



Town Meeting

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

On March 9, 2010, the Town of Richmond held the Monadnock Regional School District election and both sessions of the town meeting at the Veterans' Hall. The polls were open from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The voter turnout for the school election was 425, or 50.6 percent. The Town of Richmond voters passed all articles except Article 2, which was the budget for the administrative unit.

The voter turnout for the town election was 440, or 52.4 percent. The results for the election of officers and the two questions on the ballot are as follows:

Sandra Gillis received 259 votes for Selectman, 3-year terms.

Peter Majoy received 253 votes and Norma Thibodeau received 264 votes for Planning Board, 3-year term.

Geraldine Lutz received 366 votes for Trustee of Trust Funds, 3-year term.

Marcia Lee received 367 votes for Cemetery Trustee, 3-year term.

Bonnie McCarthy received 369 votes for Library Trustee, 3-year term.

Heather Remick received 359 votes for Treasurer, 3-year term.

Joseph Tonweber received 261 votes for Supervisor of the Checklist, 6-year term.

Peter Majoy received 247 votes for Moderator, 2-year term.

The question to have the second session (the business meeting) of the annual town meeting on a day determined by the selectmen PASSED by a vote of 252 yes and 150 no. This means that, until rescinded by similar action, the second session/business meeting will be held on a day other than the second Tuesday of March. Some of you may recall a similar question on the ballot that passed in March 2008. This vote was non-binding because of the wording of the question. Thus, although the selectmen decided to separate the two sessions of town meeting in 2009, they were not obligated to do so and decided not to do so this year.

The question to adopt the official ballot referendum form of town meeting, otherwise known as SB-2, DID NOT PASS. Although this question received 213 yes votes and 189 no votes, it failed to receive the 3/5 majority required by law in order to be adopted.

All the amendments to the zoning ordinances on the

pink ballot passed, except for Amendment #7. That amendment would have added "Middle Town district" to Article 202 of the zoning ordinances, but lost by one vote.

The business meeting was called to order at 8:14 p.m. Of the 840 registered voters, the checklist showed that 180 voters, or 21 percent, attended that evening. At the beginning of the meeting, the total of the proposed 2010 budget was \$879,300, an increase of \$122,155 (16 percent) from the previous year's budget. This total excluded the article submitted by petition to raise and appropriate \$103,143 for the police department, this amount including the upgrade of chief of police to a full-time position.

By the end of the meeting, the budget was reduced by \$113,868, bringing the total to \$765,432. This revised budget represented a \$8,287 (1 percent) increase from the 2009 budget. The articles for the Winchester Learning Center, a library expansion, and the budget that included a full-time police chief did not pass. Amendments to reduce the budget were passed for:

Executive Salaries and Expenses (amended from \$51,084 to \$45,530).

Election, Registration & Vital Statistics (amended from \$48,410 to \$47,400).

Financial Administration (from \$48,958 to \$43,335).

Local & Regional Planning and Zoning (from \$16,900 to \$10,125).

General Government Buildings (from \$55,000 to \$39,000).

Cemeteries (from \$17,200 to \$15,850).

Police Department (from \$84,831 to \$79,325).

Highways and Streets (from \$201,050 to \$180,000).

Both the resolution to investigate the events of September 11, 2001 and the resolution to allow the citizens of NH to vote on an amendment to the NH Constitution defining "marriage" passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:28 a.m.

What began on a late winter's morning filled with sunshine and a promise of spring ended in the dark hours of the following morning. Over the course of that long and challenging day, many, many people helped. Each of these individuals was a willing, cheerful, and conscientious participant.

If you have not previously been involved in a town meeting, please consider doing so in the future. You may find the experience to be an opportunity to get to know your neighbor. You may also come to appreciate the process of town government and discover the impact that one individual can have.

New Hampshire Legislative News**Barbara Hull Richardson****State Representative, Cheshire County, District 5**

There are 22 committees of the New Hampshire House of Representatives that make up the bulk of the work done in this august body.

This is about one of those committees: The Children and Family Law Committee, on which I am serving for my 18th year as a Richmond and Fitzwilliam, NH state representative.

The Children and Family Law Committee introduces, studies and recommends many bills to help children and their families meet their responsibilities in important and useful ways.

The House Children and Family Law Committee has an interesting history. Back in the early 1990s, it was called the Children, Youth and Juvenile Justice Committee. In 1995, it was decided to eliminate "children" from the title and it was named the Judiciary and Family Law Committee.

A number of legislators felt that since there was a committee for fish and game, then children should also be recognized. So, in 1999, Children and Family Law came into existence.

The work done by this committee encompasses a number of issues that impact many individuals and families in our state. Custody – now referred to as parental rights and responsibilities – child support, adoptions, foster homes, guardianship of minors, child care licensing are among the areas impacted by bills that come before the Children and Family Law Committee.

Recently, the committee supported and saw made into law the lowering of the age for donating blood from 18 to 16. A number of high school students are now choosing to contribute to the life-saving blood donation drives.

A bill supporting grandparents' rights to access court and case records involving their grandchildren in child abuse/neglect cases was passed in the Children and Family Law Committee and went on to become law.

Adoptees now have access to their birth certificates, thanks to this committee and the rest of the legislature. Adoptions are now open, allowing some birth parents to have contact with their birth children after the children have been adopted. It became legal for homosexuals to become foster and/or adoptive parents. Programs for homeless youths must now be licensed. Hospitals can receive abandoned infants without parents being punished for the crime of endangering them.

There are now tuition waivers for former foster children attend-

ing New Hampshire state colleges.

Child impact seminars are now required for parents who are in the process of divorce. These seminars make clear the difficulties children experience when their parents are separating. They emphasize the importance of not involving the youngsters in the problems the adults have with each other.

The Children and Family Law Committee approved a bill making it possible for the courts to develop a parenting plan for parents who are separating so it is clear what the terms are for their children's care, vacation plans, and the responsibilities of each parent. There are now parenting coordinators who assist parents in carrying out their requirements.

The Children and Family Law Committee members work closely with the courts in carrying out these statutes and will continue to do so.

As always I welcome your comments and suggestions.

Richmond Property Owners**Beverly Hart****2010 Inventory of Taxable Properties (PA-28)RSA 74**

The Town Reports have been sent out. Included in the envelope with the Town Report will be the "Inventory of Taxable Properties" form. Please fill out steps 1-7 and return to this office by 15 April, 2010 to forego any penalties. Any questions please call 239-4232.

**Commissioner's Corner
County Commissioner Stillman Rogers,
District 3**

Sunday afternoon, April 11, marks a new beginning for the people of this county. The Opening Ceremonies for the new Cheshire County House of Corrections will take place at 1:00 p.m. on that date, and the Commissioners invite all interested parties to attend the ceremonies.

For more than 10 years, political division over the location of the facility delayed construction until a final site selection was approved in early 2007. Since that time construction has proceeded rapidly with completion achieved in March 2010. The project has been completed on time and within its budget.

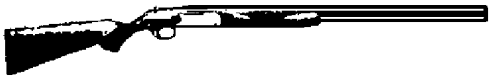
The new facility for the first time allows corrections officers to segregate prisoners by degree of dangerousness and for the first time provides facilities for women that meet necessary standards. By reducing the amount of prisoner movement, the facility also allows for fewer officers to oversee a greater number of prisoners, thereby reducing long term costs. Energy efficiency was also a

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goal in this construction and it has been built to LEED Silver standard. Additionally, a geothermal heating and cooling system was installed which will result not only in a reduction of hydro-carbon releases but will result in millions of dollars of fuel savings over the life of the building. On the outside, LED lighting powered by solar panels lights the drive and perimeter road further reducing electricity bills.

From a Corrections point of view, the building is a massive improvement over the undersized and failing building that is being closed. Massive overcrowding, up to three times the building's capacity, will be eliminated, greatly reducing danger to officers and prisoners alike. The new jail and House of Corrections also has program space, completely lacking in the old facility, which will permit more counseling and retraining than was possible at the old facility. By providing safer working conditions for county employees and a safer environment for inmates, the risk of losses to the county from workmen's comp and inmate lawsuits is greatly reduced.

Please do come to the opening of the facility, or come to the new facility on April 12 and 13 when the building will be open for tours. Inmates will not be moved into the facility until after those dates, making this the best time to see the whole of the new building. The building is on Route 101 just before the Marlboro town line. See you there.

On another matter, I want to remind you that the county is sponsoring a prescription discount program that has been saving people in the county as much as 25 percent on prescription drugs. Savings to people of this county have been over \$250,000 since the program began. The program is not an insurance program and costs neither the county nor participants any money. If you don't have prescription insurance I urge you to go to the office of the County Commissioners at 33 West Street in Keene and pick up a card from the table just inside the door. They are free. CVS and some other local drug stores honor the card.

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Richmond Public Library**Wendy O'Brien**

Story Hours We will have three story times in April: Tuesday, April 6th from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. there will be a "Pajama" story time with Wendy—come dressed ready for bed! Please also come on Saturday, April 10th at 11:00 a.m. for a fun story time and craft with Gwyn. Snacks will be available! There will also be a brief story hour for younger elementary school aged children at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 12th. All are welcome.

New! Reading with Kodah, Therapy Dog We are pleased to offer you and your children the chance to meet Kate Simington and her dog Kodah, a certified pet therapy dog from Monadnock Therapy Pets. Kodah loves being read to by children, and offers a patient and nonjudgmental ear for our younger or reluctant readers. Please drop by and say hello, and perhaps read a book to Kodah! Our next "doggie day" will be on Saturday, April 17th at 11:00 a.m.

New! Adult Program—Russian Faberge Eggs and Lacquer Boxes with Marina Forbes We have received a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council to present "Russian Faberge Eggs and Lacquer Boxes: From Craft to Fine Art." This free program will be presented on Sunday, April 11th at 2:00 p.m. at the Veterans' Hall. Refreshments will be provided after the program.

Marina Forbes has been a lecturer, historian, artist, iconographer, storyteller, and teacher for more than 20 years. She is a licensed guide of the Hermitage Museum in her native city of St. Petersburg, Russia, and leads several customized tours to Russia each year. Marina is currently the Director of International Programs at the New England Language Center in Rochester, New Hampshire.

Marina's illustrated presentation will focus on the unique

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development of Faberge eggs and lacquer boxes from traditional crafts to exquisite fine art. Emphasis is on the important role of egg and lacquer box painting in Russian culture, and the elevation of these traditional forms to the level of high art under the patronage of the tsars.

Spring Cleaning Russ Provost

Spring is here and now is the time for Richmond's roadside cleanup. This year we are partnering with Litter-Free New Hampshire (www.nhthebeautiful.org). They will not only be providing us the "Blue Bags," but—as a bonus for participating—they will give us our choice of either two five-foot blight resistant elm trees, or 400 daffodil bulbs, or 50 bare-root lilac plants. This year's cleanup day will be Saturday, May 1st. I will be handing out bags at the Pavilion from 5-6 p.m. on Friday, April 30th or 7-8 a.m. on Saturday, May first. Sign up for road sections may be done in advance by either calling me at 239-7058; e-mailing me at chloe911@localnet.com; or when you pick up your bags. Chip Adams will be providing the dumpster for the collected trash. Make sure you wear bright clothes. Last year we collected almost 5000 pounds. Let's try to break that record.

Winchester Learning Center Donations Kim Mattson

At the Richmond Town Meeting, Article 39 (to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1000.00 for the Winchester learning Center (by request)), failed by a hand

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Richmond Community United Methodist Church

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count of 59 to 38.

The Rural Preservation Committee was contacted by a neighbor who could not believe that our town voted down a petition for a donation to prepare children to enter the public school system. Only Richmond would house a neighbor who would be willing to match donations to the Winchester Learning Center up to \$500. We would like to invite you to join if you wish. This is an area or service that RPC normally agrees to and it matches our Mission - "To use proactive means to educate and organize citizens." She knew she could trust our committee and continue to be anonymous in our town. Checks/donations can be written to the Winchester Learning Center—a non-profit organization and your donation is tax deductible. Please send them to Rural Preservation Committee PO Box 214, Winchester, NH 03470. We will make a copy of your check and your donation will be matched.

Thank You, Richmond Residents Bonnie McCarthy

Librarian, Wendy O'Brien, and the Library Board of Trustees wish to express our heart-felt gratitude to the residents of Richmond for your support of our fiscal year 2010 budget. It is our mission to provide educational and recreational materials for all Richmond families. In addition to our land-based PCs, we now offer a wireless, high speed Internet connection for laptop users. As library and other town building space permit, we are pleased to offer special activities and programs for children and adults throughout the community.

We fully understand the need to take the necessary measures to keep Richmond town taxes as low as possible, and now realize 2010 was not the year to ask for \$50,000 to expand the library and archives. We are grateful to Selectman JC Boudreau for inquiring at Town Meeting whether a lesser amount would suffice. As we learned, a petitioned article cannot be amended without the approval of everyone who signed the original petition. We will continue to seek ways to improve the safety and protection of your library/archive physical plant and documents as economically as possible. We will continue to offer special activities and programs as often as possible. Our most recent event was an after

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dinner reception on March 25th from 6:30-8:00 p.m., full of yummy desserts for people of all ages. We gave many a sweet tooth a night to remember as we welcomed those who attended.

WE are YOUR library; grateful for your support, so we can continue to support you to the best of our abilities.

Hugh J. O'Rorke May 30, 1953 - March 2, 2010

Hugh J. O'Rorke IV, 56, of Whipple Hill Road, Richmond, NH, died Tuesday, March 02, 2010, following a sudden illness while traveling on business in Denville Township, New Jersey.

He was born in Providence, Rhode Island, May 30, 1953 the son of Anna (Giangiacomo) and Hugh J. O'Rorke III.

He grew up in Johnston, RI and was a 1972 graduate of Lasalle Academy. He resided in Smithfield, RI for several years where he attended Bryant College in Smithfield.


A resident of Richmond, NH for the past 20 years, Mr. O'Rorke was a salesman for over 15 years with GO Packaging based out of Ft. Payne, Alabama. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his granddaughters.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Terri O'Rorke of Richmond, two daughters, Shanna L. O'Rorke of Keene, NH, Erin H. Damren and her husband Gordon L. of Bath, Maine, two granddaughters; Chloe Roy and Taylor Damren, his mother, Anna Pinelli of Greenville, Rhode Island, a sister, Marianne Debellis of Greenville, RI, and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father, and in 1981 a daughter Heather O'Rorke.

A mass of Christian burial was celebrated Monday, March 8, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. in St. Margaret Mary Church, 33 Arch Street, Keene, NH. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Mr. O'Rorke's memory to the Monadnock Chapter for Violence Prevention, 12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431.

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Letter from the Editor John Boccalini

After a seven year hiatus I have decided to rejoin the Rooster staff as editor. The two month term of the latest editor is an example of the turmoil we have been experiencing as a town. As one of the founders of the Rooster, I feel compelled to try to help give it new life and energy to continue to better serve our readers. There will be editorial policy changes starting with this issue.

Our readers should be treated with respect by printing materials that are informative, entertaining and non-threatening to our entire community. Opinions and letters will still be printed. However, some may be delayed to check the accuracy of their content. The deadlines remain the same, although articles that are submitted late may appear if space and time allow, or if there is importance for the public's concern. The entire staff will contribute to deciding and following our editorial policy, but I will be the final decision maker of what goes to print. If you have any ideas for improvement or other suggestions, let me know.

A man is only as respectable as the respect that he gives. I hope The Richmond Rooster can give our readers all the respect they deserve.

PSNH to Replace 18 Miles of Transmission Line Allison McLean

In mid April 2010, PSNH plans to upgrade the transmission line that runs from a substation in Fitzwilliam to the substation in Hinsdale, NH, by replacing 17.7 miles of outdated static grounding wire with new fiber optic line.

Work is expected to begin on or about April 25th and should be completed by mid May. This project is part of an overall infrastructure upgrade initiate to the transmission system for improved electric quality and reliability in southwest NH.

As well as traditional ground equipment, such as bucket trucks and cranes, at a few locations helicopters will also be used. Residents may see low flying and hovering aircraft along the transmission right-of-way.

Helicopters are used for efficiency as well as a way to reduce the environmental impact in the right of way. Linemen are harnessed to the helicopter to perform needed work on the lines. At times they are also lowered onto the transmission poles to complete necessary work. Residents who have farm animals in or near the right of way, in particular horses, may want to be alerted to the use of helicop-

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6 About Town

ters in the area.

If there are any questions, or concerns about this project, please contact Allison McLean, Municipal Relations and External Affairs Specialist for PSNH's Transmission Group, at mcleaaa@nu.com or 603-634-3743.

Quotable Quote

Terri O'Rorke

"You have the power of one. And if you use it for something that's bigger than you are, people will come." Doris Haddock, a.k.a. "Granny D."

2011 RPC Richmond Calendar

Kim Mattson

Dig through your photos! The Rural Preservation Committee will be offering the 2011 Richmond Calendar, and we're asking our neighbors to submit photos. RPC created a calendar with limited printing in 2010, and the sales were wonderful. SOLD OUT! We are asking our neighbors to submit photos for an awesome 2011 calendar.

All photos submitted must be of Richmond. We ask for clear, color photos marked as to the location of photo, year, and marked with name and address for return. Give them to an RPC member or send them to.

Rural Preservation Committee, PO Box 214, Winchester, NH 03470. Deadline is May 1, 2010.

Geography Only

Sr. Mary Joseph

Which ocean borders the greatest number of countries? Which state is above the Long Island Sound? Which river flows through the Grand Canyon?

This is just a sampling of questions from the National Geographic Geography Bee. Students in grades 4-8 are invited to compete first in their own schools, then at the state level, and finally at a national bee. Congratulations to Marc Doucette (grade 7), who was the winner of the bee which was held at Immaculate Heart of Mary School here in Richmond, on January 8. Marc also had to take a written test to qualify for the state bee, which he has taken and passed. All of you geography fans are encouraged to come on April 9th to Keene State College for the state competition. Good luck, Marc! We are rooting for you.

March 2010 Richmond Town Meeting

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The RPC Forum

Town Warrant

Kim Mattson and Jean Tandy

Richmond voters made a major move in the interest of public health, safety and public welfare when they adopted the Planning Board's proposal to add Aquifer Protection District (Article 7) to the Town Zoning Ordinance. (pps 6-9, latest Town Report). The regulations for the aquifer are meant to protect, preserve and maintain existing and potential groundwater supply and groundwater recharge areas within the known aquifer from adverse development, land use practices, or depletion, by implementing NH Best Management Practices for groundwater protection. NH regards water as a public resource, and accordingly, creates laws to protect it. Combined efforts of our Planning Board with RPC, working since mid-2007, brought NHDES Department of Environmental Services on two occasions to Richmond residents with power point presentations of geologic formations and related information about water resources, including aquifers. Public awareness of the need to protect our public water resources was raised in preparation for passage of this proposal. The Planning Board formed the Aquifer Committee, chaired by Peter Majoy, and together they embarked on intensive work required to shape this essential piece of town ordinance.

Voting Results...Yes 213, No 182.

*Livestock Facilities (408) (pp10-Town Report) was adopted as an amendment to Article 4 of the Town Zoning Ordinance. Voting Results...Yes 210, No 196.

*Commercial Kennel—was adopted as Amendment #6 to Article 15 – Definitions of the Town Zoning Ordinance. Passed.

Basically these last two address pet waste, manure piles and proper shelter for large and small animals as well as reinforce Best Management Practices.

*Driveways—was adopted as Amendment #9 to Article 306 Driveways. It clarifies setback requirements. Passed.

*Dwelling Units —was adopted as #10 to be added to Article 4 Residential District: Only one dwelling is allowed per lot provided topographic and soil conditions allow this lot to meet sanitary requirements for the use. Passed.

*Signs—this amendment replaces Article 314 in current voting results. Yes 239, No 166.



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* Middle Town District—(pp 12 Town Report). Voted down by one vote.

It is our belief that these ordinances will work to assure current and future generations of the enjoyment and solitude of Richmond's rural environment.

The RPC uses proactive means to educate and organize citizens, help to institute environmentally friendly zoning ordinances and strengthen local governance through support and accountability.

RPC does not have any lawsuits against the town of Richmond, or anyone else.

Town Clerk's Office

Annette Tokunaga

To owners and keepers of
DOGS and PUPPIES:

Don't forget that all dog licenses
expire at the end of April.

Rabies shots must be current.

Silent "La Boheme" is Still a Powerful Drama

Frank Behrens

LA BOHEME One of the bright stars in the Warner Bros. Archive Collection is the 1926 silent film version of "La Boheme," directed by King Vidor. "Suggested by" the collection of short interrelated stories, "Life in the Latin Quarter" by Henri Murger, the plot concentrates entirely on the Mimi-Rodolphe story, as did the Puccini opera. There are, however, many incidents not found in the opera; and the film should be considered on its own merits—although it is quite difficult not to think of Puccini.

Lillian Gish steals the show as the little seamstress, Mimi. Whereas the opera cleans up her character, it still leaves room for a streetwise interpretation. Given Gish as star, Vidor elected to make her utterly angelic. The sequence late in the film that shows Mimi, after leaving her lover, falling from exhaustion at work, being carried home to her hovel, and then literally crawling across Paris to die with him, would draw laughter with any actress with less talent than Gish's.

The Rodolphe of John Gilbert, by contrast, is exasperating and often detestable as he lets his jealousy overcome his more tender feelings for his only love. And if his acting is in the silent film mode, this is after all a silent film!

French actress Renee Adoree (love that name!) is a vivacious

Musette, who never seems to lack for money and a haute-couture hairdo. The other Bohemians are played by George Hassell (Schaunard), Gino Corrado (Marcel), and a young-looking Edward Everett-Horton (Colline). Roy D'Arcy makes a villainous Vicomte in the Snidely Whiplash tradition and provides (unintentional?) comic relief.

The restoration includes a piano score that does not quite always reflect the mood of the action on screen. It is on occasion joined by a cello or viola and draws upon Puccini to underline the action. Those were, to me, welcome moments.

Leonard Maltin gave this film a 3 1/2-star rating. I am sure that those familiar with the opera will smile indulgently; but again I urge that the film be taken on its own merits.

Like other entries in the Archive Collection, this DVD will not play on PCs but only on play-only hardware, because it can also be purchased as a download.

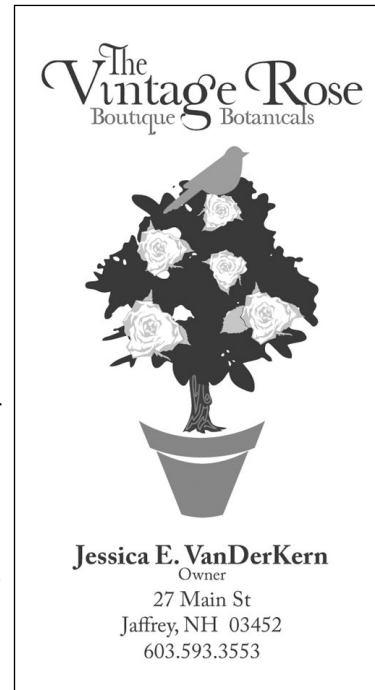
HAYDN SYMPHONIES The problem for collectors like me is an obsession for completeness. So if Joseph Haydn composed 104 symphonies, then 104 symphonies I must have. I came near but never reached my goal until Sony Classical released a set of "Haydn, The Complete Symphonies" in a boxed set of 37 CDs. And not only does the set include all of the symphonies but even the two sinfonia concertantes.

While I quite enjoy these works played by smaller forces than is usual on recordings—in this case the Stuttgarter Kammerorchester under Dennis Russell Davies—I wish the producers had cut off the applause at the end of each work, a feature that usually makes me avoid non-studio recordings.

The booklet lists the symphonies on each disc, but does not give the track numbers for each movement, which makes it very difficult

to find a particular part without hitting the repeat button and making one's own listings. Since each disc holds at least two symphonies, this becomes a problem.

For some reason, the producers decided not to present the works in order of their numbering—for instance, Disc 1 holds Symphonies 1, 37, 18, and 2—but in groups described as follows: early symphonies, first symphonies written for Prince Esterhazy, the "storm and stress" works, symphonies written for entertainment purposes, symphonies for the public at large, and the London symphonies. I am going to make a list to paste on the top cover



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of the box so I can easily find which symphony is on which disc without searching through the booklet! Despite all that, Haydn lovers will want to own this Sony Classical collection.

**Vandals Struck Again!
Sandy and Roger Perry**

This time Athol Road was the target, along with many mailboxes. Thanks to a quick-thinking neighbor who jumped into action by making himself visible and assisting the State Police, our property and our mailbox suffered no damage. With all the action, the vandals beat feet out of the area.

Thank you again Gabriel LaPlume for keeping a watchful eye out for us, and other neighbors as well. It's a comforting thing to know you have caring, concerned neighbors. We have just such neighbors in you and Sandy Holbrook, who alerted us to the nighttime marauders. She knew we were out of the area. We alerted the police and they again checked the house. Knowing all was well we felt no need to come rushing home, we have good neighbors.

**Only Those Who Are Selfless Enough
Can Wear The Shoes!**

Sandy Perry

My heartfelt gratitude to the many volunteers and poorly paid town officials who once again organized and worked tirelessly to make voting day a seamless success. Volunteers and organizers were there until the wee hours of the morning. I got home at 4:15 a.m. Our town clerk was still there and was on the job the next morning!

Our moderator spent a long night on his feet, and the burn in his knees told him so. The Vets Hall emptied, and he immediately organized the counters who sat and went through the tedious task of ballot counting. Many weary faces and aching bodies.

I also want to thank the Boy Scouts for participating in the opening ceremonies and leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. It always fills me with a great sense of pride.

To the young lady who sang the National Anthem, a very difficult song to sing, you have a lovely voice and did a wonderful job!

And you get to do it all over again next year! The thankless duties, the countless hours, the many volunteers who are committed to making it all happen. You are incredible, and I thank you all for being selfless enough to put the shoes on!

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**Dear Richmond Voters
Peter W. Majoy**

52 percent of registered voters showed up to cast their votes this year. It was one of the highest percentage turnouts of towns in our region. The 440 votes cast resulted in both my election to a third three-year term on the Planning Board as well as a first two year term as Town Moderator. Please understand the depth of my thankfulness. One of my favorite writers, Joseph Campbell, once stated: "One way or another, we all have to find what best fosters the flowering of our humanity in this contemporary life, and dedicate ourselves to that." Your vote for me and all the candidates you voted into office will "best foster the flowering of our humanity" as a small, rural town in southwestern New Hampshire. Again, thank you for doing what is best for Richmond.

**Dear Richmond Neighbors
Sandra Gillis**

Thank you for your vote of confidence at the polls last month. I am honored to be your newest Selectman. It was an interesting campaign, and the best part was meeting many of you and listening to your ideas. I hope that will continue and encourage you to stay in touch with me and the Board of Selectmen.

I'd like to thank Sean McElhiney for his service on the Board and Janel Swanson for her nine years as Assistant to the Selectmen. I was looking forward to working with Janel and will miss learning from her. I wish you happiness and success in your new job, Janel.

Thank you all who voted on the land use ordinance amendments. You voted to protect our drinking water; to provide a framework for being better neighbors and protect our livestock at the same time; to enshrine in law our traditional one dwelling per lot policy; and clarified the signage policy. Good laws, like fences, make good neighbors in this time when growth and life style can separate us from our neighbors. At Town Meeting, the operating budget was thoroughly examined, and the capital reserve funds and expendable trust funds scrutinized. It was a late

night but it gave all of us an opportunity to exercise influence over how and on what the town spends our hard-earned tax dollars.

Thank you again for your enthusiastic support. Together we can rebuild trust in our government and our neighbors; together we can strengthen our community, protect our natural and historic resources and cherish our most valuable assets—each other.

**Fairpoint Petition and High Speed
Internet Petition**

Joe Boulay

Sometime in the middle of 2008, my neighbor and I organized a petition for the residents of Richmond wanting high speed Internet service provided to them through phone lines. Within a few weeks, we gathered 140 signatures from residents of the town. The petition was sent to Fairpoint Communications and was followed up by contacting with Al Guimont from Fairpoint. He informed me that people without high-speed capability should have the service at the end of 2009. I reconnected with Al towards the last week of 2009 and he told me that Richmond New Hampshire was on the top 10 list of towns to be taken care of.

Phone lines do not need to be replaced to deliver DSL-type Internet service to their homes. D-Rams need to be installed every three miles to boost the DSL-type signal to homes that cannot currently receive high-speed Internet. If you live on 119, it may be a while until you receive high-speed Internet from Fairpoint. However, if you live on Route 32 you can receive high-speed Internet through cable from Time Warner.

I received a general mailing from Fairpoint that I could get phone, Internet and digital quality TV through my phone line. I contacted them only to be told that it was still not available to me at my location. It may be a long time before any of us receives high-speed Internet through our phone lines. I looked for other solutions to receive high-speed Internet from my home. I came very close to getting a Hughes satellite dish but heard poor comments about the performance and customer support from Hughes. I gathered information about an air card that you can plug into a laptop or your PC that you have in your home. Basically all cell phone carriers have these air cards. At the time I used US Cellular for my cell phone service and at my location in Richmond cell phone signal service was very poor. My niece had stopped by and her cell phone received two bars in my house. Her cell phone carrier was Verizon. I contacted Verizon in Keene and Jeff Brown actually came to my house and tested my signal strength. He told me that if I used the proper cell phone signal

booster I should be able to receive high-speed Internet with an air card. So, with a Verizon USB 727 air card and a 65db cellular booster, I am now receiving 1.4 Mb to 1.8 Mb download capability. It costs me \$70 a month for a five gig service per month. It is a small price to pay, especially if it can allow you to work at home with your computer and get a good cellular signal! This service works perfectly, the signal is not affected by poor weather conditions.

I had left a short note at the Four Corner Store stating my appreciation for everyone who signed the petition to Fairpoint, and I stated that there is a possible way to get high-speed Internet through an air card, depending on your cell phone signal service in your area. If your cell phone does not work at all from your home, it is not likely that an air card will work for you, with or without a cellular booster. Hopefully I can get my message through to at least one person with this message, and they will be able to take advantage of the readily available technology out there that can give you high speed Internet capability.

Thanks for all your help with signing the petition to Fairpoint and hopefully residents will be able to enjoy the benefits of high-speed Internet that the rest of the world is currently enjoying today!

**To my Family and Friends,
Betsy Pearsall**

Imagine walking 60 miles in three days with 2900 strangers. Imagine drinking gallons of sports drink and water because as you walk you are sweating almost as much as you can drink. Imagine looking forward to a "snack" and a Port-a-Potty every three miles.

Imagine feet, not-so-well traveled, so that this year there were blisters, but only two lost toenails!

Imagine three friends traveling over 1500 miles to take this amazing journey with you.

Imagine meeting an elderly woman and her daughter, cheering as we passed, who have a total of 21 years survivorship between them.

Imagine your new friends, your Louisiana Angels, greeting you every few miles with offers of hugs and encouragement.

Imagine raising more than \$11,000 over four years with the help of wonderful people like you.

Imagine raising \$7.5 million dollars with the help of over 2900 other walkers and crewmembers in Dallas/Ft Worth, Texas in 2009!

Imagine an end to breast cancer.



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In 2009, 40,170 women and 440 men were expected to die from breast cancer. This is not imaginary. And my walks could not happen without YOU. As always, you can make your donation by visiting my 3Day web page, <http://the3day.org/goto/betsynh>. By clicking the “Donate Now” link, you can make your donation right there. Another option is to make you check out to “Susan G Komen 3Day for a Cure” and mail it to me at 20 Old Homestead Highway, Richmond, NH 03470. I will gladly send it in for you! I will also be able to accept checks made out to me directly. I will deposit them and make the donation online in your name.

Fitzwilliam Historical Society
Terri Sillanpaa

We are sending out an advance notice of a special exhibit to be held at the Amos J. Blake House Museum during the months of June and July. Entitled “Dolls, Dollhouses & Miniatures,” it will display an exceptionally fine and diverse collection of interest to collectors and enthusiasts of all levels. Some arrangements from private collectors have already been made. We have antique dolls, unique fairy houses and a log cabin in miniature, Matroyshka (Russian) nesting dolls, original, handcrafted, and one of a kind dolls; plus dolls and miniatures by recognized artists. This will be a truly exceptional and exciting exhibit and we welcome your participation. If you have something you wish to display, please contact us before May 15th. The Fitzwilliam Town Library will also have a traveling doll exhibit during the month of July, which will feature dolls por-

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trayed from a literary collection as well as the accompanying book. Rounding out the area doll attractions, there will be a special doll exhibit connected to the Horatio Colony Museum in Keene during the summer. We all welcome your attendance and interest in this exciting triple presentation. Additional details will be forthcoming in next month’s Newsletter. Please review our website for additional information on this and other calendar and research features. www.fitzhistoricalsociety.org, 603-585-7742.

A Time to Heal
Russ Provost

The elections are over. The Town Meeting is over and the voters overwhelmingly voted on an amended budget for nearly every town department, reducing the town’s portion from a 16 percent increase to a one percent increase. Now is the time to heal our town. Let us return to a positive Rooster. If you can’t say something good, then don’t say anything at all. Embrace all our neighbors. Accept our differences and work for a more unified Richmond.

Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes

1 February 2010 : Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan
Read mail and signed checks. Peter Majoy dropped off a petition for the Selectmen to review. Sandy Gillis in to observe. Brad Grinstead in to observe. Jeffrey Taylor, Conservation Commission, came in to renew the Town Forest Road Agreement between the Town and Sprague Brook, Inc. Marcia and Marty Lee came in to check on their petition that was turned in last week and discussed it with the Selectmen. Gregg Patch was in to discuss a tax issue with the Selectmen on Map 410 Lot 022. Grayson Smith, GDS, came in to discuss the clean-up at the Vet’s Hall still to be done and to present his proposal for work to be done at the Vet’s Hall. Kim Mattson came in to discuss the zoning amendments she discussed last week with the Selectmen and how it would look on the ballots. Terri O’Rorke came in with a petition

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to present to the Selectmen. Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, was in to let the Selectmen know that the school district called and said we could have the use of the ballot counter on Town Meeting day. JC made a motion not to recommend the petition by the library for an expansion. Sean seconded. JC feels we should put our funds into a new government building. Sean feels that the space is mainly for library uses, i.e. the Archives and library meetings. All were in favor. Motion passed. The Board worked on the budget and warrant in preparation of the Budget Hearing Thursday night. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:45 p.m.
8 February 2010: Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Brad Grinstead in to observe. Arthur Dupuis was in to see the Selectmen regarding tree cutting on his property, map 202 lot 047. He was referred to the Department of Transportation. Nicolas Bosonetto came in to see the Selectmen about Candidates Night and other issues. Candidate’s Night is set for Thursday, March 4th from 6-8 p.m. Moderator Doug Bersaw and Town Clerk Annette Tokunaga came in to see the Selectmen regarding the upcoming election in March. Annette asked for clarification regarding whether or not the Selectmen are in favor of using the counting machine that the school district offered. The Board affirmed that it would like to use that. Annette has agreed to obtain the voting machine. JC asked about voting cards. Doug stated that he has the cards for voting, as well as the yes and no cards. The Selectmen signed pistol permit #R 338511. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

15 February 2010: Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Sandra Gillis is in to observe. Kim Mattson came in to discuss the change of the aquifer meeting being on the 3rd instead of the 4th. Selectmen signed off on the Veteran’s Hall rental application. Peter Majoy, John Boccalini, Charles Schroeder and Jack Marsden came in to discuss the grants being submitted for the different town projects that are underway. The Board signed the two grant applications. The grants are to be delivered to the state tomorrow. Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, came in to inform the Selectmen that the advertisement in the Keene Sentinel on the SB2 hearing on the 18th of February was not published until Friday, February 12th, which did not meet the timeline for post-

ing a public meeting per RSA 40:14a. Local postings were put up on Thursday, February 11th, and were properly noticed. John Boccalini came in to discuss a driveway that was set up for fire trucks has been turned into an active driveway, map 412 lot 020. Gregg Patch was in to discuss his assessment on map 410 lot 022. Dana Taylor, Road Agent, phoned in to discuss the cost of replacing Fay Martin Road bridge. White Mountain Pre-Cast Company had an estimate of \$51,207. Mr. Taylor is waiting for estimates from the surveyor and the general contractor. The selectmen decided to be available to accept Inventories on Saturday, April 10, 2010 from 9 a.m. to noon. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:45 p.m.
22 February 2010: Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Sandra Gillis is in to observe. Brad Grinstead is in to observe. Kim Mattson, at the request of the Planning Board, was in to talk about mailing post cards to those abutting the aquifer. The aquifer information meeting is set for March 3rd at the Vet’s Hall.

Marcus Beauregard, Town Health Officer, was in to talk about an issue with grey water. Russ Provost came in to discuss the clean-up for the town in the spring and the possibility of ordering plants as a beautification project. These are free. The Selectmen signed off on the registration form. Peter Majoy came in to check on police coverage on voting day. JC has taken care of that. The chief has scheduled man power. Ron Raymond was in with a completed tax abatement to discuss with the Selectmen. Approximately 20 town residents came in to bring up the correspondence received by the residents of the town mailed out by Nicolas Bosonetto regarding the legal cases now pending. The selectmen checked off items to be ready for Town Meeting. JC gave an overview of check procedures to Sandra and Brad, who were sitting in. The Selectmen signed appointments for Peter Majoy for the Voluntary Energy Committee, Kathryn McWhirk for Zoning Board of Adjustment Alternate, Lloyd Condon for Zoning Board, and Christine Bryan for Community Park Committee. The Selectmen signed the MS-6 Budget report for the Department of Revenue. They also signed the Equalization Data Sheets for the Department of Revenue. The Budget and the Warrant were posted. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

2010 ANNUAL
ROUND ROBIN SPRING SHOP TOUR

April 29 & 30 through May 1 & 2

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This April 29th & 30th through May 1st & 2nd, in honor of Earth Day and the budding of Spring, five locally-owned country shops invite you to “Go Green.” Each shop on this year’s Spring tour prides itself on a welcoming atmosphere, unique gifts, and an overall pleasant experience—complete with tempting refreshments and a free gift at each shop.

When you visit any of the participating shops, you’ll receive a tour map and a ticket to be stamped by each shop along the tour. Tickets stamped by all five shops will be entered to win one of five Spring Gifts worth \$50.00 from one of the shops.

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Town Business Hours

Board of Selectmen: J.C. Boudreau,
Sandra Gillis, Wesley Vaughn
■ Mon. 7:00 —7:30 p.m. Town Departments
■ 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.
■ Wed. 2 p.m. —4 p.m.

Planning Board: Richard Drew, Chairperson
■ Meetings held at Civil Defense Building
1st & 3rd Tues of the Month —7:30 p.m.

Transfer Station & Recycling Facility
■ Tues. 8 a.m. —4 p.m.
■ Thurs. 8 a.m. —7 p.m.
■ Sat. 8 a.m. —5 p.m.

Town Library: Wendy O'Brien, Librarian
■ Tues. 4:30 p.m. —8 p.m.
■ Wed. 9:00 a.m. —12 p.m.
■ Thurs. 4:30 —7 p.m.
■ Sat. 10 a.m. —2 p.m.

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■ Town Clerk —239-6202
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