



CEMETERY NAMES

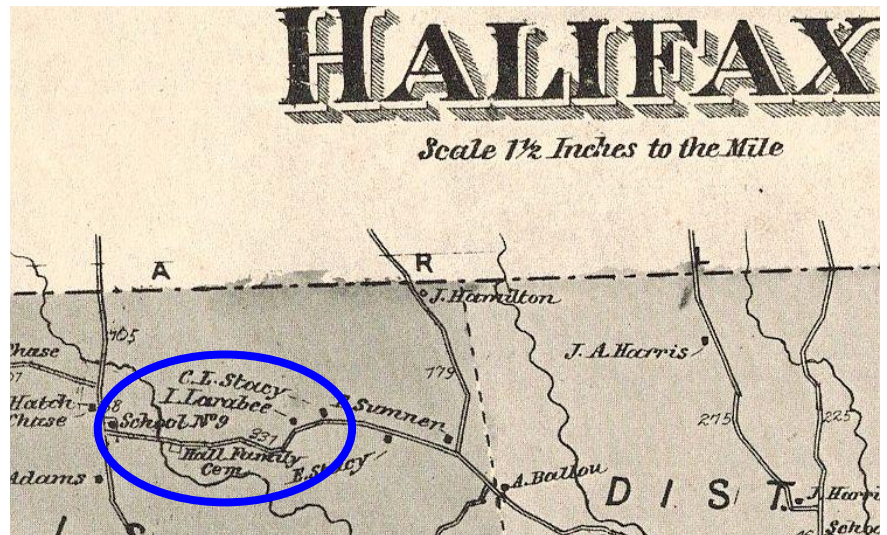
When I was a kid, we called the little quarter-acre cemetery on Hatch School Road the Hall Cemetery, after the prominent Hall family stone which sits front and center in it. This large stone is 6 feet tall and is inscribed with eight names: Joel Hall 1747-1843, Elizabeth Bush 1752-1830, Loton Hall 1783-1854, Rhoda Nichols 1786-1850, Lucinda Hall wife of Eliot Higley 1809-1889, Joel Hall 1811-1837, Charles Loton Hall 1824-1860, Samuel Emerson Hall 1832-1834. On either side of it, individual headstones mark the last resting place of seven of these Hall family members. It bothers me that this cemetery is now labeled “Hatch Cemetery” and is so identified on the website, [FindAGrave.com](https://www.findagrave.com), the best resource for information about cemeteries and the headstones within them that I know of.

Recently it occurred to me that old maps might show the name of the Hall Cemetery. I looked over my photos of the McClellan (1856) and Beers (1869) maps of Halifax (these photos can be seen on my newsletter archive page, <https://czresearch.com/newsletter/>). Imagine my delight at finding what appeared to be the denotation, “Hall Family Cem.” by the little rectangle on Hatch School Road! The writing was a bit blurry, so I asked Constance Lancaster, the Halifax historian, whether she had a better image I could examine. She sent two, and a close-up from one is below. Yes, it definitely shows the name of the cemetery down the road from District School #9 as Hall Family Cemetery.



**Above: Hall Family Cemetery today
Right: 1869 Beers Map close-up of what is now named Hatch School Road (after District School #9) with the cemetery labeled “Hall Family Cem.”**

Now it happens that there is already in *FindAGrave* a cemetery in Halifax named “Hall Family Cemetery,” and it is located a half mile north on Hatch School Road on the Lehrer property. It is likely named this way because the Halls owned that land, and in fact, the brothers Asa and Martin Hall – who are now buried in the so-called Hatch Cemetery – died on that property in



1964. If you visit this little cemetery, you will find five headstones, all marking the resting places of members of the Adams family: Capt. Levi Adams (died 1837), Dorothy “Dolly” (Houghton) Adams (died 1852), Bradley Adams (died 1797), Willard Ross Adams (died 1810), Ellin S Adams (died 1843). Oddly, *FindAGrave* adds a sixth decedent, Peter Newell Hall (1915-1972). But there is no such stone in the cemetery of Adamses. I suspect its inclusion in *FindAGrave* is an error. I looked in the lower Hatch cemetery but found the only additional Hall family members besides those already mentioned were Goldie and Perry. I think this little cemetery should be named Adams Cemetery after the people buried there, rather than after a landowner who came along later.

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WEST HALIFAX CEMETERY EXPANSION

Following surveying, mapping, drainage work, and marking, the West Halifax Cemetery expansion has now been completed. The land was donated by abutter Wineburg a few years ago, cleared, drained, and fitted with a drainage system to keep the area useable. In the photos below, the top picture shows the new area to the north of the old cemetery. Last year’s survey resulted in laying out 121 new 4’ x 10’ plots, sets of which are marked by white flags in the second photo. Metal disks with numbers and letters identify individual plots and make drawing up future plot deeds much easier. Look closely at the steel disk near a flag to see the plot ID (see call-out).

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“Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.” - *Oscar Wilde*

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On Saturday, May 17, Alan Baker of **DVFiber** and **AARP FraudWatch** led a discussion of how to stay safe on the internet. Alan has studied this topic for 10 years and has led similar discussions on both coasts on behalf of AARP.

Alan related how his friend Tom was fooled by a scammer who pretended to be fixing a computer virus. By giving the scammer access to his computer and his credit card number, Tom faced a world of hurt – bogus charges on the credit card, hijacking of his email account, and fake emails from his computer asking friends for money. This is what inspired Alan to help others.

Alan noted that hackers and scammers are not lone bad guys but instead are full-time professionals armed with sophisticated password cracking apps and organized into criminal gangs, mostly in foreign countries. We need to be extra careful to stay safe. Here are the most important actions we can take.

#1 Protect Your Social Security Number. Chances are high that scammers already have your social security number and other personal information. Reason: legitimate commercial data brokers collect and sell this information and one of them was hacked last year, exposing the data of hundreds of millions of Americans. But we can prevent the scammers from making use of this data in two ways.

- First, **put a “freeze” on your data at each of the large credit bureaus.** If a scammer applies for a credit card in your name and your information is frozen, the credit bureau won't tell the card issuer anything about your credit and the issuer won't issue the card. The same goes for other users of credit bureaus like retail stores and cell phone providers. You need to put a “freeze” on your data at all three large credit bureaus: **Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion.** You can get instructions from these credit bureaus online or by telephone.
- Second, **get a pin number from the IRS** and use it when you file your tax return. This prevents a scammer from filing a false return in your name at another address and claiming a refund. You can find instructions online or get them from your tax preparer.

#2 Identify and Avoid Phishing Scams. Most scammers will try to gain our trust and raise our emotions by contacting us out of the blue; offering help we didn't ask for; pretending to be someone we can trust like a public leader, celebrity, or friend; urging us to act right away; and asking for personal information or money. Be vigilant to these clues – don't take the bait.

If the contact is by email, you can examine the details of the sender's address by placing your cursor above it. If the sender claims to be from one organization but the details of the email address show another, this is a sure sign of a scam.

Finally, **do not click on links in emails unless you know for certain who is sending the link and why.** You can check some details of the link by putting your cursor over the link without clicking (just hover), just as you would to see the details of an email address.

#3 Make Your Website Credentials Safe. Scammers use computers to guess your passwords and can crack a weak password in just seconds. To be safe, follow these “dos and don'ts.”

- **Do** make your passwords at least 14 characters long. Longer is better. Don't use a long word taken straight from the dictionary – that's too easy to guess. Don't rely on character substitutions like “1” for “l”. Instead, do make a long password by constructing a “passphrase” from several words. like **correcthorsebatterystaple.** Include numbers or special characters when a website requires it.
- **Do** use a different password for each site. Don't use the same password or a single sign-on like your Google or Facebook credentials to access multiple sites.
- **Use** a paper notebook or thumb drive to keep track of your credentials. Don't store the list on your computer. Even better, do use an automated password manager that will construct strong passwords and

keep track of them in an encrypted vault. Good options for this are **Bitwarden**, **1Password**, **Dashlane**, and **Keychain**.

- In addition to passwords, **do** use two-factor authentication on sites that make it available. By itself, this will prevent 99.9% of password hacks according to a study by Microsoft. PassKeys are another good option offered by some sites.

That's a lot of information to absorb. This was the second time I attended one of Alan's talks and I learned more this time than I did the first time. You can read Alan's slides at <https://alanbaker.net/stayingsafe.pdf> but can learn more by attending in person. If you missed this discussion, watch for a similar event to be held in Marlboro later this year.

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Many shared their bear stories and learned how to co-exist with bears from Diana Todd, at "Share Your Bears" in the Café on May 10th.

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SENIOR MEAL IN HALIFAX – the next Senior Meal is Friday June 20 in the Halifax Community Hall, 20 Brook Road, West Halifax, at noon. **Menu: Baked Chicken, Pea Salad, Mixed Rice, Butternut Squash, Cheese Bread**, and dessert. All seniors welcome! A donation of \$4 is suggested, \$5 for <60 years. - *Bettye Roberts*

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SONGBIRD REHABILITATOR

Ruth Hart has just gotten licensed to rehab songbirds. Ruth participates in bird-banding on Hogback and in vernal pool monitoring. She says, if you or anyone you know finds a hurt/sick songbird, send 'em my way! (She notes that most baby birds who are hopping around out of the nest are fine and should not be picked up unless you see an injury or the bird looks sick. If it's featherless, put it back in the nest; it needs its parents to keep it warm. If it's got some feathers, you can put it on a branch as close to the nest as possible and out of reach of predators.) She also rehabilitates abandoned or injured small mammals (excluding rabies vectors: bats, raccoons, foxes, skunks, woodchucks). Email: ruthhart123@gmail.com, 917-496-6890.



Other rehabilitators in our area include Patti Smith of Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center (BEEC), 802-254-2918, who takes care of small mammals excluding rabies vectors with specialization in porcupettes (baby porcupines!), and Fred Homer, 802-348-7889, who specializes in raptors but handles any bird except waterfowl.

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AT LEFT, Edie Fenton's nephew John with his wife Lisa came to our 5th Annual Edie Fenton Memorial Plant Swap. They are pictured with Linda Lyon's dog Kelso and Frankie Wilcox behind the tables. Edie's brother Charles also came to the plant swap. It was a great day!

FIREMEN’S NEWS.

May 1 three men responded to a disoriented male; he was transported to the hospital.

May – Three men responded to assist Whitingham personnel with CPR in progress; patient transported to hospital.

May – Eight men responded to ‘cover’ Colrain MA station.

May –Three men responded to a welfare check; person fine but had no phone. Vermont State police were called and responded.

May – Seven men and two trucks responded to a structure fire.

May – Two men responded to a person having problems with a catheter.

May 23 Eight men responded to a mail truck over the bank on Green River Road; no injuries.

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CAFÉ CRAFTS

- Bettye Roberts

Join us in crafting on first Saturdays at the Halifax Community Hall starting at 10:00 AM. I will teach you how – you pay the cost of the materials you use. If my featured craft is not your thing, bring any craft, mending, or knitting you are working on.

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JOAN’S SIGHTINGS. Many birds at the feeders.....Blue Jays, Sparrows, Chickadees, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, two pairs of Baltimore Orioles, Cowbirds, Goldfinches, Cardinals, Common Grackles, Red-winged Blackbirds, Catbird, Nuthatch, Titmouse, and a couple of Woodpeckers. Wayne saw two deer crossing our land headed toward the church and on to the neighbor’s property . I am seeing deer tracks at the school front parking area. - Joan Courser

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Up on Hanson Road we are getting a lot of grief from a persistent chipmunk who keeps digging a hole in the driveway, right where the car rolls into the garage. Other visitors are foxes, raccoons, mice, garter snakes, pickerel frogs, wood frogs, red efts and their adult aquatic form (Eastern Newts), ruffed grouse, broad-winged hawks, barred owls, robins, blue jays, crows, ravens, yellow-bellied sapsuckers, pileated woodpeckers, chickadees, chestnut-sided warblers, common yellowthroats, veeries, magnolia warblers, black-and-white warblers, black-throated blue warblers, ovenbirds, winter wrens, tufted titmice, and bluebirds!



Halifax News

JUNE 2025

CALENDAR

The Halifax Café* is open Saturdays serving a delicious lunch menu—soup, sandwiches, casseroles, dessert!

May 31, 2025 (Saturday):	Halifax Café open 10:00am-1:00pm
June 7, 2025 (Saturday):	Halifax Café open 10:00am-1:00pm
" from 10:00-1:00 pm	Crafting with Bettye
June 14, 2025 (Saturday):	Halifax Café open 10:00am-1:00pm
June 21, 2025 (Saturday):	Halifax Café open 10:00am-1:00pm
" from 12:30-2:00 pm	Midsummer Music in the Hall!
June 28, 2025 (Saturday):	Halifax Café open 10:00am-1:00pm
" at 11:00 am	Poems for a Summer Day with Gregg Orifici

* Contacts: Laurel LaurelACopeland@gmail.com or 210-488-1701 (text/call),
Andrea at UnderwoodJones154@gmail.com



Sign of Spring: Jack In The Pulpit

Getting this newsletter by US Postal Service? Check your address label for your expiration date!
Send \$9.00 for postage (73¢/month) for your mailed paper copy; make checks out to "Newsletter":
Laurel Copeland, P O Box 212, West Halifax VT 05358.

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