, choose the day and time that works for you, gather some friends or head over solo, and just drop in — no appointment or registration necessary. When you enter, you'll instantly feel at home in The Gathering Place's comfortable and cozy confines. The next thing you'll notice is a beautiful array of postcards and greeting cards, all crafted by local artisans. Select some cards to send to your friends and family or choose from the blank cardstock and crafting materials provided to create your own works of art.

Once you have your card(s), you can peruse Priscilla's delicious refreshments and then settle down at the family-style table to write your notes. When you're finished, Priscilla

Walpolean Sarah Mann (in tie dye) led curious and creative kiddos through a marbelized print-making craft in August.



will provide you with the necessary postage, and you can place a flower sticker on the map to show where in the country — or in the world — your cards will be going. Then, if you're like me and my kids, you can grab a few more refreshments and hang out for a bit to chat with old friends and meet some neighbors you don't yet know.

The entire event, from the cards to the postage to the refreshments, is

generously offered completely free of charge by Priscilla. She does it all out of the goodness of her heart, and for the joy of seeing people make connections and send some sunshine out into the world.

After enjoying Sending Sunshine with my kids in June and July, I reached out to Priscilla and offered to lead a card-making craft in August. Over the course of an hour, a dozen or so artists, from grandkids to grandparents, played with liquid watercolor, shaving foam, and toothpicks, creating marbelized masterpieces to mail to family and friends. It was a joyfully messy time and everyone left with smiles on their faces (and maybe a little ink on their hands).

Whether you're looking to connect with your community or a far-flung friend, Sending Sunshine is the place to be. Hope to see you there!

- Sarah Mann

You are invited to participate in

## ***Sending Sunshine***

a local movement to connect with others  
by sending greeting cards through the mail.

at **The Gathering Place** — 14 Westminster Street — Walpole, NH

**11:00 am to 4:00 pm for all dates**

**Wednesday, October 16 - Thursday, October 17**

**Thursday, October 24 - Friday, October 25**

**Cards designed by artisans will be available.**

**Bring** names and addresses of people to whom you would like to send greetings

**Come** anytime for:

*Artwork and correspondence: Select or design cards. Postage provided.*

*Refreshments and Fellowship*

**Walk** to the Walpole Post Office and **mail** your cards.

Host: Priscilla Reynolds — Questions may be directed to [preyns@yahoo.com](mailto:preyns@yahoo.com)

Visit the NEW Town Website  
at  
<https://www.walpolenh.us/>

**Town of**  
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— New Hampshire —



# Walpole Worships

First Congregational  
Sunday, 10:00 am  
Bible Study Wednesday, Zoom, 4-5pm  
<https://walpolenhucc.org/>

St Peter's Church - North Walpole  
Mass Schedule: Friday 8:30 am  
Saturday 4:00 pm - Sunday 8:30 am

St. John's Episcopal  
Sunday, 10:00 am  
<http://stjohnswalpole.org>

Walpole Unitarian  
Sunday, 10:00 am  
<https://walpoleuuchurch.wixsite.com/walpoleunitarian>

River Valley Church  
Sunday, 10:00 am  
38 Elm St., Walpole  
[rivervalleychurch.com](http://rivervalleychurch.com)

**For Service Schedules, or more information,  
visit the church websites.**

## Crop Hunger Walk

The annual Walpole CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Saturday, October 12.

For more than 20 years, churches in Walpole have collaborated to organize the walk to raise funds to alleviate hunger locally and to assist with sustainable farming and clean water practices in the U.S. and throughout the world. Please join us again this year with your friends and family to support the effort with your steps and/or your donations. Registration starts at 9:15 am and the walk begins at 9:30 am in front of the First Congregational Church on The Common. The route takes you around Walpole - approximately 3+ miles, with an opportunity to shorten, if needed.

To participate in the Walk, to donate, or find out more about the CROP Walk, go to the website (shown

below) and register. If you aren't associated with a church, you may sign up to walk as an individual, family, or friends' group.

If you are unable to participate in the walk, but would like to donate, please consider donating as an individual or associated group with a donation by check the day of the walk, or by using the secure link below. Walkers are encouraged to invite friends and family to support them and use the website to donate once registered. Last year's Walpole walk raised over \$12,000. One fourth of the total (\$3,000+) was sent to our designated beneficiary, the Fall Mountain Food Shelf and Fall Mountain Happy Meals.

Here is this year's link: <https://crophungerwalk.org/walpolenh>. Questions? Please call Eryn Sellarole at 603-313-9120.

-Wendy Harty

## Harvest Food Sale

The Walpole Unitarian Church will hold its annual Harvest Food Sale outside the Post Office on October 19, from 9 - 11:15. Come and choose from our delicious homemade items - both sweet and savory. We'll have things you can take home for lunch or supper, or save in your freezer for later, plus goodies you can take on the road if you're traveling. We look forward to seeing you at our table! Come early for the best choices.

- Wendy Harty

## Blessing of the Animals

Do you have a living or deceased pet for whom you would like a blessing? From 3:00 to 4:00 pm on Sunday, October 6, the Rev. Richard Malmberg (UCC) and Father Fred Chisolm (St. John's) will be on the Walpole Common blessing each individual animal. It will be a nondenominational blessing for those living and those mourned.

All types of animals are welcome. Please bring your living animal in a suitable "restraint".

This year, our donations will go to raise money for Heifer International, a global nonprofit that supports sustainable agriculture via distribution of animals such as chickens, goats, pigs, as well as via programs teaching good farming practices in Asia, Africa and the Americas. Recipients are expected to "pass on the gift" by donating animal offspring as well as sharing skills and knowledge with other community families. A truly worthy cause. Your cash or check (made payable to St. John's, with 'Heifer Project' on the memo line) is tax deductible.

There will be treats for children at the Heifer donation table. All pets and owners of all ages are welcome to join in this family and community event where we share the joy of and gratitude for our animals. Hope to see you there.

- Marilyn Wilking

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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.

## October at the Library

**Community Conversation.** Saturday, October 5 at 10:00 am, North Walpole Branch.

**Walpole Reads.** Book Discussion of *The Humans* with Alice Fogel. Monday, October 7, 6 pm, Main Library. Sign up at the library and pick up a copy of the book.

**Lunch and a Movie.** Bring your own lunch and watch a movie on the big screen at the library.  
Thursday, October 10, 1 pm at the Main Library: *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*.  
Thursday, October 24, 1 pm at the Main Library: *On the Basis of Sex*.

**Celebrate Smokey the Bear's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a Teddy Bear Sleepover at the Main Library!**  
Friday, October 11 – Saturday, October 12. Bring your stuffies to the library at 5 pm on Friday for the celebration and then tuck them in for the night. Saturday morning, you will return to the library to pick up your stuffies and watch a video of all the fun they had on their sleepover.

**'When Home is Where You Want to Be',** a presentation by River Valley Seniors at Home and HHCS. Join us for a discussion of local resources and home care benefits available through Medicare. Saturday, October 12, 2 pm, Main Library.



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Registration/ Sign in will take place outside during the day of the event, starting at 7:30am. Rain or shine.

Please bring list of up to date medications.

Free Dental Day is intended to provide free dental services to the community without dental insurance and limited income.

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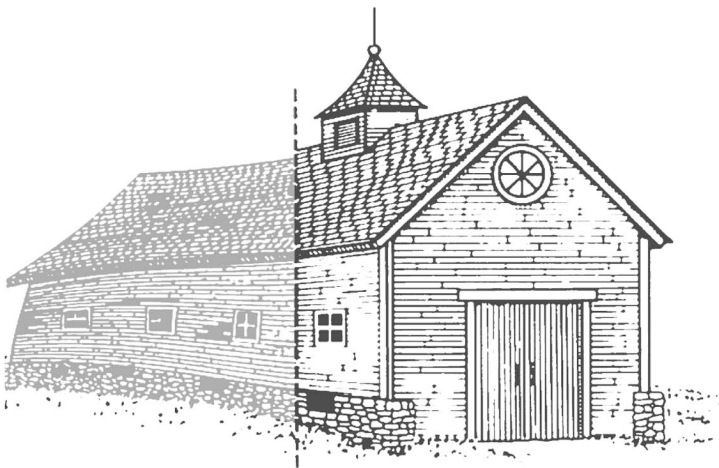


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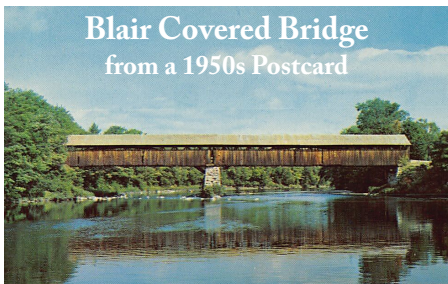
## Did You Know That...?

Explorations into Walpole People, Places & History with Ray Boas

... in my research for this festive months I have not been able to find any documented history of hauntings, ghosts, or paranormal activity in our historic village of Walpole - nor in North Walpole or Drewsville? Much paranormal activity has been documented in New Hampshire and across the river from us, but, here even for a believer, accepting of the out of the ordinary, I can find nary a word.

But that will not stop me from sharing some of what I have discovered of New Hampshire hauntings in hotels and inns, a covered bridge, a lake, a country store, former mansions, a lighthouse, cemeteries, the University of New Hampshire, and even on hikes.

A Covered Bridge haunted? Yes. The Blair Covered Bridge in Compton,



NH, connecting NH Route 175, US Route 3, and I-93, is believed cursed. Originally built in 1829, Lem Parker, claimed that strange voices told him to burn down the bridge. Bad luck

continued for the bridge over the years, including damage by Irene. Cursed, or a string of bad luck? You may wish to visit and investigate more.

After dark stay away from Bow Lake, located in both Strafford and Rockingham counties, north of Northwood. After dark there are reports of things that are not the fun normally found at a lake. No reports of death or murder but calls for help come from the lake. No one has ever been found in need of help. Strange lights have occurred, and many witnesses have reported the sky appearing to be daylight from midnight to 3:15 am.

Nearby in Chesterfield you must visit the remaining stairway of Madame Sherri's Castle. But first do read the stories of her fascinating life. Construction of the castle began in 1931. In 1961, she became a ward of Brattleboro, and vandals burned the castle in 1962. At her castle she hosted joyous parties, often wild and full



of song and laughter. Many claim a spectral figure, yes Madame Sherri, will appear and slowly descend the staircase. Do visit the 513 acre Madame Sherri Forest to at least enjoy its trails, and maybe meet Madame Sherri.

Besides the Smuttynose Murder, the Isle of Shoals can claim many ghostly sitings on its nine islands in Maine and New Hampshire just off Portsmouth. Alright, really in Maine, north of Star Island, the Boon Island Lighthouse has at least two spirits. One simply runs up and down the stairs opening and closing doors, and the other, a sad lady dressed in white who wanders the island, may have come from the Isodore, a ghost ship wrecked in the area in 1843.

Probably the most New Hampshire spooky occurrences and sightings have been at the Mount Washington Hotel, and specifically of Carolyn Stickney in Room 314. Her husband, Joseph, built the hotel in 1902, but dying soon after, Carolyn married a French Prince, thus this, her room, is known as the Princess's Room, and still has her bed. Sightings abound throughout the hotel, many repeatedly reported by hotel personnel. The show 'Ghost Hunters' visited the

## FLORENTINE FILMS

Making films in Walpole  
for 40 Years.

—continued next page





**Announcing  
a special event every Saturday  
from October 5 through October 19  
at the Walpole Heritage Museum**

Please join us every Saturday through October 19 for a fascinating discussion, demonstration, or reenactment, in a sociable setting.

**Walking Tour of Walpole** – October 5 – Bill Ranauro, local author and architectural historian, will lead a tour through the center of the village of Walpole. **Meet at 11:00 am** at the Walpole Historical Society sign at 32 Main Street. After the tour, return to the museum for cider and donuts.

**The History of Chase's Mill in Mill Hollow** – October 12 – Bob Brown will visit the Walpole Historical Society **at 12:30 pm** to recount the remarkable history of this revitalized local landmark at Lake Warren in Alstead.

**Meet the Portraits** – October 19 – Tricia Houstoun will lead a tour through the museum at **12:30 pm** to introduce visitors to the museum's many portraits. The subjects and media vary widely, from military men to matrons to children in media ranging from paintings in oil, sketches in pastel, to daguerreotypes, and snapshots. Each one has a story already known or yet to be discovered!

Visiting hours for the museum at 32 Main Street are Saturdays from noon to 4:00 pm. Come visit for the special events and a closer look at our surprisingly varied collections and an opportunity for an engaging discussion!

The Walpole Historical Society's museum is free and open to the public and all are welcome. For more information, visit [www.WalpoleHistory.com](http://www.WalpoleHistory.com). Please plan to join us!

—DYKT continued

Mount Washington Hotel in 2008 discovering and documenting its paranormal activity. They visited the Princess's Room, and the towers of the hotel, there finding a hotbed of paranormal activity. Alas, I have explored the towers (finding a door unlocked), and a friend has stayed in Room 314. Sadly, neither of us have anything unusual to report.

But we need to get Walpole on the spectral map - any hauntings you know of?



Princess Carolyn's Suite Room 314  
- as pictured on Omni Hotels Website

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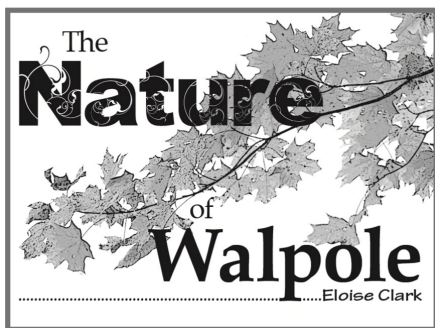
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Early one summer morning, not many years ago, we looked out our living room window to see a black bear sitting on its haunches on the edge of our field. We watched as it grabbed branches of a choke cherry bush, vigorously biting them. The bear was trying to consume the small fruit on the twigs. While the bush took a beating, it did recover. This spring it blossomed profusely.

Choke cherry (*Prunus virginiana*) can become a shrub as large as twenty feet tall. Its relation, the black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), is a fast growing tree that can reach eighty feet tall. Both are members of the rose family and have small white flowers with five petals. Several dozen flowers are clustered in a tube-shaped arrangement called a raceme. These attract myriad small pollinators who eagerly gather the pollen and sip the tiny dram of nectar each bloom provides.

Cherry fruit is considered a drupe. Under the thin skin is a layer of fleshy fruit surrounding a "stone" containing

the seed. Peaches and plums are examples of drupes.

Choke cherry is sometimes called "bitter berry" for its tart and acrid taste. Even so, it's a favorite of not only bear, foxes and rodents but more than twenty-five species of birds. These include grouse, thrushes, cedar waxwings, catbirds and woodpeckers.

Wildlife digests the fruit and passes the undigested seeds through their systems, along with a bit of fertilizer. A meal gained and seeds dispersed makes cherries an important link in forest ecosystems. Wildlife biologists consider the drupes "soft mast" as opposed to "hard mast" such as acorns and butternuts. All are critical to wildlife.

Choke cherries are an important addition to Indigenous diets as an ingredient in pemmican. They make a tart jelly, too. The inner bark and roots are dried for medicinal purposes to treat colds, fever and coughs. Rabbits will gnaw the nutritious inner bark as well as twigs. Deer, too, will browse on the twigs and foliage.

The leaves nourish a host of butterflies and moth caterpillars including the tiger swallowtail, sphinx moths and large silk moths. On the black cherry, we see tent caterpillars in the spring and fall webworm caterpillars in autumn. Watch

for their distinctive silken enclosures. Although unsightly, the tree does recover from these infestations.

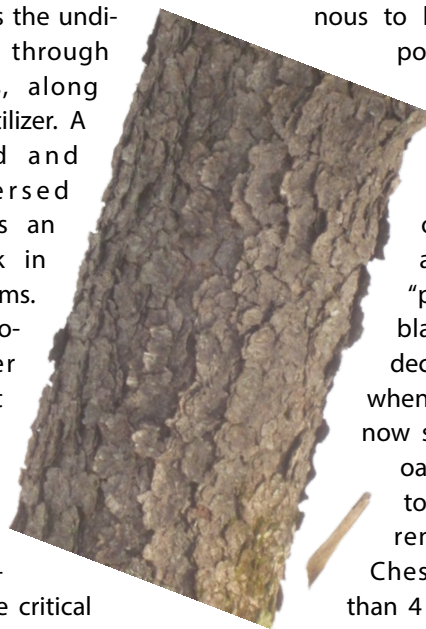
If you scratch a cherry twig, you'll notice a faint almond scent. Both leaves and seeds produce hydrogen cyanide. It's especially potent in spring foliage but diminishes in toxicity by season's end. The sweet flavor of wilted leaves can be very poisonous to livestock. Ten to twenty pounds of wilted foliage can kill a horse!

Cherries find success growing along forest margins or roadsides. They often join white birch and aspen in sunny clearings as "pioneer" trees. However, black cherries can live for decades. They are still growing when the forest has matured, now surrounded by maples and oaks. Black cherries can grow to prodigious sizes. The current County Champion in Chesterfield measures more than 4 feet in diameter. Walpole once hosted a state champion tree.

The easiest way to identify a black cherry is by its distinctive bark. As it matures, the bark splits into small, dark gray scales. Look for "burnt potato chips" plastered onto the trunk of the tree. If you pry up one of the chips, you'll discover the reddish brown, cherry color on the underside. You'll often see burls, swollen lumps on the limbs or trunk of a mature tree.

Although black cherry wood is brittle, the species is prized for its fine wood. Its tight grain and mahogany color make it ideal for furniture, cabinetry, paneling, flooring, gunstocks and musical instruments. A polished cherry table is a handsome sight to see.

With its wispy canopy of leaves, the black cherry is not a prime shade tree. But its value for wildlife and quality lumber is undisputed. See if you can spot this important member of our forested landscape, so abundant in Walpole.



Choke Cherry Blossoms

Above: Black Cherry Bark



## Age in Place RVSAH Info Session

"When Home is Where You Want to Be", a discussion of local resources and home care benefits available through Medicare, will be presented by River Valley Seniors at Home on Saturday, October 12 at 2:00 pm, at the Walpole Library. Featured speakers will be Tasha Palmieri and Susan Ashworth from Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services (HCS). The presentation will discuss what services are available for people who want to "age in place," and what Medicare coverage is available for home care. The presentation is free and open to everyone. Older adults and those who would like to know more about services for their family members are especially encouraged to attend.

Tasha Palmieri is a Care Transitions Specialist at HCS. She has eight years' experience talking with families about Medicare benefits after a hospital stay. Susan Ashworth, Director of Community Relations at HCS, has over forty years' experience with the agency. Come to this presentation to learn what is available for your care from the experts!

Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services is a Medicare Certified not for profit home care agency, serving area communities since 1907. HCS provides skilled care services including visiting nurses, rehabilitation therapies and medical social work services to residents of all ages.

River Valley Seniors at Home is a non-profit membership organization that has served residents of Walpole for over six years. RVSAH's mission is to enable senior citizens in Walpole and its nearby towns to remain in their own homes and benefit from continuing engagement in their community.

For more information, contact Tara at 603-756-4861. Be sure to come, and bring your friends.

-Susan Ashworth and Tara Sad



## SALON 488

In a town known for its quaint charm and strong community ties, Salon 488 has emerged as a fresh beacon in the local beauty scene. Since opening in its new location, the salon has quickly gained popularity among residents looking for personalized hair services.

Salon 488 offers a comprehensive range of hair care services, tailored to meet the unique needs of each client. Owner Miranda Michaud has fostered a talented team of stylists who are passionate about their craft and dedicated to ensuring each visit is a positive experience.

The space itself is designed with comfort in mind, featuring modern décor and ample natural light. Miranda emphasizes the importance of creating a serene atmosphere that allows clients to unwind. "We want everyone who walks through our doors to feel welcomed. Our goal is to provide not just services, but an experience that enhances wellbeing."

What sets Salon 488 apart is its commitment to sustainability. The salon uses eco-friendly products and disposable methods appealing to a growing demographic that prioritizes environmentally conscious choices. The focus on green practices resonates with many customers who are increasingly aware of their impact on the planet.

As Salon 488 continues to flourish, its influence on Walpole's beauty landscape is undeniable. With a focus on quality service, sustainability, and community, it is setting new standards in the beauty industry. For those in search of a rejuvenating experience, Salon 488 is quickly becoming the place to be in Walpole.

**Miranda Michaud**

**593 Whitcomb Rd, Walpole NH  
(Behind Aubuchon hardware)**

**(603) 762-1506 — Salon-488.com**

## Meet Your Republican Candidates Reception

The Walpole Town Republican Committee (WTRC) will be sponsoring a "Meet Your Republican Candidates Reception" at 1 and 11 Main Street in Walpole Village on Thursday October 3rd from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Republican Candidates seeking to represent Walpole in various local, county and state offices up for election in November will be in attendance.

The informal picnic/refreshment format for the reception will offer Walpole voters a chance to personally meet their slate of Republican candidates. Campaign materials will be available, including campaign yard signs for voters who want to show their support for their favorite Republican Candidates.

A small donation to the WTRC is suggested (\$5) to offset the costs of hosting this candidates' reception and to provide financial support to our NH Republican Candidates up and down the ballot. Please come and be involved and show your support for our Republican Candidates in November

To RSVP or ask any questions about this event, please RSVP to [WalpoleTRC@gmail.com](mailto:WalpoleTRC@gmail.com)

- Leroy Watson



**Claudia Stewart**

for

**Cheshire County Commissioner**

Website: [claudiastewart.com](http://claudiastewart.com)

Email: [claudiastewart603@gmail.com](mailto:claudiastewart603@gmail.com)

Paid for and authorized by Claudia Stewart

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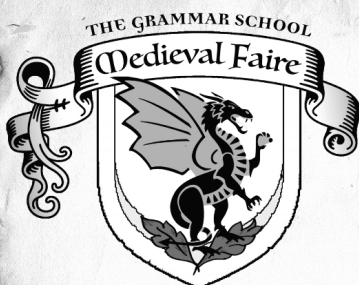
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Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>  
10am to 3pm

Admission is free

All-day ride passes  
and individual tickets  
are available

**Ecumenical Service** —On the warm sunny Sunday of September 8th, members of the Congregational Church and St. John's Church held a joint service on the Walpole Common. Pastor Richard Malmberg and Father Fred Chisolm led the service with active participation from both congregations. A delicious coffee hour extended our time together.

- Marilyn Wilking





-Power Committee from Page 1

committee for CPCNH starting in 2019. Paul Looney became a member of the first Board of Directors of CPCNH with Dennis Marcum as an alternate. Walpole was among the first towns to join the Coalition. Today there are over 60 towns in the Coalition.

We have, since the beginning, enjoyed lower rates for electricity than rates charged by Liberty Utilities, our local supplier. Liberty continues to distribute our electrical service and to bill us. Effective August 1, 2024, our electric rate is 8.6 cents per kilowatt hour- a Granite Basic rate which is in effect until January 31, 2025. Customers can select 100% clean energy at 12 cents per kWh; 50%, at 10 cents per kWh; or Granite Plus which is 33% renewable energy at 9.3 cents per kWh. Liberty is currently 10.976 cents per kWh.

The Power Committee, in addition to monitoring electric rates, presented a Warrant at the March 2024 Town Meeting to add solar panels to the new Pole Barn at the Town Recycling Center. The Warrant passed, and Solar

Dave was contracted to install the panels which now supply the Recycling Center with all its power and a small percentage of the power used by Town Hall. The renewable energy credits produced by the solar system are going to be purchased by CPCNH rather than a commercial broker. The Selectboard will approve that contract which results in a reduction in our cost of installation. Our next effort for solar installations is to research and consider solar at the Highway Department. We are continually investigating three phase power for Bensonwood and our Industrial Center.

Walpole as a municipality has a contract with Constellation, a utility company in Texas, which has given the town a cheaper rate for electricity for several years. That contract comes to an end in November, so we will be urging the Selectboard to join CPCNH which will provide even cheaper rates.

The Power Committee recently sponsored a public meeting, BUTTON UP, September 11, 2024, with NHSAVES. Ted Stiles led the workshop which focused on making our houses more energy efficient by house

weatherization such as air sealing, insulating and how to find rebates on new technologies. Alas, only ten people attended but Mr. Stiles, who does energy audits, gave us all tips of how to keep the heat in this winter and save on energy costs. NHSAVES web site has links to rebate programs for new appliances and weatherizing your house. Check out that website if you are about to buy a new refrigerator or install new windows or need to weatherize your house.

- Peggy Pschirrer



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## VOTING PROCEDURES

### REGISTRATION

Register at the Town Clerk's Office up until October 16.

After the 16th new voters register at the polls on election day.

When registering to vote (at Clerk's Office or at the Polls) bring the following:

Government issued photo ID (such as a driver's license or passport)

Proof of residency if not on photo ID (such as a lease agreement, vehicle registration, or utility bill)

### ABSENTEE BALLOTS

If you will be absent from Walpole on Election Day (or have a medical or religious commitment that prevents you from going to the polls) you may request an absentee ballot from the Town Clerk up to and including the day before the election.

When absentee ballots are received from the Secretary of State, the Town Clerk will send the ballot to you. Absentee ballots must be returned either by USPS mail by 5:00 pm on election day; or in person by 5:00 pm the day before election to the Clerk or Deputy Clerk. They may NOT be delivered to any other person or slipped under the office door. (Further instructions available from Town Clerk)

### VOTING DAY

Bring and show your NH driver's license or other government issued photo ID to vote.

Procedure Details provided by Walpole Town Clerk, Town Moderator and Supervisor of Checklist  
For full information visit the NH Secretary of State Website for Voters - <https://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/voters>

## Grange Harvest Dinner

It's back again – the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Dinner, sponsored by the Walpole Grange #125. We all know what fantastic cooks our Grange members are, and their turkey dinner with all the fixings is legendary..



This feast will be available to you on Saturday, October 5, from 4:30 to 6:00 pm, for pickup only at the north widow of the Congregational Church on the Common.

The dinner is so popular, tickets are required. They are \$15 each, and are available at Galloway Real Estate, 427 Main Street; or at Jake's Market, 51 Main Street. Supply is limited, so get your tickets now! Proceeds will go to the Fall Mountain Scholarship Fund.

Get the holiday season off to an early, and delicious, start! For more information, contact Kathy Yardley at 603-313-1443.

- Tara Sad

## Prize Pumpkins

I have been devouring "seed by seed" *PUMPKIN: THE CURIOUS HISTORY OF AN AMERICAN ICON* by Cindy Ott. So much I wish to share, and will in the next thirty or so October issues of the *CLARION*. But let's talk size first. The first competition giant pumpkins were grown by William Warnock of Ontario, Canada. His first record was 365 pounds exhibited at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. The race began with growers documenting the lineage of prize seeds. So many factors come into play leading to the current record of 2,749 pounds set in October 10, 2023, by Minnesota horticulture teacher Travis Gienger. Planted on April 10, he earned a prize of \$30,000 after spending about \$15,000 on his gourd's care and feeding.



## Thank you, Janet!

**To care is human. To volunteer, divine.** Janet Wilson has given her time, energy, and extraordinary spirit to Kurn Hattin Homes for Children for nearly 30 years. Her knowledge, support, and guidance have had a positive impact on numerous lives here, especially in our music program.

Starting as a volunteer reading bedtime stories to Kurn Hattin children, Janet became a member of our Board of Incorporators in 1996, and was then asked to join our Board of Trustees in 1998. She was named President of the Board in 2016.

Throughout her time at our residential home and school for

kids whose families face difficult circumstances, Janet has been a role model and leader—not only for the children, but for the staff and volunteers who see her unwavering dedication, work ethic, reliability, and genuine enthusiasm for our mission to positively transform children's lives. She has certainly transformed ours.

.....  
**Janet, as you step back from your Board work,  
thank you for everything, from all of us.**

**Kurn Hattin Homes**  
*for Children*

kurnhattin.org







This past month the Hooper Institute received several meaningful gifts and donations. An eleven-year-old from Alstead sent us the money he earned this summer selling lemonade at local games, a Walpole couple included a note of thanks with their donation and a 5<sup>th</sup> grader told me the class on raptors was his favorite. I was moved by each of these. Working at the Hooper Institute also includes the walk-in visitors, people who knock on the front door to ask permission to look for metal bits on the property, to pick flowers for a special flower arrangement or apples for cider, and workers that need to finish measuring windows for upcoming renovations. Daily there are dog walkers, community gardeners and, when I open the back door, the woodworking shop turns into a dining hall for a garden potluck, or a place to prepare materials for programs, or a flower filled workshop for the Flower Festival.

This is all to say, in Walpole, the Hooper Institute is your place, and we as staff and volunteers are entrusted with its care. And we need you. Our Board is in need of new members. Our staff is looking for new Educators who are dedicated to our mission and love to teach kids. David Orr encourages "people to live well in their places". Donating, volunteering, attending an event or program; these are all ways to live well in our place. Consider joining us in one or many of our initiatives that lift up our town and support the Hooper Institute.

-Helen Dalbeck

## From the Town Moderator

The Town of Walpole has a great tradition of volunteers working on the elections. Our organized, efficient and dedicated election volunteers are what make our elections in town accurate, peaceful and cooperative events as we come together to register our votes on matters of our town, state and country. I will always be profoundly grateful for the many hours and the dozens of residents, from both major parties, that participate in our democratic process.

As we prepare for the November 5th election, PLEASE remember to register to vote and to VOTE on election day. Regardless of your political party or views, we will



need all registered voters to participate in our democratic process.

Our election procedures are strictly enforced and I can personally attest to the fact that no non-citizens have ever voted in an election during my tenure as Moderator. We were audited by the State during the most recent Primary and we passed the audit with flying colors. The auditor was present for the entire day, and through the entire tabulation and hand-count verification process. Our vote tabulating machine worked flawlessly and accurately for us and the results of that recount audit, performed in Concord by independent auditors, was virtually perfect.

Thank you all for making Walpole such a great community and please remember to vote on November 5th!

-Jack Wozmak - Town Moderator

## Women of Walpole

The new season for the Women of Walpole started on September 25 with a welcome back meeting. An introduction to planned programs for year was presented, dues were collected and new members welcomed.

In addition to our monthly meetings WOW has two community activities planned for this fall. Look for us at the Library Booksale on October 26, and take a chance to win our special raffle basket. Soon we will be announcing an exciting Holiday Home Tour with the proceeds benefitting worthy causes in the Walpole community.

Our October 16 meeting is dedicated to planning for a Holiday Home Tour. Join us at the home of Susan Johnson for an evening meeting starting at 6:30 pm. The entire meeting will be dedicated to planning our Holiday Home Tour. Volunteers will be needed for many different tasks before and on the days of the Holiday event. Please join us to learn how you can help. The program for our November meeting will be creating gifts from your home.

WOW welcomes any woman working or living in Walpole. New members are always welcome! Look for WOW on Facebook and in The Clarion.

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

- Susan Johnson

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## Walpole Fall Festival October 5th

By Elias Tsitsonis (8th grade)

The Walpole Parent Teacher Group is sponsoring a Fall Festival on Saturday, October 5th to be held at the Walpole Elementary School. It will be held from 10AM-2PM. This event is a way to raise funds and bring the community together for a great and fun time.



C&S Wholesale Grocers, The Joshua Druke Foundation, Bowman Dental, and Dog Daze are all some of the supporters for this year's festival. Some of the events this year include a foam cannon, dunk tank, face painting, carnival games and strength tests in the gymnasium, 50/50 raffle, and a silent auction. Food trucks will be there so that food can be purchased at the event. There is also a touch-a-truck opportunity for kids. Last year, these trucks included firetrucks, trucks of all kinds, tractors, and a school bus. Students, staff, and families are excited about the second annual event.

## WNBA Playoffs - Championship

By: Kelsey Beam and Finley Aube  
(6th grade)

The WNBA playoffs are held every year in late September. It starts off with two teams playing against each other for four games and then the team that wins 3 or out of the 5 games will move on to the next team. The team that loses out of the four games are out of the playoffs. That is what the first round of the playoffs looks like but after the first round of the playoffs the teams that made it

are going to play each other 9 games but the team that wins 5 out of the nine is still in the playoffs. The teams that did not are out. Before the playoffs the teams do not play their best players so they get hurt.

For example New York Liberty has the most wins it also means they are the hardest team to beat. The Connecticut Suns are second, so the liberty have to watch out for them too. All of these games that are played form a bracket. Some people can make a bracket to track how the teams are doing and what teams are still in it. At the end of it there will be two teams left and that is the championship game. Whatever team wins that game is the champion. Last year the Los Vegas Aces won the championship. The WNBA playoffs are very exciting. Hopefully you watch it this year!

## NHDI Yearlong Program

By: Sawyer Dumont (7th grade)

NHDI stands for New Hampshire Dance Institute. There's a Residency Program (which lasts for 1 week) and a Yearlong Program. I'm talking specifically about the Yearlong program. About 2 years ago, Walpole was given the opportunity to join the program. I was in Fifth Grade at the time, and lucky for me, I was allowed to join. I loved dancing. You don't have to instantly sign up, there's a sample class to try out (and it's free!). Every Tuesday (day of the week may change) NHDI dancers will gather in the Gym during Brain Power Hour (BPH) and dance together for about an hour. All of these classes together are pieces of a dance that will be shown at the Redfern Arts Center.

The Redfern Arts Center is in Keene, right next to Keene State College. Different schools from around the state will gather here in the week

before the big show and do practice rehearsals. The last week is very busy, because there are practices every night after school. You get to meet other dancers there, like the High-schoolers, Alstead, Charlestown, South Meadow School, Westmorland, and even more! It isn't just dancing either, It's like a storyline. There are themes for each year. 2022-2023 was Unearthed. It was about all of these bones and artifacts from the past - with each one, a story to tell. 2023-2024 was From Sea to Shining Sea. Two childhood friends are separated, but it's about what happened during their separation.

NHDI includes lots of physical activity, and you could meet new friends and build relationships. I think it's a great program, but let's hear from other people.



"I like it because of the music, meeting new people, the dances, and the dancers are AWESOME!" - Eli Fay, 8th grader.

"I love it! It's the best thing EVER!" - Krissalyn Mousley, 6th grader.

"I liked it. The big week was SUPER fun!" - Ila Sivret, 8th grader.

"I'm a supporter of NHDI because I think it's a wonderful program for kids. As a coordinator, I am thrilled to have the program here at Walpole. I have been a supporter for 20 years." - Amy Treat, School Counselor.

**PICTURE  
YOUR  
MESSAGE HERE**



## WES Talent Show

By Connor Heddon (8th grade)

There will be a talent show at the Walpole school this year. Students at WES will be participating in it. The auditions will be in early October first in the gym. The event will follow later in the fall, most likely November. More details to come. Middle schoolers will be doing impressions of presidents, past and present. Other acts include singing, comedy, and magic. Last year the talent show got students excited but then the talent show never happened. Students are taking the lead on getting this event started for the school. Hopefully starting more towards the beginning of the year will help organize a great show.

## Movie Review: The Underdogs

By Seamus Cahill and  
Will Lent (7th grade)

Have you seen the movie *The Underdogs*, with Snoop Dogg? Have you ever heard of it? If you haven't, here is a quick movie preview.

The cast of this movie includes, of course, rapper turned actor turned Olympic host turned everything else, Snoop Dogg. Also in the film are Tika Sumpter, Jonigan Booth, and Caleb Dixon. You should definitely consider watching this movie after that cast alone, but here is a quick summary of the movie.

At the beginning we see a flashback of a highschool football player who catches the game winning touchdown in the championship

game. It was one handed too. Then it cuts to him when he is older. He has to do community service. He is assigned to a rec football team that absolutely stinks. But he builds them up and they finally get to the finals. I will not say any more so I don't ruin it but this is a funny, feel-good movie. While it may be better suited for older kids/adults, it is worth watching, especially if you like the Snoop D-O Double G.

## The Transition from 5th grade to 6th grade

By Owen LaFayette (6th grade)

The transition from 5th grade to 6th grade actually isn't that hard. The reason it's not hard because this year after one of the 5th grade teachers left the whole way the school works because of the teacher moving schools. But the easy/relaxing part is that you can move around a lot and you don't just sit in the same room the whole day because if I'm being honest, it did not feel good just sitting all day in school. Moving around feels really good.

Right away, in social studies, we were assigned a book report on the first day of school due in April of next year. Some of the other projects we are working on include a project about cavemen and cavewomen (The Homo Habilis, Homo Erectus, Homo Neanderthalensis, And Homo Sapiens), a Memoir project and sentence structure in writing class, a science experiment with food coloring, and much more. It's been a great to start to school and sixth grade.

## WES Girls Soccer Starts Strong Season

By Addie Hearne and Lillian Vickers (7th grade)

This year's 2024 girls soccer team is a path to greatness so let's give you an inside report on our team. In our practices we work on ball skills and we do lots of drills but on Fridays we do this thing called "Fitness Friday." The whole practice we do conditioning and difficult drills like hill sprints, ladder runs, and last man up. Last man up is when your team runs in a single file line and the last person in line sprints to the front and then keeps repeating the process.

Craig Vickers, the head coach, is an incredible asset to the team. He is the foundation and structure that keeps the team together and Walpole couldn't ask for A better man for the job. He connects with the kids and shapes them into a future success in the sport.

The girls started the year with a narrow loss to Charlestown before winning, 2-0, against Dummerston in a coed game on September 19th.

## Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Medieval Faire Putney, VT

On October 19, take a trip back in time by traveling a mere 20 minutes across the river to The Grammar School's (TGS) annual Medieval Faire. For over 35 years, families have enjoyed the Faire's rides, games, beautiful crafts, and delicious food on the bucolic TGS campus.

My daughter is a first grader at TGS this year, and she and her younger brother are both eagerly awaiting the Faire, having had a blast each of the last two years. If you and your family want to have some fun, enjoy fall in Vermont, and make some medieval memories, we hope to see you at the Faire!

-Sarah Mann



photo - Artemis Lakin

## Great Decisions

### Understanding Indonesia

"Great Decisions" will meet again on Monday, October 21, at 6:00 pm in the Walpole Town Library. Our topic for discussion is **Indonesia**, a democratic archipelago of over 13,500 islands with more than 275 million people of rich and diverse ethnicity. What do we Americans know about this complex nation – its history, foreign policy, natural resources and economic growth, and why does it fly under the radar?

The relevant reading from the Foreign Policy Association is "Invisible Indonesia" by Charles Sullivan. For a copy of this article and/or the meeting's Zoom link, please contact Library Director Jane Malmberg at [jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org](mailto:jmalmberg@walpoletownlibrary.org)

- Sue Kibbe



### Turkey Trot 5K

Fall Mountain  
Cross Country Running/Skiing Programs

### THANKSGIVING DAY

Look for info in November Clarion


Walpole Town Common  
Hope to see you there!

## Friends of the Library

JOIN US the last weekend of October for the FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE, Saturday October 26 ) 8am – 4 pm (Pre-Sale is 8 am -10 am with an entrance fee of \$25) and- Sunday October 27) 9-12. Funds raised go towards new books, the children's program, museum passes and supplies much more.

Bellows Falls Woman's Group and the Women of Walpole will have tables with delicious baked goods and an exciting raffle. Thank you to the community for your support and to all of those that helped make this event happen.

-Eryn Sellarole



## FROM THE CLARION

**A sampling of way we've reported in more than 12 years of publication:**

**One Year Ago (October 2023)** - September 17, St. John's congregation celebrated the 120th signing of its building charter and construction of its little stone church. Joining in celebration was the church's new rector, Reverend Fred Chisolm."

**Three Years Ago (October 2021)** - Dialing area code 603 became required October 24, for all local calls instead of simply dialing seven digits.]

**Five Years Ago (October 2019)** - The week of August 26, was a busy one for Walpole Valley Farms, The Inn at Valley Farms, and The Hungry Diner as the crew from WMUR's NH Chronicle came to town to film a segment for the show highlighting all three Walpole businesses.

**Seven Years Ago (October 2017)** - Classic Roadside Americana is almost a thing of the past, but, thanks to the magic of 39 year old professional magician David Haversat from Oxford, Connecticut, Santa's Land in Putney, Vermont will reopen and celebrate its 60th anniversary this year..

**Nine Years Ago (October 2015)** - Walpole's own Jim Skofield received the 2015 Carol Otis Hurst Children's Book Prize for his latest children's book, *Bear and Bird*.

**Eleven Years Ago (October 2013)** - "The Walpole High School Class of 1958 celebrated its 55th Class Reunion with the Vikings. The class had 20 students, with an exchange student from Norway. Several members of the class traveled to Norway to tour with their Norwegian classmate."

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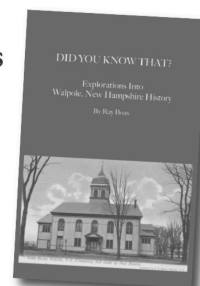
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# MILESTONES

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June 13, 1932 – August 28, 2024

## Wed

Zachery Beer and Isabella Nogues  
Bethesda, MD on August 4, 2024  
Zachery is the son of Josiah and Mary Beer of Walpole  
Isabella is the daughter of Dennis Boiter and the late  
Marie-Dominique Kaul-Boiter of Bethesda, MD, and  
Guy Abby Nogues of the Ivory Coast

## The WALPOLE Clarion

A monthly for the Walpole Community

Ray Boas, Publisher  
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Walpole, NH 03608  
603 756-4545

Submissions about community events  
and achievements welcomed.

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rayboas@comcast.net

November Deadline: October 22

Tara Sad: Copy-Editing

Ray Boas: Layout & Design

The Walpole Clarion on-line at:  
thewalpoleclarion.com

## PUBLISHER'S CORNER

As I sit down to write to you leaves are falling outside my windows. What? Already? Yes. And, when further north the past two weeks, I did see some fall colors appearing on selected trees. The *New York Times* just reported this is one of the busiest weekends for birds migrating south. Guess it is almost time to again turn my lawn-cutting tractor into a snow-blowing tractor..

Back to twenty pages this month. Our student writers began their work earlier this year upon return from vacation; Distant Hill Gardens shares their good news; updates on Town projects are summarized; and general election time is upon us. As voting time approaches, I have briefly included what you need to know to register (if not already registered); procedures for an absentee ballot; and, a reminder to now make sure to bring a photo ID when you go to the polls to vote.

In case you have not been keeping track, with this October issue the CLARION enters its thirteenth year of continuous publishing - the longest running single newspaper in Walpole since *The Farmers Weekly Museum* began publication in 1793, over 230 years ago. It had six name changes, however, over its years of printing.

Well, back to finishing the layout for October. Yes, October. Time to set up my Plastic Pumpkin Patch again. Happy Halloween.

—Ray Boas, Publisher

## Scott Farm presents

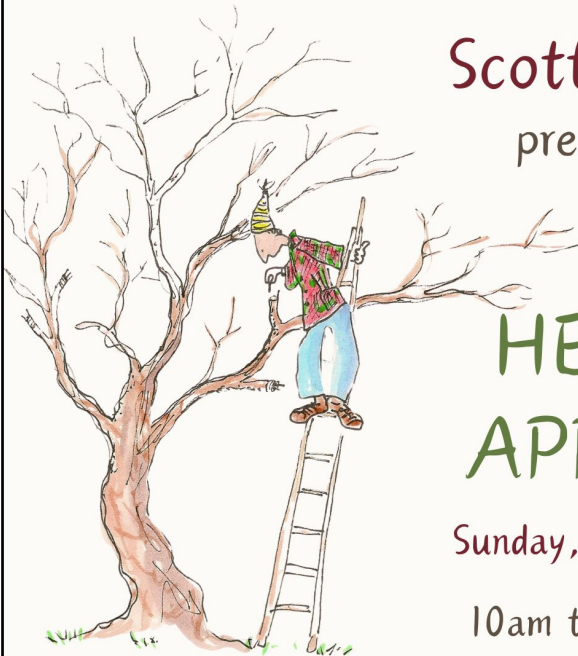


the 21st Annual

## HEIRLOOM APPLE DAY

Sunday, October 13th 2024

10am to 5pm | Free event



- 🍏 Keynote Speaker: heirloom apple pomologist & detective John Bunker
- 🍏 Talks at 11am & 2pm
- 🍏 Apple tastings
- 🍏 Kids activities
- 🍏 PYO, Farm Market
- 🍏 Live music
- 🍏 Food trucks
- 🍏 Non-profit fair



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**"SBW has great business products and they go the extra mile for their customers."**



Mark Houghton | President and Owner and employees (with Tonya Waters, Diane Gallion and Andrew Richardson, SBW) | E.E. Houghton, Co., Inc. | Walpole  
*SBW customer for over 40 years*

## **Best bank for a community business? Ask a local.**

For four generations, Everett E. Houghton Company, Inc. (E.E. Houghton Co., Inc) has always been there for customers, providing superior heating, plumbing and electrical services. President and Owner Mark Houghton works with Savings Bank of Walpole for his business financing needs because as a local bank, SBW offers Mark the same kind of outstanding customer service his own business is known for.

Ready for a bank that goes the extra mile for your business? Call (603) 352-1822 or contact our Business Banking Team.



Member  
**FDIC**

