

THE FRANCESTOWN HERITAGE MUSEUM



Newsletter

September 2019

Happy Labor Day

LABOR DAY – 102nd

For newer residents who may not be aware of the scope of this annual event, included is a schedule for the weekend. There is something for everyone so bring family and friends.

Needless to say the **Francestown Heritage Museum** will be open on **Monday September 2nd from 10 AM to 4 PM**. A pertinent new exhibit we have is the flag presented to the town by the US Government to commemorate those who fought in WWI. While the flag itself is not historic it most certainly represents one of the most historic happenings in the town's history.



This banner was created by the US Department of Defense to be flown at federal, state and local municipalities to commemorate the end of WW I. Francestown flew this banner at the Memorial Park on the Town Common from the Spring of 2018 to Veterans Day, November 11, 2018, marking the 100th anniversary of the 'war to end all wars'.

A SPINNING DEMONSTRATION

The museum is happy to announce that this Labor Day we will again have Pat Thalhauser providing a working demonstration of the art of spinning. Last year's visitors will recall that Pat demonstrated the spinning of flax and this year, using a different wheel,

she will be demonstrating the fine art of spinning wool. Spinning was an essential part of early life in New Hampshire and Francestown as it provided the fibers needed for weaving and other equally essential needs.



The "great wheel" spinning wheel is a/k/a a "walking wheel" as the operator walks away from the wheel while holding the material that is being spun.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

History and museums are not all dusty and dull. Among the more whimsical items in our collection are an assortment of privy seats. From the one holer –



To the more expansive three holer model recognizing that not all bottoms are the same –



Other lesser known facts include:

- Many a privy contained a can holding old corn husks - no Charmin in those days.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Yes, each edition of the newsletter is generally followed by a number of letters – well, more precisely, e-mails. For the most part positive, often informative and occasionally one that will give pause.

On the positive note:

- “Thank you, too, for the crossword puzzles. I love them.”
- “I always enjoy these newsletters. The museum is so organized and a pleasure to be in.”
- “Amazing, who would have known.”
- “Your newsletter is always so informative and fun! Thanks!!!!”

And on the informative note”

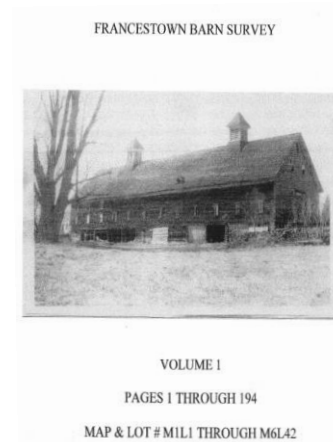
- “a focus on burials: If so, I would have mentioned you could add a little seasonal color by mentioning the serviceberry shrub that is about to come into bloom rumored to have this name because it noted the time for burials of bodies held while the ground was frozen. Also known as shad shrub for start of the shad run”.

So with this tidbit in mind a search was started for a serviceberry shrub to see what they looked like. Fairly easy to spot in Spring with it’s white blossoms.



FRANCESTOWN BARN SURVEY

A number of years ago a group of local residents set out to document the historic barns in Francestown. The information and actual site surveys conducted by them was coupled with the data compiled by Greg Thulander in his thesis town wide survey and together resulted in a 393-page inventory of the historic barns. A copy of this document was included in the collection left to us by O. Alan Thulander. We have indexed this document by address to make looking up a particular property relatively easy. This two-volume inventory is now available to anyone who would like to look up a particular barn history.

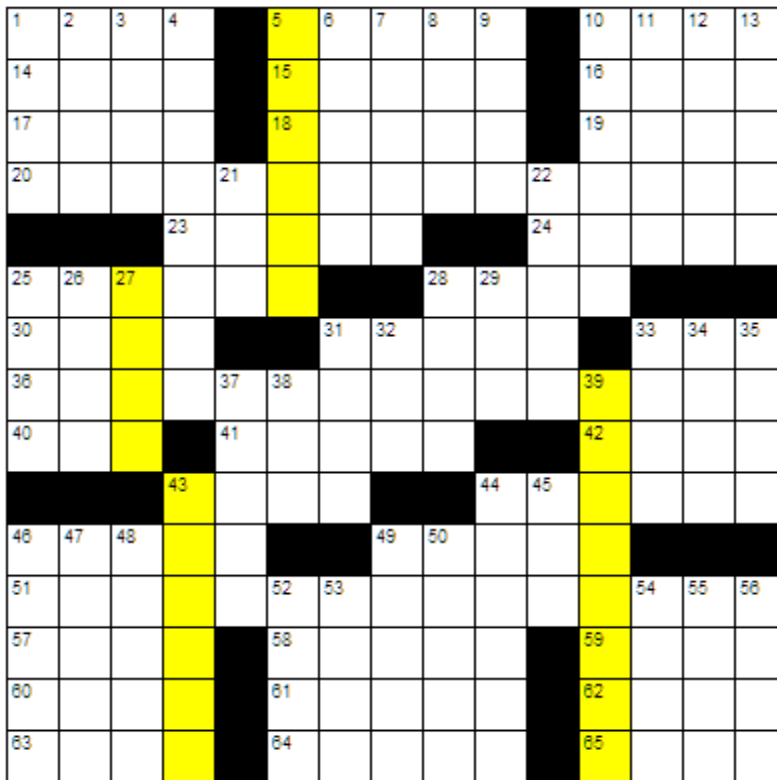


SOLUTION TO THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD



THIS MONTH'S THEME CROSSWORD

As always, the yellow blanks contain the words pertaining to the theme



1. A horse mackerel
5. Trim away outer edges
10. A distinctive smell
14. Curd used in vegetarian cooking
15. Plant used in soap
16. Star that increases in brightness
17. Wood sorrels
18. Turn out of bed
19. Unspoiled paradise
20. Word derived from a combination of words
23. Distinctive emblem
24. Fizzy
25. Prior
28. Something you row
30. Assert
31. Line from the focus to any point on a curve
33. A step in classical ballet
36. Controls the physiological activity of an organism
40. Old age
41. A life that is very easy
42. Excellent
43. Trigonometric function of an angle
44. Kingdom of Israel member

46. Long curtain
49. Industrial city in Japan
51. Guerrillas
57. Assert to be the case
58. Theatrical short sketches
59. Spanish title for a woman
60. Rudely brief
61. Beloved friends
62. Basic unit of an element
63. Makes a choice
64. Not yet hardened
65. A place to encounter Eli's

Down

1. Cease
2. Palm tree bearing coconuts
3. At a distance
4. Consequence of drought
5. Labor Day highlight
6. Surrounded by
7. Specific course
8. Besides
9. Stiff hair
10. Single direction
11. Birds that can't fly

12. Crosses a barrier
13. Sexually aroused
21. Disfigure
22. Related to the Hungarian language
25. Darling
26. Sinful
27. Labor Day fare
28. 6/6/1944
29. A lubricant
31. Irritate
32. Single spot card
33. Impoverished
34. Teenage woe
35. Distort
37. Bay window
38. What Eli Whitney invented
39. 9/2/2019
43. Golf, tennis, mud volleyball
44. Truthful
45. Seventh letter of the Greek alphabet
46. The dragon constellation
47. Become more active
48. Turn away
49. Underground chambers
50. You are
52. Language of Pakistan
53. Adolescent
54. Small amount
55. An organic compound
56. Matching



Answers on previous page

FRANCESTOWN IMPROVEMENT & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

102nd ANNUAL LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Friday, August 30, 2019

Contra Dance: 7:30 PM— Fracesttown Town Hall

Saturday, August 31, 2019

Tennis Tournament: Starting at 8 AM at locations around Town (continues on Sunday)

Chili, Chowder & Chocolate Cook Off: tasting starts at 4 PM; Prizes at 6:30 PM

Saturday Dance, Tommy and the Hurlicans, Town Hall, following cook-off 7 to 10 PM

Sunday, September 1, 2019

25th Annual Mud Volleyball Tournament: Starts at 10 AM, Town Rec. Fields - Rte. 136

Labor Day Golf Scramble: 1 PM at Crotched Mountain Resort Golf Club

Vespers Variety Show: 7 PM at the Old Meeting House

Monday, September 2, 2019

Baked Goods, Plants, and White Elephant: Horse Sheds, open at 10 AM

Beehive and Heritage Museums: Town Common, 10 AM to 1:45 PM

Bixby Memorial Library, Main Street, 10 AM to 1 PM

Books: FIHS Lodge, across from the Town Offices on Main St, open at 10 AM

Children's Games: on the Town Common open at 10 AM

Information Booth & Raffle Tickets: located on the Town Common 10 AM to 4 PM

Juried Arts & Crafts on the lawn in front of the Town Offices and FIHS Park - Main Street, 10 AM to 4 PM

Rummage: Fracesttown Town Hall, open at 10 AM

→TAGS – Available from members of the “Tag Team” around the Town Common←

***** PARADE: “The Best of Music and the Arts” 2 PM Main St. *****

FOOD: Opening at Approximately 10:30 AM

Country Café - between the Heritage Museum and Beehive: salads and wraps

Country Kitchen – Town Common: burgers, hot dogs, sodas and more

Old Meeting House Ice Cream Social – make your own ice cream sundae

♪ ENTERTAINMENT ♪

11:30 AM – R.P. Hale: harpsichord & dulcimer at Old Meeting House

12 Noon – Wildlife Encounters – performance on Town Common

3 PM – Temple Band. Concert after the Parade on Town Common next to Town Hall

FIREMAN'S BUFFET SUPPER— At the Fire Station

Time to be determined. Limited Tickets will be available. Proceeds benefit Crotched Firefighters. Raffle prizes will be announced.

FREE PARKING & FREE BUS SERVICE
Parking at 109 New Boston Rd & Fracesttown Elementary School,
2nd NH Turnpike with BUS SERVICE to Town Common
9:30 AM to 1:30 PM and after the Parade to 4:00 PM

LATE NEWS: If you are a White Elephant fan, plans are being made for an annex location on Labor Day. Items will be available at a barn close to the horse sheds. Details are being finalized and look for more information at the horse sheds on Labor Day.