

# Narragansett Historical Society

On the Common in Templeton MA

## November 2020

The Cub scout pack 27 arrived on Sunday Nov 15th to help us rake and clean up for winter. They came with rakes and tarps but mostly enthusiasm to provide some community service that made them proud and made a difference. Once they made the pile out back, they had to test it out, what better place to jump in a pile than out in the woods. Well done and thank you for your time and energy.



This group of kids were ready to work, their leaders made sure that this was their project, they had to do most of the work, the adults used leaf blowers to gently remove the leaves from the garden, the rest was up to the kids.



However you plan to celebrate Thanksgiving this year, know that we are thankful for your support. With only two fundraisers, we were blessed with gifts, donations, and many volunteer hours offered to get projects done, pay the bills, and build up the spirits of those who do so much for the Society. Thank you for each and every gift.



# Event Sponsors

Your business can be shown here  
Or on any page in our newsletter.  
Ask your employer to sponsor The Historical Society



**A special Thank you to  
Templeton Light Co.**



## TCTV

**Templeton Community TV**

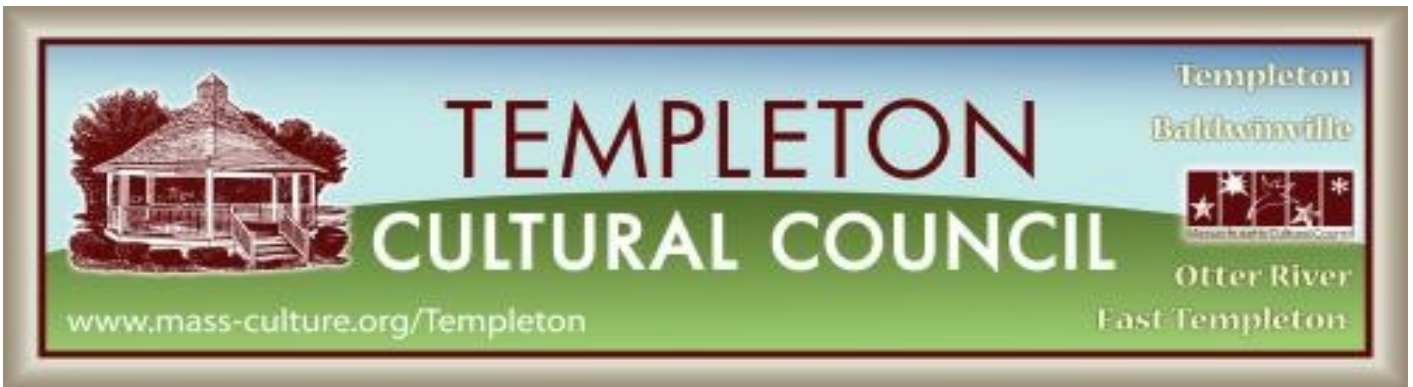
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Find us on:



TCTV Cable Channel 8





# WIND STORM DAMAGES A DOZEN TREES.

With the high winds last month we discovered several trees cracked and up-rooted, yet only a few large branches made it to the ground. This created a dangerous situation, luckily there is no activity back there beyond the sunken garden. Most of our volunteers are just not experienced enough to drop multiple leaning trees, so we called in the experts. *North Quabbin Tree Service (Todd Soucie)* offered to drop the trees safely for us at a minimal cost. The rest was up to us. Tom Jeleniewski brought his tractor and splitter, Brian Tanguay brought his tractor, Mike Matuszewski lent us his splitter and Tom Hurd, Justin VanCott, and Noah Davidovitch arrive with chain saws and determination to clean up the 12 trees that were down. We cut up the logs, split the wood, filled a 16 foot long trailer (twice) and moved the wood out of the back and into the wood bin out front. Just as we were running out of gas, Jameson & Grady VanCott arrived to help us unload the trailer. Plans are in the works to raffle off the wood in the summer, giving it time to season.



KEEP TOP SECTION

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 SOCIETY RECORD TO BE TURNED INTO SECRETARY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

MY MEMBERSHIP LEVEL • Annual  \$15.00    Student  \$5.00    Family  \$25.00    Life  \$100.00

*Date* \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Narragansett Historical Society Inc. • P. O. Box 354, Templeton MA 01468

**Check Us Out at: [www.narragansetthistoricalsociety.org](http://www.narragansetthistoricalsociety.org) OR on FACEBOOK**

*Thank you \* Sponsorship \* Thank you*

# Gold Sponsors 2020



## TANQUAY JEWELERS



*NEW Silver Level Sponsor*

Scotty's Potties has been a very active sponsor for many years helping us at each event, This year, the new owners from New Hampshire offered to continue that same level of support during our events throughout the year. <https://www.scottyspottiesinc.com/>

## SCOTTY'S POTTIES

Thank you Jon, for your support



Plans are being made to set up a display in front of the Historical Society, along with a display to sell the wreaths in front of KRO's on the common. If you can help by manning a table or helping in any way, contact us via our gmail account.

NARRAGANSETT  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# Fresh Cut Christmas Wreath Sale!

Prices Range from \$15.00 - \$25.00



Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020

11:00am-4:00pm

1 Boynton Rd

Templeton Ma

All proceeds go directly to the Narragansett Historical Society.



## *“A moment in time”*

*By: Harry Aldrich Jr. Historian*

### THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is around the corner and I was thinking about how different it is now compared to when I was growing up. When I was a youngster, Thanksgiving was a day when families got together and swapped memories and feasted on good food and deserts. Mom would bake many different kinds of pies a few days before in our old wood burning stove. I can remember when it came time to roast the turkey, she was a nervous wreck worrying that it would not be cooked or over cooked. The worrying was all for nothing as it was always perfect.

Around noon or a little after, everyone gathered at the table and overstuffed themselves after which they sat around and talked about old times or listened to the radio. Television had just come out so not many people even owned one. As youngsters we probably played games or perhaps played outside sliding in the snow if there was any at the time. There was no such thing as Black Friday and stores were not allowed to open.

Our neighbor, Mr. Ryan raised turkeys every year and the week before Thanksgiving was a busy time for him and his family. They would spend the whole week killing and getting the turkeys he had raised ready for the holiday. Thanksgiving and Christmas were both busy times for them and during those times people were coming and going at a steady pace as they were buying their fresh turkeys. You were not going to buy a turkey any fresher than a turkey from Mr. Ryan.

This year's Thanksgiving is going to be quite different than in the past due to Covid 19. People are being asked to avoid large groups and stay home if possible to help control the spread of this virus. Sadly, it sounds like this is the safest way to protect ourselves so in the long run, it will be worth it.

On behalf of my family and I and the society, I would like to wish everyone a very happy Thanksgiving and many more. Please take care of yourselves and enjoy. Better days are coming.



# President's Page

by: Brian P. Tanguay



This pandemic has been quite a teaching moment for all of us as we navigate the days and re-think what is really important in our lives. In the Society, we have been blocked from doing any events, we did hold our Kite fest during the break in the pandemic, where we still provided a safe outdoor activity for our community and ended with not one person catching the virus. The rest of the year proved to be too difficult to press out luck, so we opted to drop the other events. Some of our members opened their check books and sent in donations to help cover the bills, others came to our building to offer help on projects, and several people in the community who follow us on Facebook decided that this was the year to become a life member.

We'll have to continue to sign up new members, this is where all of you can help, just print out an application and pass it along to your neighbor or friend. If we all do this, I guarantee you, we'll be in good shape to make it through winter and ready to see what 2021 brings us.

I don't have too much to share about the Grange project, most of it is on hold, but I'm keeping everyone on my list of phone calls to make sure we don't forget about what's next. The pandemic certainly affected this project, but once we get past this, I can see many hours of work going on to get that building open once again.

A special donation was accepted from a former Gardner native who moved to Coventry Vermont. Dr. Alan Feltmarch was an artist similar to Wallace Underwood of East Templeton. I met Alan a few years ago when we visited the Coventry Church to check on the tower clock. Sadly Alan passed last Nov. and his family is liquidating his estate. I was approached by his niece Julie who needed help with some time-keepers in his collection. While going over his furnishings, we noticed a very large map cabinet, it was filled with Alan's artwork ready to transfer onto chairs, trays, desks, and fire place mantles. I shared the similarities to Wallace Underwood and Julie offered to gift the entire cabinet to the Society. This generous donation was greatly received so Tom and I went to VT to accept it. Alan's home is only 4 miles from my camp, so we made a short weekend trip saving Julie the hassle of moving it. It's in the archive room and will be filled with many precious items in our collection.





**2019 OFFICERS:**  
 President: Brian Tanguay  
 Vice Pres. Vacant  
 Secretary Amy Guthrie  
 Treasurer Kelly Elliot  
 Curator: Brian Tanguay  
 Historian: Harry Aldrich

**2019 DIRECTORS:**

3 year	2 year	1 year
Amy Guthrie	Thomas Hurd	Open
John Chouinard	Eileen Bouvier	Ann Lyons
Open	Jessie Duguay	OPEN

**TRUSTEES:**  
 Tom Jeleniewski  
 David Huhtala  
 John Brooks  
 Open



**Contact info:**  
 Main email: [nh1924society@gmail.com](mailto:nh1924society@gmail.com)  
 Newsletter Editor: Brian Tanguay

Find us on Facebook—Search for **TempletonMuseum (Narr Hist Society)** It's filled with the History of Templeton, Baldwinville, Otter River and East Templeton. Pictures, stories, and faces of the people who lived here years ago. Some new images will be shared from around the town. We have created a "page" instead of a "profile" 1500 members  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2021191824825853/>  
 Located at 1 Boynton Rd. and 9 Hubbardston Rd  
 Templeton MA

**ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME any time.**



**Meeting Notice: 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised**

***NO MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER***  
*Directors will stay in contact during this time. Newsletters will continue*

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED**

**YES!** I would like to make a donation to the **Narragansett Historical Society**  
 I / We have enclosed a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank You*  
 Narragansett Historical Society and send to  
 PO Box 354, Templeton, MA 01468.

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.



**Narragansett Historical Society**  
 P.O. Box 354  
 Templeton, MA 01468