



## October's Geese

BY PETE TANDY



It is, I know, their voices that strike so surely home, awakening an atavistic lightness in my heart, putting a surprise of tears into my eyes.

Each autumn as the geese stream south I believe again that, if only I could hear more clearly or try harder to understand, I could hear them speaking, each to the other. And, sometimes, as I watch their shifting lines etched high against October's sky, I think I can. They do not have the complexity of human thought or speech, yet their fierce little sparks of intelligence speak out, their yelping tongues articulate at last within my mind, putting lyrics to their ageless song.

"I tire . . . I tire . . ." calls the great gray goose at the point of their wedge. "I tire . . . I tire . . . I fail . . . I fail!"

"We hear! We're here! We hear! We're here!" cry the following strong voices. And one of them slips into the point, where she must force a break into the air, laboring to split the wind for all the rest, while the exhausted leader slides into the smooth and slippery stream just to one side of the flyer before him, able now to rest. And on they go, calling, calling.

"I lead . . . I know the way . . . I lead . . ."

"We're here. We know. We hear. We go . . ."

And on they sweep to southward, always calling encouragement, always sharing the labor of leading, always steadfast, supporting one another with their great strength. And, yes, with what I'm sure must be a kind of love.

Running through the deep, intoxicating autumn woods, lost in the floating dreamtime of the fourteenth mile; wrenched to a stop with my head thrown back before the understanding. There they are: so high against the clouds, almost invisible, and yet their high, sweet piping caught my heart.

I'm thankful no one saw me there, stopped in my tracks, transfixed within the wilderness; to see me raise my hand and whisper "GO!" willing my energy into the sky to buoy them up and help them on their way . . . as they have done for me.



Dear Friends and Family,

Please forgive me for not speaking with you in person. I have been thinking of you and thought you would like to know that my dad died last night at 8:40 p.m. It was really good to watch him relax and move on. As you may have been aware, his illness and related suffering has haunted my family for the past decade. I have been carrying a deeply held and consciously suppressed anxiety that has been very hard to bear during the last two years in particular. In the last two days, my dad and mom, my two sisters and I had time to gather 'round to support and encourage each other in expressing our individual and collective good-byes.

Running through the woods and on old country roads was a spiritual experience for my Dad, as reflected in his piece *October Geese* printed on page one. For him, Parkinson's disease had become an unexpected marathon of pain and suffering. At the end of his run, I watched as he crossed the finish to reclaim a portion of the beauty, grace and dignity that his life was so full of.

—Peter Tandy

### In Memory of Norman "Pete" Tandy PAM GOODELL

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the death of Pete Tandy on September 28, 2008. Pete and his wife Jean moved to Richmond in 1968. Pete was a man of high energy and many talents who was generous with his time and abilities. He donated many hours of service to the Town of Richmond. We who came later owe him many thanks.

In 1971 Pete became a charter member of the Richmond Conservation Commission. The following is the statement of purpose he and the others wrote:

"The function of a Conservation Commission is to provide an agency to assist and advise the Board of Selectmen, the Planning Board, the Board of Adjustment, and any individual or group in protecting and conserving our natural resources—land, fields, forests, brooks, water bodies, flood plains, and wet lands—from unwise land use, resulting in siltation of streams, uncontrolled erosion, devastation of scenic areas, and pollution of our water bodies."

To accomplish this end, on March 9, 1971, the town authorized the selectmen to create such an agency, and Harry J. Bennett, Evert O. Quintard and Norman S. Tandy were appointed. The following year William Suderman and Jeffrey Taylor were added to the Commission.

Pete served as secretary of the Commission for 29 years (1971-2000). I can attest first hand that his minutes of meetings are in impeccable order and are all on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Pete loved nature and understood the importance of preserving it. He worked diligently towards that end. The Conservation Commission report that appeared in the 1971 Town Report listed eleven goals that had been accomplished in that first year alone.

Pete liked to write prose and poetry, and the original Richmond Community Newsletter and the present Richmond Rooster were the fortunate recipients of many of his thoughts. Both Jean and Pete were staff members of the Richmond Community Newsletter from its inception. Pete wrote of such things as energy, gypsy moths (which Jean illustrated), coyote pools, and reports from his seventh grade.

Pete had a sense of humor and seemed to enjoy people. He fought valiantly against the symptoms of Parkinson's disease in the last years of his life and even kept his humor through it all. We will miss Pete Tandy, a most remarkable man.

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We are currently looking to purchase the following items:

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✦ Pottery ✦ Frames ✦ Tools ✦ Toys ✦ Vintage Photographs  
and any old Telephones, Radios or Electric Fans

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### Our Sympathies MARIE KNOWLTON

It is with sadness I received the news of Pete Tandy's death. Peter was an avid supporter of the Richmond Rooster and continually submitted much needed material for us to publish. In the early years Richmond Rooster readers had the pleasure of reading many fine stories and poems written by our friend Pete. Peter was one of the few people who had a computer in 1990 and knew how to use it. He would exchange his stories using a floppy disk that I had to get back to him when I was done with it. If you have time, look up some of the great stories Peter left for us. The staff of the Richmond Rooster wish to express our sincere sympathy to Jean and offer our thanks for sharing Peter with the town through his extraordinary writing abilities.

### Town Clerk's Office Dates to Remember ANNETTE TOKUNAGA

**November 4, 2008**

CLOSED for the General Election  
Polling hours: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
at the Veteran's Hall

**November 11, 2008**

CLOSED for Veteran's Day

**Nov. 26 & 27, 2008**

CLOSED for Thanksgiving Break

### Richmond 250 Cane PAM GOODELL

In Richmond's Bicentennial year, 2001, the Richmond 250 Commission established the procedure of giving a Richmond 250 Cane to the oldest resident in town. The first recipient was Dorothy "Dot" Robbins. At the time she was 91 years old. Dot passed

away recently, and we now need to find the next person qualified as the oldest Richmond resident to pass the cane to. We know of one resident whose date of birth is November 4, 1917.

### A Change in the November 4 Ballot ANNETTE TOKUNAGA

Effective June 15, 2007, the State of New Hampshire Legislature repealed RSA 655:10. Straight Ticket Voting. What this means to you, the voter, is that you will no longer be able to vote for all the candidates of the same party appearing on the ballot by marking the ballot at only ONE spot. This option, which traditionally appeared at the top of the ballot as "Democratic Candidates Straight Ticket" and "Republican Candidates Straight Ticket," will not be on the November 4, 2008 ballot. You may still vote for only Democratic or Republican candidates, if you so wish. Whether you vote for all Democratic or Republican candidates or any combination thereof, you must mark the box beside EVERY candidate of your choice, in order for your vote to count. If you have any questions, as always, please call or come into the Town Clerk's office. Both Pam and I will be happy to help answer your questions.

### Pies for Fire Department JENNIFER MARQUES

The Richmond Fire Department will be holding its annual pie sale on Sunday, November 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pies will range in price from \$7.00 to \$10.00. Pie donations will be greatly appreciated and can be delivered to the Fire Department on Saturday afternoon from 1:00—4:00 p.m. or on Sunday morning from 8:00—10:00 a. m. If you need to make other arrangements for pie pick-up, please call Jennifer Marques at 239-8772.

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## Playground Thank You

CHRISTINE BRYAN

Thanks are in order to the crew who have put in hours of their time to set up the play station near the pavilion at Amidon Park. Richmond voters will remember the playground question being an item at the town meeting for a handful of years. Creating a recreation area out of roughly-cleared woodland is no simple project. However, this summer, three men have managed to complete Phase 1 of the playground installation. Thank you to Chip Adams, Ed Atkins, and Nick Puopolo. Many stumps were hauled away, dirt was brought in, and the play station was anchored to cement foundations and assembled.

The playground is not yet ready for use. More fill dirt is needed to raise the ground level to an appropriate height, and a thick mulch layer is necessary for safe landings, but all the funds have been spent to get this far. Because it is a

safety question at this point, it is hoped that the project won't have to stand still until next year. Help would be much appreciated from town residents. If contributions could be made toward the project, fill and mulch could be purchased and the play unit could be cleared for use. Donations should be made via the Selectmen, in the name of the Community Park Committee, with a specific designation for the playground project behind the library.

There's still much work to be done. Old equipment needs to be removed, and that which is still functional installed near the new playground. There's lots of cleanup still to be completed, as well as the installation of a culvert to control water runoff. The playing field is full of sink holes that need to be filled in. It is

hoped that a community work day can be organized when the new playground is secured.

Thanks again to Chip, Ed, and Nick. It is a big encouragement that this much progress has been made in a long-planned project enabling the town of Richmond to have a safe and attractive play area for our children and grandchildren.



Photo: Deb Coll

## PLEASE RE-ELECT BARBARA RICHARDSON

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Children's Alliance of NH – 100% Voting Record on issues of social, environmental, economic and political justice

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- Legislative Committee: Children & Family Law
- Cheshire Housing Trust founding member
- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Volunteer
- Hospice volunteer

**I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE ON NOVEMBER 4**

## Richmond Public Library

WENDY O'BRIEN

### Story Hour

On Saturday, November 8 at 10:30 a.m., Gwyn will lead a preschool story hour focusing on "Thanksgiving." Come for an hour of enjoyable stories, a snack, and a craft.

### Bake Sale and Gingerbread House Raffle

The Volunteers of the Richmond Library, coordinated by Elaine Moriarty, will be holding a bake sale at the Annual Holiday Fair at the Veterans' Hall, Sat., November 8, from 9:00—3:00 p.m. Come and support our children's programming and materials! Donations of baked goods are welcome. Please contact Elaine at 239-4031 or Wendy at 239-6164 for more information.

### Book Sale and Silent Auction

We had another fabulous year with the book sale and silent auction, raising almost \$600 for children's programming and materials! But we couldn't have done it without the help of volunteers! A huge thank you goes out to Elaine Moriarty, who swept the acorns up in the driveway; Tracey Tryba, who helped to set up on the morning of the sale; Patty, Hayden, and Olivia Budzik who organized the book sale room throughout the year and helped to set up; Bonnie McCarthy and Ashley Nash who both sat in the hot sun and helped with selling tickets and books; and Jill and Lucia Bosonetto who helped clean up. A big thank you also goes to Tracey who solicited so many of the wonderful prizes for the silent auction and to Evelyn Huston and Marie Juhlin who solicited prizes and helped set up the silent auction, adding their creative touch.

Thanks also go to the area businesses and individuals who donated items for the silent auction: The Toadstool Bookshop, The Colonial Theatre, Tasteful Affairs Bakery, The Works, Panera Bread, Prime

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Roast, Borders, Dilly's for Kids, Stonewall Farm, Target, Price Chopper, Shir-Roy Campground, Evelyn Huston, Marie Juhlin, Elaine Moriarty, Bonnie McCarthy, Terri O'Rourke, and Deb Watson. Thank you!

### Library Float

We had a great time building the Library Float on Saturday, August 16. Under the helpful eye of Deb Watson, the children painted panels for the sides of the Library and the roof, along with examples of all the Library does for the community. The children were so pleased to see their efforts come together for the parade on August 31. Thank you Deb!

## Volunteers Needed to Help Clean Up Benson Cemetery

BEVERLY HART

The contact person for this project is Wayne Balnis at 239-8710. The clean-up will start on Nov. 9 at 1:00 p.m. rain or shine (note: you might want to bring your own rakes, etc.). Wayne would like to have it cleaned up before Veteran's Day, which is November 11.

## Troy Fireman's Dance

MARK HUNTOON

Dec 6, 2008 from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at Pelto's barn, Bigelow Hill Road, Troy. Great entertainment provided by CJ the DJ. BYOB, \$20/couple or \$12/single. Will be raffles & 50/50 drawing. Hope to see you there! If you need any further info please contact me, Brenda 242-3372. Thank you!

## From the District

JIM CARNIE AND NEIL MORIARTY

The teachers contract passed with a large majority on September 9, 2008. 1900 plus in favor, and 1300 plus against. Richmond voted almost a draw, with five more no votes than yes. This contract is for four years, so labor will be stable in the district for some time.

The administration is scheduled to have their version of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-2010 district budget ready by September 19, 2008. This kicks off the four month budget process for the district.

While it does not match well with our own district test results, nevertheless, there is encourag-

## 6 Community Events

ing news on nationwide school academics improvement from K through Eighth grade. That same improvement is not being seen for high school or college level. Let's hope that things improve in our district as well.

Given you have questions, comments, or ideas, call Jim at 239 4948, or Neil at 239 4031.

### School News

**KAREN CRAIG, PRINCIPAL  
EMERSON SCHOOL**

11/4 7 p.m., MRSD School Board meeting at Sullivan School

11/4 Emerson School PTCO Bake Sale at Town Hall

11/5-11/6 Emerson School Winter Wear Drive

11/5 6-7 p.m., Emerson PTCO meeting – all welcome

11/6 Emerson School Parent Teacher Conferences in afternoon and evening

11/7 NO SCHOOL for students at Emerson School, a.m. Parent Teacher Conferences

11/11 NO SCHOOL – Veterans Day

11/18 7 p.m., MRSD School Board meeting at MRMHS

11/26-28 NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break

### Town of Richmond Voluntary Energy Committee (VEC)

On Friday, October 10, 2008, VEC held its 14th meeting since being formed after Article 41 was passed at the Town Meeting of March 2007.

We reviewed our recommendations made to the Board of Selectmen on August 24, 2008, which were the results of discussions at our August 21, 2008 meeting. Those recommendations were: (1) that the BOS

consider closing the Town Hall one or two days a week without reducing the work hours of the Clerk, Secretary, Selectmen, and Tax Collector. For example, if you decided to close Town Hall on both Thursday and Friday, here is what the hourly schedule would look like: MONDAY—Clerk (9-Noon, 1-4, & 6-8), Secretary (6-9), Selectmen (7-?), Tax Collector (7-8); TUESDAY—Clerk (9-Noon & 1-4), Secretary (8-Noon & 1-4); WEDNESDAY—Clerk (9-Noon & 1-4), Secretary (8-Noon & 1-5), Tax Collector (4-6). If you closed only on Friday, then the only shift in hours would be the Secretary's to Tuesday, the same as was done for the two day closure (8-Noon & 1-4); (2) that the BOS mandate that the ZBA use the CD building for its meetings instead of Vets Hall; (3) that the BOS consider raising the fees for rental of the Vets Hall for the months of October through April to reflect increased costs for heating the building; (4) that the BOS contact PSNH to replace the 4 Corners light with an LED fixture. NOTE: the current yearly cost for light now being used is \$1100. It is estimated that the



### THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING!

Treat yourself to a special meal  
or a catered holiday party!



We are open for Thanksgiving Dinner

### LIVE MUSIC! Friday evenings 7pm

Fri Nov 7 **HiFi** - acoustic soul trio with Sarah Aborn  
Fri Nov 14 **MIKE WAKEFIELD** mellow jazz!  
Fri Nov 21 **TRUDE WITHAM GROUP** Jazz favorites  
Fri Nov 28 **SUZIE O'DWYER** Old-timey, fun piano!

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town could save about \$900 with the LED installation.

From our most recent discussions on October 10, 2008, we made two more recommendations: (1) the light at the Shir-Roy Campground off Route 32 should be turned off during the winter since no one is there. (2) In Laconia, NH, town government has established "Warming Stations" for folk whose heating system fails them or who run out of fuel. The VEC recommendation is that the Board of Selectmen look into establishing something similar, perhaps the second floor at the fire department.

Our next meeting is on Monday, November 10, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. in the CD building. Ms. Elizabeth Meserve, a student in the Antioch College Environmental Program as well as an assistant for Cool Monadnock, will present the final draft of the "Municipal Greenhouse Gas and Energy Use Baseline Report for Richmond," which will be used by town government to further plan energy saving policies for the Town of Richmond.

VEC is also working on organizing an "Old Tire Day" through Chip Adams, further ideas to help needy folk during the winter, and organizing our second "Meet-Up." If you would like to participate in the second "Meet-Up," where we discuss energy use and give out free material supplied by Cool Monadnock, please let us know.

VEC wants town residents, yourself or someone you know, to understand that if you have difficulty paying fuel costs this winter, the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning Fuel Assistance Program (FAP) should be contacted for possible relief. FAP helps with the payment of fuel costs for income-eligible households. Residents with elderly, disabled, and young children receive priority. Assistance ranges

from \$120-\$975 with the average benefit at \$500. Telephone the local Community Action Agency (CAA) to set up an appointment and to learn about the application process. Those who are homebound can arrange for an in-home or telephone interview. Residents of Richmond call Southwestern Community Services in Keene at 352-7512.

We will continue our energy saving "Fast Facts" to be published monthly in the Rooster. This month's

"Fast Fact" energy saving tip is: Turn your water heater down to 120 degrees and make sure that it is wrapped with hot water heater insulation.

Any questions and/or recommendations, please contact me at 239-6058 or pwmjoy@earthlink.net. Many thanks, Pete Majoy.

### LIBRARY BAKE SALE

**NOV 8, 9-3  
VETS HALL**

**BAKE and/or BUY**

**CONTACT  
ELAINE  
239-4031**

**OR WENDY  
239-6164**

### Meadowwood

**MELANIE ELLIS**

On November 6th, Meadowwood County Area Fire Department Chief, Robert S. Crowell, will be awarded the 2008 New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training Commission "Academy Award" for his dedication and commitment to training and professional development in

the fire service for more than three decades.

Chief Crowell began his career in 1970 as a volunteer firefighter with the Keene Fire Department. In 1976, he became a full-time firefighter with the city of Keene, working his way up the ranks to shift Captain before he retired in July of 1999 as Training Captain. While a member of the Keene Fire Department, he was on the Fire Investigation Team, Haz-Mat Team, and the City Safety Committee.

Since his retirement in 1999, Chief Crowell has not rested. In December of that year, he

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became the Chief of the Meadowood County Area Fire Department and since then he has been Captain on both the Swanzey West Company and the Troy Fire Departments, a Firefighter with the Fitzwilliam Fire Department and a Deputy Forest Fire Warden. Part time he works as a Staff Instructor, Evaluator and Mentor for the NH Fire Academy. At the Meadowood Training Center, he teaches many of the classes in the firefighter curriculum, which include Haz-Mat, Terrorism and the Incident Command System.

During his 38-year career, Chief Crowell has been trained to Firefighter III, Fire Officer II, Fire Instructor I, Haz-Mat Technician, Incident Safety Officer, Incident Command/NIMS, Swift Water Rescue Technician and EMT-B. Chief Crowell is the Cheshire County Rep for the Executive Board of the New Hampshire Fireman's Association. He is also a member of the Fire Instructors and Officers Association of New Hampshire.

Chief Crowell attributes his success to all the fire officers, firefighters and emergency medical personnel he works with. But it is us, his fellow firefighters, students and friends, who are the lucky ones. For we have had the privilege and honor to learn and fight fires beside him. He has passed on his knowledge and respect for the job and in return he has gained our trust and respect as Chief. The members of Meadowood would like to congratulate Chief Crowell on his award.

### Christ Lutheran Church Current Events JESSICA PATCH

With the seasons changing we have a lot of special times coming up, and we would like to list them for you so you may have a chance to work them into your busy schedules. If you have any questions about the upcoming events, please call the church at 242-7283.

**Every Sunday** Sunday School/Youth/Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m., Worship 10:00 a.m.

**Every Wednesday** Prayer Time 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday 11/15** Community Breakfast 8-10:00 a.m.

Benefiting Meadowood Fire Dept.

**Saturday 11/22** Craft Fair and Bake Sale

**Wednesday 11/26** Thanksgiving

Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesdays 12/3, 12/10, 12/17**

Soup and Sandwich Advent Services 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday 12/24** Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service 7:00 p.m.

**COMMUNITY BREAKFAST BENEFIT** Christ Lutheran Church will be hosting a benefit breakfast for Meadowood Fire Department on Saturday, November 15 from 8-10 a.m. Come see what's cooking! We're located at 4 Fitzwilliam Road, Troy. If you have any questions please call the church at 242-7283.

**ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR AND BAKE SALE** The Christ Lutheran Church Social Ministry board is once again hosting a craft fair and bake sale to raise funds for its community and mission outreach on Saturday, November 22 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The church is located in Troy on Rte. 12 on the curve by the flashing light.

The event itself will be an outreach to our community during these tough economic times, with low cost, hand-crafted holiday gift, and household items

for sale (all items made by members and friends with no vendor tables.) New this year will be a no-charge coffee hour and soup lunch offered to shoppers (a free-will offering box will be available for those who would like to leave a gift toward our outreach fund.) Funds raised go to assist people in our communities with unexpected needs and emergency expenses.

Come and enjoy some community fellowship and perhaps find that perfect little gift for someone on your Christmas list or to use as a hostess gift or perhaps a useful household item for yourself or a holiday decoration. Popular items will once again be available for purchase, like Finnish coffee bread and forest elves! We hope to see you on November 22.

### 2008 Annual Meeting The Winchester Learning Center ROBERTA L. ROYCE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Please come and join us. Dr. Ellen Wheatley, Administrator of Child Development Bureau at NH Division for Children, Youth and Families will be our guest speaker. Her topic is, "What is on the horizon for Child Care in New Hampshire?" We will meet Monday October 20, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at The Winchester Learning Center, 5 Michigan St., Winchester, NH. Please RSVP by contacting us 239-7347, or wlckids@verizon.net. Light refreshments will be served. The Winchester Learning Center is a Monadnock United Way Agency.

### Community Joins with MCVP JOHN EVEREST

#### Showing Support for Victims of Domestic Violence

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention (MCVP) is providing two easy ways for

community members to show their support towards ending domestic violence.

Faith Community Outreach MCVP is providing members of the faith community attractive and moving ecumenical prayer cards free-of-charge, including a flower seed indicating support for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Faith groups and congregations are showing support for past and current victims of domestic violence through study groups, prayers, and sermons.

In addition, there will be a candlelight vigil and a "ringing of the bells" at 6:30 p.m. on October 28 on the Common in downtown Keene. Local churches will be ringing their bells 14 times to commemorate the 13 deaths from domestic violence over the last three years, and one ring representing hope for the future.

#### Cell Phone Drive

MCVP is also providing a great way to get rid of your used and out-of-date cell phones by dropping them off at any one of over 25 drop-off locations around the Monadnock region. These phones are recycled by the National Shelter Alliance, providing funds to MCVP for local services and prevention programs.

Cell phone drop-off locations are listed on the MCVP website, [www.mcvprevention.org](http://www.mcvprevention.org).

They include:

Jaffrey: MCVP Offices, 22 North Street, Millipore Corporation

Harrisville: Brown House Bakery & Deli

Peterborough: Curves, Monadnock Community Hospital, MCVP Offices, The River Center

Keene: MCVP office, Curves, Cheshire Tire, Lady of America, David Ford Lincoln Mercury, The Sprint Store, Noyes Volkswagen, Citizens Bank, Ted's Shoe & Sport, Connecticut River Bank, Hannah Grimes Marketplace, Your Kitchen Store, Keene Chamber of Commerce, Kristin's Bistro & Bakery, Southwestern

## Holiday Fair Saturday Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Richmond Veterans Hall

Route 32, Richmond, NH

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Luncheon served 11-1

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Antrim: Antrim Marketplace

Swanzy: Baudelaire Fine Imported Soaps, Cheshire Furniture

Adventure Limo & Transportation in Keene is offering a 10% discount on some services with any donation of a cell phone!

## Kristallnacht Remembrance

PETER MAJOY

By November 9, 1938, Hitler had already begun his hate-driven obsession with and assault on Jews. In 1933, immediately after becoming the German Chancellor, he enacted laws that removed Jews from the economy and employment opportunities, cancelled their participation in what little was left of a waning democracy, prohibited them from practicing innocent cultural culinary habits such as kosher butchering, banned them from fully participating in public school education, put severe limits on their freedom to move about, and broadened the process of relocation, especially for Polish Jews.

On the evening of November 9, 1938 and spilling over into the next day, what is known as "Kristallnacht" ("Night of Broken Glass") occurred. Inspired by Nazi propaganda and active support, mobs tore apart Jewish homes, wrecked between 1000-2000 synagogues, ransacked and destroyed nearly 7500 businesses, violated cemeteries and schools, and arrested and deported over 30,000 Jews to concentration camps.

"Kristallnacht" was the decisive moment when Hitler's Third Reich Nazi movement began the "Final Solution" to the "Jewish Problem." It was the turning point of Nazi anti-Semitic policy, the planned, systematic annihilation of Jews known as the Holocaust, or

the Shoah. By the time the Nazi concentration camps were liberated in 1945, almost 6,000,000 of the nearly 10,000,000 Jews from 12 countries were eradicated in the camps. In addition, millions more (Christians, homosexuals and gypsies) were also killed.

On Thursday, November 6, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the Colonial Theatre of Keene, the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocidal Studies presents its annual "Kristallnacht Remembrance." This very moving event is open to the public. The keynote speaker, Pierre Sauvage, will talk about "The Challenge of Le Chambon" when 5000 Jews were sheltered by 5000 Christians in the Nazi occupied village of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon in Vichy France. For more information about this important remembrance, go to [www.keene.edu/cchs/kristallnacht.cfm](http://www.keene.edu/cchs/kristallnacht.cfm).

## Definitely Definitions

TERRI O'RORKE

SLAPP: Strategic Lawsuit

Against Public Participation

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation ("SLAPP") is a lawsuit or a threat of lawsuit that is intended to intimidate and silence critics by burdening them with the cost of a legal defense until they abandon their criticism or opposition. Winning the lawsuit is not necessarily the intent of the person filing the SLAPP. The plaintiff's goals are accomplished if the defendant succumbs to fear, intimidation, mounting legal costs or simple exhaustion and abandons the criticism. A SLAPP may also intimidate others from participating in the debate.

According to New York Supreme Court Judge J. Nicholas Colabella, "Short of a gun to the head, a greater threat to First Amendment expression can scarcely be imagined." A number of jurisdictions have made such suits illegal, provided that the appropriate standards of journalistic responsibility have been met

by the critic.

The acronym was coined in the 1980s by University of Denver professors Penelope Canan and George W. Pring. The term was originally defined as "a lawsuit involving communications made to influence a governmental action or outcome, which resulted in a civil complaint or counterclaim filed against non-government individuals or organizations on a substantive issue of some public interest or social significance." It has since been defined more broadly to include suits about speech on any public issue.

## A Shared Concern, or a Tale of Two Signs

VICTORIA PROVOST

In response to Mrs. Elaine Moriarty's letter to the editor in the October 2008 issue, I would like to echo her sentiments. NO ONE should trespass nor damage property when an individual displays a sign on his/her lawn.

Apparently, my husband and I, as well as others in Richmond, are not allowed to express our freedom of speech either. You see, we have one sign saying, "Democracy not Theocracy" on our front lawn and apparently the attorney for Saint Benedict Center believes it is not an acceptable form of freedom of speech. While others in Richmond display or have displayed this sign, we have been targeted, much like Mrs. Moriarty, for expressing our right under the Constitution and because we, too, are vocal. It seems that being quiet and conforming to the status quo is far "safer" than speaking one's mind or challenging the status quo or challenging voters you may disagree with. Perhaps we should have taken more seriously the message on our answering machine left by a Richmond resident who said, "Russ, you've picked the wrong person to — with."

Why the Moriartys? My belief is that it is because

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they are quite vocal with respect to the Monadnock Regional School District. I saw their sign and it said "Vote No" on the teachers' contract. And, apparently, some person(s) didn't agree with them. While I may be on the opposite side of the contract issue, I believe it is Mrs. Moriarty's right to display that sign. The sign was not targeting any one individual, but rather a general statement regarding the entire contract. The same is true for the sign on our lawn. It is my belief that our government at all levels must not be based upon ANY religion.

Now I suppose one could argue that there are no similarities between the two signs. I beg to differ. While the messages may be different, the act is the same. Both families had/have a sign expressing a political belief. Period.

Hopefully, the Moriarty's did not incur a great financial expense by placing that sign on their front lawn. If they did, I can only say I hope it does not mirror the expense we have had to incur as a result of our sign. And with that said, I write this last sentence with "tongue in cheek." Let's hope neither the teachers' union nor Kids First Monadnock send a sheriff to serve a subpoena at their home because they chose to say "no."

## New Hampshire State Constitution Bill Of Rights

TERRI O'RORKE

**Article 6 [Morality & Piety]:** As morality and piety, rightly grounded on high principles, will give the best and greatest security to government and will lay in the hearts of men, the strongest obligations to due subjection; and as the knowledge of these is most likely to be propagated through a society, therefore, the several parishes, bodies, corporate or religious societies shall at all times have the right of electing their own teachers and of contracting with them for their support or maintenance or both. But no person shall ever be compelled to pay towards the support of the schools of any sect or denomination. And every person, denomination or sect shall be equally under the protection of the law; and no subordination of any one sect, denomination or persuasion to another shall ever be established. (June 2, 1784; Amended 1968 to remove obsolete sectarian references.)

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## "Glittering Prizes" is a Delight

FRANK BEHRENS

**Glittering Prizes** While so many new British series appearing on DVD are frankly either sophisticated pornography or bad in so many other ways, it is such a pleasure to see a real gem reappear from the past glories of Britain's telecasts. One of these is the 1976 "The Glittering Prizes," and it is now available at long last in a boxed set of three BBC Video DVDs.

Covering 20 years in the lives of several Cambridge students who went different ways but whose ties drew them always back together, the six 80-minute episodes begin with a Jewish rebel, played to perfection by Tom Conti, who more or less gives up on trying to reason with unreasoning people and sets his sights on writing great novels.

Other characters are played with equal conviction by upcoming British actors: the homosexual (Nigel Havers), the film producer (Mark Wing-Davey), the long-suffering wives, and all the others who looked forward to the glittering prizes promised to Cambridge graduates, which somehow never materialize except for a few. Special mention to Barbara Kellerman, who portrays Conti's patient wife with subtlety and just a touch of humor.

The most outstanding feature of this series is the intelligent dialogue—mostly given to Tom Conti. His speech about tolerance to a small group of holocaust survivors in the last episode provides more food for thought than any twenty canned and banal speeches by politicians or self-proclaimed leaders of minority groups.

Frederic Raphael, author of the book that was the source of the miniseries, appears in a bonus special about his own experiences at Cambridge and how they influenced his novel. Grab this one!

**Anderson 4** In a very short time, Naxos has issued four CDs devoted to the music of Leroy Anderson,

that American master of the short descriptive piece. "Leroy Anderson: Orchestral Music-4" is somewhat different from the three that preceded it in that it contains two of his suites: "Irish Suite" (1947/49) and "Scottish Suite" (1954). This is the world premiere recording of the complete four-movement "Scottish Suite."

Another difference is that three of the pieces ("Blue Tango," "Forgotten Dreams," and "Belle of the Ball") are for the first time recorded in their versions for voice and orchestra, with Kim Criswell and William Dazeley doing the vocals. Yet another difference is that music by another composer—in this case Edward MacDowell's "To a Wild Rose"—is included in an arrangement by Anderson.

The other pieces on this CD are "Summer Skies," "Alma Mater," and "A Christmas Festival." The BBC Concert Orchestra is conducted by Leonard Slatkin.

My readers who love Anderson's music and want to hear something other than his "Syncopated Clock" should grab this one right quick—and then get the other three, because what is wrong with "Syncopated Clock?"

## To the Richmond Rooster:

CHERYL KAHN

The teachers would like to thank the citizens of Richmond for the very close vote on September 9. It was heartening to see the increase in YES votes over the March vote.

I received a copy of the Richmond Rooster with the September article from Neil Moriarty and Jim Carnie. I would like to correct some of their misstatements.

1. Longevity was calculated wrong. The example given took the \$400 point value and multiplied it by the years off step—in their example, they used 10 years—coming up with a total longevity of \$4,000. The correct way to calculate longevity is to take the \$400 point value and multiply it by the number of

points, which range from 1 to 5. A teacher with 1 point (10 to 14 years in the district) would get \$400 and a teacher with 5 points (30 or more years of experience in the district) would get \$2,000—not the \$4,000 stated by Mr. Moriarty and Mr. Carnie.

2. The HMO is not free for teachers. While the HMO has been free in the past, it has risen at a faster rate than the other policies. As a result, it has not been free for the last three years. With the passage of the contract, teachers selecting the HMO will pay approximately 7% this year and probably 15% by the end of the contract.

3. The cost of early retirement is misstated. The business manager calculated that if the contract passes, thus ending entry into early retirement, the cost to finish off all payments would be \$2.1 million. The maximum payout will be right after the last group goes out in 2009. There will be 25 people, and that cost will be \$423,361.79. It will continue to decrease until the 2015-16 school year, with the final payment being \$41,639 that year. The \$840,000 figure is one that was taken from the handout prepared for the February deliberative session by the business manager. She indicated that if the contract were defeated and early retirement continued on indefinitely, the cost would rise to \$840,000 a year and the district would spend \$4.4 million by 2016. The \$840,000 represents 35 people being out at the same time. We have never had—nor will we ever have—35 people out on early retirement at any one time.

4. As far as switching insurance in 2007, all five unions in the SAU must agree to the switch. None of them did. It was not just the teachers in this district. But by bidding out the insurance, we did realize about a half million dollar savings last year, and this year the current carrier was the lowest bidder.

In the future, I would hope that these elected officials would run their statements past the business manager and/or the union president to make sure that what they are telling the public is accurate.

Sincerely, Cheryl Kahn

President, Monadnock District Education Association, 135 Darling Road, Keene, NH 03431.

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

DATE: 4 August 2008

Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan

Read mail and signed checks.

Steve Boscarino, Tax Collector, came in to give the Selectmen a report of receipts for the month of July.

Had a one hour closed door meeting with the town attorney to discuss legal issues.

Marcus Beauregard was in to speak with the Selectmen about the vacant Health Officer position. He is interested in volunteering. Marcus is also concerned about the condition of Fish Hatchery Road because there is sand all over the road which is hazardous, especially for motorcyclists.

Irene Marshall came in and asked to go into non-public session at 8:10 for a personnel matter. Nonpublic session was exited at 8:35. Sean made a motion to seal the minutes per RSA 91-A:3 II(a). Wes seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Jim Daley and Joe Thibodeau were in about Mr. Daley's lot, the Allen lot, map 407 lot 083. He had put up a barricade to keep out unwanted vehicles, but the barricade was destroyed. Mr. Daley would like a copy of the police report, but has not received a response from the police department. Sean called Chief Wood and left a message. Chief Wood later came in and spoke directly with Mr. Daley.

JC went out yesterday, August 3, to look at the completed work on Old County Road and showed two pictures that he had taken. JC made a motion that the conditions of the Notice of Decision from June 26, 2008, granting the petition to cut trees along Old County Road have been satisfied. Sean seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Chief Wood came in and asked to go into executive session. JC made a motion to go into non-public session for a personnel matter. Sean made a motion to exit nonpublic session. Wes seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed. Sean made a motion to seal the minutes per RSA 91-A:3 II(a). Wes seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Kim Mattson and Terri O'Rorke came in about road signs that are missing around Town. They submitted a list of signs that are missing. Kim had some additional questions about the condition of Taylor Hill Road. She also asked about having the bridge on Cy Taylor repaired for emergency access. It is not a town road. JC told her she could go through the process of asking abutters if they

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Wes Vaughan

would give the town rights to make it an Emergency Lane.

Norwood and Phyllis Keeney were in regarding their building permit. Bev will review and print the form for the Selectmen to sign.

Sandra Perry was in to discuss a pending legal issue.

Brian Gold came in to get a building permit for a shed, map 408 lot 017. Issued permit #2008-016.

There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

**DATE: 11 August 2008**

Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Jim Buzzell is sitting in and recording the meeting.

Read mail and signed checks.

Dana Taylor, Road Agent, was in regarding Fay Martin Road Bridge that he will re-plank. He gave an update on the conditions of Old County Road and Fish Hatchery Road and the culvert on Monument Road. "Dead End" and "Not a Thru Way" signs have been received. "Children at Play" is on order.

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, came in to discuss the election on September 9.

Bob Coy, Emergency Management chair, was in to talk about the grants that we should be receiving. Bob asked to go into nonpublic session to discuss legal issues, RSA 91-A:3, II(e). JC made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:30. Wes seconded. All were in favor. Janel stayed in during the nonpublic session as she is the liaison to the attorney. Exited nonpublic session at 7:55. Sean made a motion to seal the minutes as the reason for nonpublic session still exists. Wes seconded. All were in favor.

Sandra Perry came in. She stated that Alan Schmidt wishes to have a workshop with the Zoning Board, Planning Board and the Selectmen to go over procedures. She also has a personal concern about a drive-

way permit off Route 32 for Russell LaPlume. Sandra called the State. A permit had been applied for in 2002, but the State was never called for an inspection. He either needs to have it inspected or reapply.

Gwyn Powers was in to check the status of her building permit. Her permit was finalized and the Selectmen signed permit #2008-018.

Jim Buzzell came in about a complaint he made back in February regarding map 412 lot 021. He has been away and wanted to know the status. JC had done an inspection and the Board had done quite a bit of research regarding the RSAs, but it hasn't gone any further. There was a water test that was done and Jim has a copy of that which he will supply to the Board.

David Beers was in to check the status of two building permits he has submitted, map 411 lot 028-2 and map 411 lot 028-7. JC needs him to obtain some additional setback measurements. The Board also has some questions to ask of the planning board as to any differences in setbacks for cluster subdivisions.

Lloyd Condon came in and asked the Board to go into Executive Session at 9:14. Sean made a motion to go into Executive Session RSA 91-A:3, II(e). Wes seconded. All were in favor.

**DATE: 18 August 2008**

Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan

Read mail and signed checks.

Steve Boscarino, Tax Collector, was in inquiring about deed waivers. He also discussed the map 414 lot 011 with the Selectmen.

Mike Bailey, Fire Department, was in for two raffle permits which the Selectmen signed.

Marcus Beauregard was in on the request of the Selectmen to be interviewed a second time for the Health Officer. JC made a motion that Marcus Beauregard be accepted for the position of Health Officer. The motion was seconded by Sean. The Board was unanimous in the selection of Marcus as Health

Officer. Janel will write a letter to the State Department of Health recommending that he be appointed. Another issue brought up by Marcus was a concern with a dead branch on one of the trees near the Fire Dept. and library.

David Beers was in regarding his building permits. Steve Pro came in with him to ask questions about the septic system and wetlands. Signed building permit #2008-019 for map 411 lot 028-7. He is returning with wetlands delineation information on the other parcel.

Martin Smart came in regarding the bids he submitted for the Vet's Hall roof project.

William Pearsall was in regarding a check he received in error that should have been sent to his father. We will correct the error.

Donald Mueller and Kim Mattson came in regarding the status of Taylor Hill Road. It still needs to be fixed from the damage the log trucks caused. He is

also concerned about the environmental effects of the logging operation at the old Fedor property on Rt. 32.

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, was in about the safe in her office that she had asked the Selectmen about removing. She has decided to keep the safe. Annette also discussed Internet problems that she is having again. She discussed some options with Wes.

Bill Sullivan came in about damage to his property on the discontinued road formerly known as Minkville Road from four wheelers. He would like the Town to contact the Fish and Game Department as they are in charge of four wheelers. There have also been some mattresses and other items that have been dumped on his property. Janel will email Andy to ask him to take a look at it.

Lloyd Condon was in regarding the bid he submit-

ted for the Vet's Hall roof project.

JC made a motion to accept the bid from Condon's Custom Construction for the replacement of the roof on the Veteran's Memorial Hall. Sean seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Cross State Trail Ride, Inc. gave a \$100 donation to the Beach Committee as a thank you for allowing them to use the Town Beach during their stay.

There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

**DATE: 25 August 2008**

Attending: Sean McElhiney and Wes Vaughan  
Read mail and signed checks.

JC Boudreau will not be in tonight.

Steve Boscarino, Tax Collector, was in. Gave update to Selectmen on the Ellis property.

Gene White, chairman of the School Board, came in with

several others, including Cheryl Kahn, head of the Teacher's Union, Brian Pickering, principal of the high school, Kenneth Dassau, Superintendent of Schools and David Hodgdon, Assistant Superintendent to explain the new teacher's contract which comes up to vote on September 9. Mr. White explained that the teachers gave three major concessions in the contract from March. 1. They will pay 20% of their insurance costs instead of the 10% they are paying now. 2. They will give up the evergreen clause that states if at the end of this four-year contract there is no successor contract the teachers would still get their step raises, and 3. Early retirement. The taxpayers will actually pay more toward early retirement and health insurance if this contract doesn't pass.

Joe Boulay was in to introduce the Selectmen to a petition for high speed internet in town. A copy of the petition to Fairpoint Communications will be posted on the bulletin board in town hall for anyone who would like to sign it.

Signed Intents to Cut for map 404 lots 47, 48 and 35, map 405 lot 33 and 27 and map 412 lot 55.

There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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■ Mon. 7:30 —? p.m. Public Concerns  
**Town Secretary:** Beverly Hart  
■ Mon. 6 p.m. —9 p.m.  
■ Wed. 8 a.m. — 12 noon, 1:00 p.m.- 5p.m.  
■ Fri. 8 a.m. —12 noon, 1:00 p.m.— 4p.m.  
**Town Clerk:** Annette Tokunaga  
Deputy: Pamela Goodell  
■ Mon. 9 a.m. —Noon, 1 —4 p.m., 6 —8 p.m.  
■ Wed. 9 a.m. —Noon, 1 —4 p.m.  
■ Tues. & Thurs. 9 a.m. —Noon  
**Tax Collector:** Steve Boscarino  
Mon. 7 p.m. —8 p.m.  
■ Thurs. 4 p.m. —6 p.m.  
**Planning Board:** Robert Coy, Chairperson  
■ Meetings held at Civil Defense Building  
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■ Sat. 8 a.m. —5 p.m.  
**Town Library:** Wendy O'Brien, Librarian  
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■ Wed. 9:00 a.m. —12 p.m.  
■ Thurs. 4:30 —7 p.m.  
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