



## Spring Comes To Richmond Judith M. Graves

The seasons change quickly in New England. One minute you are plowing heavy snow and the next you see daffodils peeking through the ground. This year was no exception as I got on my knees and pushed off the last of the snow to see the spikes of green pushing skyward. What a miracle!

A single crocus pushes through sun-warmed soil. Beautiful yellow appears on the tips of the forsythia bush, and even though some hard frost nights can still appear and nip these tender buds, the days are gradually getting warmer.

Spring can be fickle in New Hampshire. Our short growing season forces us to be creative, starting plants inside, ready with note pad to enter the greenhouses with a plan, and Miracle Grow available. As soon as Memorial Day is here I have purchased all the plants, and am ready with trowel and gloves. It is a ritual that must be followed closely if you want to be able to enjoy blooms the rest of the summer and into the frost. Get lazy and you will not be rewarded. Guess that is the same lesson for many things in life.

So here is what I have learned to work and to give the best results in your flower and herb gardens for annuals. And let's face it, annuals give us glorious color, and some of the herbs that grow annually are must-haves. If you want to start plants inside they will have needed to be started back in March.

1. April is for making your plan. This plan includes knowing what containers or garden space you want to plant in. Draw out on paper where each planter is going, what you want to put in each one, and don't forget the window boxes. Cuddle up with a hot cup of herb tea, pencil and paper in hand, some light music playing and go ahead and dream.

2. First of May, clean out all your planters and replace with fresh soil, peat moss, fertilizer, and loosen all this ready to plant in. This is also a great time to be sure you have extra bags of potting soil ready, a fresh pair of gloves, hoses out and ready to use for watering, and the plan list.

3. End of May is attack time. Head to the greenhouses. A list of what you will need is crucial for saving time once you get to the greenhouse. Be careful not to get carried away with all that you see. Stick to your plan and get

only what you have on your list. IF you find you have more room in the gardens or containers you can always go back. Today is to buy only what is on the list! Worse thing you can do is to get home and have more plants than you planned room for! Get the plants on the list, get them home, put them outside on warm days and bring them inside at night. This is called 'hardening them off' so that the shock of out of greenhouse into planters is a weaned process. Water lightly for these days.

4. Memorial Day, or a few days after, put the plants where you hope they will bloom. Remember that these plants will spread, so don't pack too closely. For instance, one coleus plant will fill an entire planter as it grows. Tuck in a geranium and a dusty miller with one coleus plant for an awesome look. This day you will lightly water with a mild Miracle Grow mixture. Don't overwhelm the plants as they start to adjust to their new homes. Don't allow this mixture to touch the leaves or they may spot. Let me put in here that I prefer all natural; but have learned that if I want flowers, this is the plan that works.

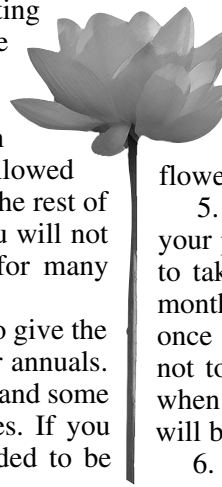
5. June is spend CAREFUL attention month to all your plants. They are like babies growing and you need to take care to nurture them 'til they are grown. This month you will give your plants a nice watering at least once a week with Miracle Grow mixture and be careful not to get it onto the leaves again. Gentle care! Water when needed to keep plants moist but not soaked. You will be rewarded the rest of the growing season.

6. July you are so there! Now you only have to pull out any weed that dares to come near your plants, water as needed with a Miracle Grow watering every 10 days to two weeks and water as needed. Great to gather rain water to use as well.

7. Now enjoy; your gardens will grow beautifully until the frost arrives. Your yard will have glorious color, you can gather bouquets to take to a hostess, a neighbor, or bring them inside to enjoy in every room. I love to fill every vase I own with flowers all summer.

I hope this helps you to grow in New England's short growing season so you can enjoy your gardens to the fullest. Now sit back and watch the butterflies flit among your blossoms and the hummingbirds as they suck the nectar that you provided. Hopefully you will see some honey bees come as well.

TIP: Grow Rosemary. A tender annual herb, but one that will give you so much pleasure. The leaves are great chopped in roasts, soups, stews, or add a branch in the



cavity of a chicken, and dry some to use in the winter. HOWEVER use sparingly, as it is one of the more pungent herbs. The stems can be used as skewers for kabobs, or tossed on the embers of your campfire or grill for aroma. Rosemary means remembrance, and it can be added to a hot cup of water to make rosemary tea; sipped with honey it will help the memory. Also as a household herb you can steep rosemary in boiling water and set to cool. Put this water in a spritzer bottle and use as an antiseptic for the bathroom and around sinks. This was the antiseptic used in hospitals and sick rooms in years past. Hang a bouquet of rosemary in your closet to ward away moths. Rosemary is one of the bible herbs and was also said to be the bush that Mary laid the baby Jesus' clothes on to dry and the flowers turned from white to blue.

Today you may see a white flower, but most are blue.

**GIFT IDEA:** Dry some of the leaves of Rosemary, place in a small jar, add your favorite recipe using this herb and also the ideas above. Tie with a vine, add a sprig of rosemary and present it as a gift. Remember the best gifts are what comes from the heart and hands.

### Property Tax Relief

#### Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

If you are single and earn \$20,000 or less or are married and earn \$40,000 or less, you may qualify for tax relief from the State. Forms are available at the Town Clerk's office and on the State website at [www.revenue.nh.gov](http://www.revenue.nh.gov). The forms must be completed and filed by June 30, 2010. Call the clerk's office at 239-6202 for more information or for help filling out the forms.

### New Hampshire Legislative News

#### Barbara Hull Richardson

The budget shortfall continues to occupy a good deal of time for legislators. Many cuts in services have been proposed as well as various sources of revenue. There will be no definitive answers until the legislative session ends in June.

Senate Bill 455-FN implements federal healthcare reform by requiring more affordable health coverage in the small employer market. Health carriers will be required to

offer the basic wellness plan as well as the standard wellness plan to small employers. This plan promotes wellness and preventive care through affordable insurance coverage. It must be designed so that the premium for the plan is comparable to or below the lowest cost major medical health insurance offered in the small group market that meets the definition of health coverage. The concept is that New Hampshire should have control over the new health insurance law – not Washington. There would be legislative oversight throughout the process as the new law is enacted in our state. Passage of this senate bill allows adjustments to be made as the new law is enacted in New Hampshire. It includes the potential of immediately decreasing costs and lowering insurance rates. The federal government will be allocating significant amounts of money to go directly toward these goals. In addition, a high-risk pool will be set up soon for persons who cannot get access to care – those with pre-existing conditions such as breast cancer, heart disease and multiple sclerosis. No one should go without life-saving treatment because insurance companies can discriminate against our sickest and most vulnerable citizens.

The gambling bills were soundly defeated in the House. However, there are still attempts to resurrect them as budget shortfalls continue to be a challenge.

Defining speed limits on Lake Winnepesaukee has generated numerous e-mails and other forms of communication both for keeping limits as they now exist and for increasing them. SB 465 continues the limits established three and a half years ago: 30 mph during the time from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise, and 45 mph at any other time.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions.

Barbara Hull Richardson

State Representative

Cheshire County/District 5 (Fitzwilliam and Richmond)

### Town Clerk's Office

#### Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

##### Dates to Remember

June 1, 2010

Last Day to Change Party Affiliation Before State Primary

June 2, 2010

Filing Period Begins for State Office

June 11, 2010

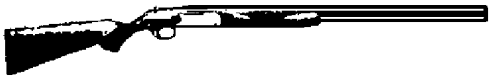
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### Thank You Doug

#### Marie Knowlton

It is with regret that I received the resignation of Doug Bersaw from the Richmond Rooster. Doug had been a key player in the Rooster development over the past 15 years. Doug originally became a member of the Rooster staff at the request of John Bocalini, who asked Doug if he would be interested in proofing the paper. Doug agreed and was accompanied by his wife Kathleen who also became a proofreader. That was in May 1996, the same issue the rising sun on the Rooster cover moved from west to east.

Being an expert printer, publisher and editor, Doug brought additional resources and advice to the volunteer efforts of the Richmond paper. Doug's company, Loretto Publishing, printed the Rooster in Richmond for several years. It was great keeping the business in town. I appreciate all the help that Doug gave me when I was trying to learn the publishing software Quark; he spent hours tutoring me on a software that I just couldn't grasp. Doug's departure left a void in proofing which was picked up by his wife Kathleen, Bob Weekes and Jean Tandy. Thank you Doug for all you've done, you will always remain a part of the Rooster history. I wish you the best.

### Notes from Town Hall

#### Selectmen's Office

The Budget. Voters at town meeting expressed what we've all felt – hold the line on spending! We do it at home and want government to do it too. A budget is a planning document. It budgets for day to day fixed expenses, like heat, electricity and gasoline and also reflects plans to meet future responsibilities. Municipal budgeting is the same.

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Home budgets include investment expenses like education, home maintenance or new car. Likewise with the town. A budget is a road map to the future and should reflect the priorities and plans of the community. A responsible budget meets expenses today and anticipates tomorrow's.

The impact of cuts on the municipal budget is the same as when you experience a drop in income and have to rethink your spending habits and plans. Each department experiencing a cut has been asked to develop a new plan and budget. Unfortunately, items that reflect investment in the future, like road maintenance or staff support and training may be dropped to pay the bills of today. This is short-sighted and can lead to future degradation of services. We will keep a very careful eye on spending and encourage departments, ourselves included, to continue to invest for future growth.

You are in charge of the purse strings for Richmond and we encourage you to take part in every opportunity to plan for your town. In the coming weeks, the master plan implementation group will convene to develop recommendations, and various other citizen led groups are planning ways to decrease costs for the town in the future. Planning can make government more efficient and effective. Stay informed and direct your tax dollars to the highest best use.

The Right to Know Law. Section 91-A:4 IV. Minutes and Records Available for Public Inspection states "Each public body or agency shall, upon request for any governmental record reasonably described, make available for inspection and copying any such governmental record within its files when such records are immediately available for such release. If a public body or agency is unable to make a governmental record available for immediate inspection and copying,

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it shall, within 5 business days of request, make such record available, deny the request in writing with reasons, or furnish written acknowledgment of the receipt of the request and a statement of the time reasonably necessary to determine whether the request shall be granted or denied....."

All requests will be processed in a timely manner, but a request for "any and all" information is too broad. Please be specific about dates, content and issue. It doesn't matter why you want the information. If you tell us what you're looking for, we'll know where to look. Don't be shy....we want to help! (We do charge for copying and the labor to fill your request.)

### Richmond Historical Society News Sandy Holbrook

After a winter hiatus, the RHS is back in action. Please join us on the third Thursday of every month at the Civil Defense Building at 6 p.m.

We have several projects on the RHS list for 2010: tree removal, stone repairs, and fencing for the Quaker Cemetery; replacing the Veterans Memorial flag; working with the Conservation Commission on a Town Forest project. Also, the Conservation Commission has asked the RHS to co-sponsor an event slated for early fall on the Importance of Agriculture in Today's Society. More information will be available as details are confirmed.

Thank you to those of you who completed our RHS Survey back in January. Your interest and input are greatly

appreciated. If you did not submit a survey and want to be heard, it's not too late. Drop off your survey at the Town Hall or send it to Lynn Adams at 171 Fitzwilliam Road. Note: RHS membership is available to anyone in Richmond at a low yearly rate of only \$5 per person – such a bargain! Time does not stand still - help preserve your town history and resources for future generations. See you soon.

### Events

#### Terri O'Rorke, Captain, Richmond Rescue

When there are events that take place in town, the members of the Richmond Rescue are very happy and willing to participate and also to include access and tours of the rescue truck and equipment. Please feel free to contact the Captain at 239-4595 to schedule such requests. This is the most efficient and easiest way for direct communication and scheduling with the individual who is responsible for such tasks. Thank you and have a safe and healthy summer!

### Voter Information

#### Melissa Herman

DO YOU NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE? It's easy. Either go to the Town Clerk's office to fill out the forms or come to a meeting of the Supervisors of the Checklist. If you bring a passport or birth certificate, a photo id, and proof of your Richmond residence, you'll have less paperwork to fill out. The Supervisors' next meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 1st, from 7-7:30 p.m. at the CD building beside the fire station on Route 119.

DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE YOUR PARTY? Normally you can change your party affiliation at any time, but since 2010 is a State Primary year, Tuesday, June 1st is your last opportunity to change your party before the State Primary Election on September 14th. You can find out how you are currently listed (Democrat, Republican, or Undeclared) by calling the Town Clerk (239-6202) or Town Secretary (239-8107); by looking at the Voter Checklist book on the desk outside the Selectmen's office; or by calling Melissa Herman (239-4216). On Primary Election Day, voters who are Undeclared will need to state whether they want a Republican ballot or a Democratic ballot. Immediately after voting, they may return to Undeclared by signing a form at the Supervisors of the Checklist's table.

Melissa Herman, Chair, Richmond Supervisors of the Checklist (239-4216).



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### Free Family Movie Night

#### Pam Goodell

The next free family movie night at the Richmond Community United Methodist Church (Rte. 119, center of Richmond) will be held on Friday, June 25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Popcorn and drinks are provided at no charge. Watch the sign out front of the church for the movie title to be announced. The public is invited, and we ask that all children be accompanied by an adult. What a fun way to share some time together!

If needed, call 603-239-4790.

### Richmond Gets May Day Makeover

#### John Bocalini

On May 1 2010, approximately 45 volunteer residents, young and old, took on two major ventures, one at Amidon Memorial Park and the other one branching out across the highways and roads of Richmond.

With the cooperation of the Richmond Park Committee, 20 volunteers, including members of Boy Scout Troop 775, as well as other town residents, donated their time and effort to repair and clean up the grounds surrounding the pavilion, including the park, baseball field and playground. Numerous holes were filled, leaves were raked, garbage collected and brush was cut and removed to make the park a safer and more accessible place for the town use. Tools for the cleanup were provided by the Saint Benedict Center and a collection container was provided by Chip Adams to haul away the debris.

Twenty-five volunteers walked 90 percent of Richmond's fifty-plus miles of roads, picking up 2600 pounds of litter. That comes to 52 pounds of garbage per mile, and this after 2400 pounds were collected in the last cleanup on October 31, 2009. Another collection container was supplied by Chip Adams, who also hauled it to the Keene Recycling Center.

Kudos to all those who participated in the cleanups. Boo to all those who participated in the messes.

### Fitzwilliam Historical Society Annual Strawberry Festival

#### Terri Sillanpaa

The Fitzwilliam Historical Society will hold its highly anticipated Annual Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 26, 2010, on the historic Town Common from 1:00-4:00

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p.m., rain or shine. We will treat you with luscious strawberries, fresh whipped cream, delightful lemonade and homemade biscuits! Live music will entertain and delight you under sheltering tents. Please join us!

The Amos J. Blake House Museum, on the Common across the street, will be open for free guided tours during this time with a special exhibit: "Dolls, Dollhouses & Miniatures," featuring original and collectible pieces from private collections, displayed on both floors. See you there! 603-585-7742 or e-mail fitzhs@peoplepc.com; web site: www.fitzhistoricalsociety.org.

### Blackfly Barbecue and Bakesale

#### Christine Bryan

The event on May 8 was held at the Pavilion as a benefit for the Richmond Public Library. Spring weather contributed its usual special flavor and everyone who braved the threat of rain had a pleasant time participating, socializing, and enjoying the grilled lunch and delicious treats. Thanks are due to the many persons who contributed: the generous ladies of the community who baked for the sale, Lynn Adams from the Police Department with the bicycle obstacle course, Sandy Holbrook from the Historical Society with the clever historical questions, Bev Hart from the Town Hall for the use of the sign at the Vets' Hall, Chip Adams for providing the container to haul away brush from the clean-up day on May 1, and, finally, Boy Scout Troop 775 and those supportive adults for hours of work on the grounds to prepare for Children's Day. Now we have the promise of summer to enjoy the new playground and the ball field, as well as the Pavilion's pleasant shade for participation in the library's reading program.

### Animaterra

#### Terri O'Rorke

On Saturday, May 8th, I finally attended a concert by the women's a cappella chorus known as "Animaterra." What beautiful harmonies came forth from the Unitarian Universalist Church on Washington St. in Keene. We listened to a Zulu chant from South Africa, a Cuban song, pieces by Cole Porter, Stephan Foster and Harry Belafonte. There were a few tunes sung with accompaniment. Richmond's Janet Bocalini played guitar along with several women who played percussion instruments such as clapsticks, bongos, etc. Vicki Provost from Richmond was phenomenal with

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## 6 About Town

her solo introduction to an Australian greeting song and later gave a reading entitled, "Two Wolves, A Cherokee Tale."

There is a small admission fee for the performance with the proceeds benefiting different charities. This night's proceeds went to "Creating Positive Change" in Peterborough. And, it was nice to meet and converse with the performers at a reception, which followed the concert.

Animaterra - Mother of Spirit Earth!

### Upcoming Keene Kiwanis Events Susan A. Doyle - Community Service Co-Chair

On Saturday, June 26, the Keene Kiwanis Club will host the 4th Annual Antique Show & Sale at Keene High School. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. This is a wonderful time to treat yourself to uniquely affordable treasures, or to start your holiday shopping. Dealers come from throughout New England to you bring you jewelry, furniture, collectibles, and a host of eclectic items to add to your own collection. Please come to browse. Refreshments are available.

For more information on these events and how you may participate, go to [www.KeeneKiwanis.org](http://www.KeeneKiwanis.org). Thank you for supporting our youth, our future - Now get out there and have some fun!

### Patch's Kindred K9 All Breed Grooming, Day Care & Supplies Jessica Patch

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Jessica Patch. I'm the owner and groomer of Patch's Kindred K9. I've lived in the area my whole life, growing up in Troy and now living in Richmond with my family for the past 17 years.

I have loved animals my whole life and have had quite a variety. I attended school last spring to become a pet groomer, having been taught by the owner of the school who has over 40 years grooming experience. We worked extensively on styling dogs that require haircuts, such as poodles, Lhasa-apso, golden retrievers, etc. I then went on to work at a local grooming shop while constructing my own business at my home. This past April I opened my doors. I am absolutely thrilled with how nice it turned out.

The space is welcoming, bright and cheery. A place where you can feel good about bringing your dog, knowing they'll get the best treatment. Whether they come in for a bath, nail clipping, the works, or to stay. What you will get is someone who strives for quality not quantity, taking my time with the animals, loving what I do.

What I offer at the shop is fair pricing, a referral discount, and a monthly drawing through December for a free complete groom. I am carrying an excellent line of grain-free food made in the US, and an equally excellent line of collars and leashes made in New Hampshire.

I am very excited about this new opportunity, and would like to invite you and your furry friends to stop by and check us out at 16 Old Troy Road. I will always welcome your suggestions and comments. Hope to see you soon!

### Richmond Roadside Cleanup A Huge Success! Russ Provost

The Spring Richmond Roadside cleanup was performed on Saturday, May 1st. Over 25 volunteers participated. The majority of the town roads and over 90 percent of Routes 119 and 32 were cleaned. A total of 2600 pounds of garbage, mainly beer cans and bottles, was picked up. Thanks to the volunteer effort, the town will receive 400 daffodil bulbs to be planted this September. The bulbs and bags were provided by New Hampshire The Beautiful ([www.nhthebeautiful.org](http://www.nhthebeautiful.org)). A special thanks to Chip Adams for supplying his dumpster and bringing it to the Keene Recycling Center. Mark your calendars. The next roadside cleanup will be Saturday, November 7th.

### For The Birds Tracey Tryba

I was recently asked about my willingness to write an ongoing column about the outdoors of Richmond for the Rooster. After some trepidation about not being a "writer," I agreed, mostly because I love to spend my days engaged in different sorts of nature observation and would like to share stories with those who feel the same way or may be inspired to do so.

I quickly enlisted the help of my nephew, Dylan Packard of Massachusetts, to be a contributing writer. His passion, knowledge and enthusiasm of nature stirs my heart and gives me hope for the future. Because we both adore

birds, we decided to start there and work through wildlife, hiking, permaculture, organic gardening and animal tracking, although not necessarily in that order! As if to reinforce my decision to start with birds and include Dylan's observations, as I was explaining the project to him on the phone that morning, I looked out my window and saw the first two bluebirds of the spring in my yard! Talk about synchronicity! I immediately started typing and Dylan delightfully demanded a pen and paper from my brother.

Over the past eight years, I've been fortunate enough to share my yard with a variety of birds, which I'll be writing about. For his part, Dylan will focus almost exclusively on mourning doves, which he cherishes. Not rock doves, but mourning doves, which, he will always point out with frustration, are different. Most people are impertinent enough to insist they are the same! Imagine a 10-year-old eye-roll here! Although he enjoys rock doves, otherwise known as pigeons, Dylan loves mourning doves. This is mostly due to their hauntingly melancholy songs and the fact that they spend their life with their partner and the singles among them seem so sad. I am happy to say that I usually have at least one pair of mourning doves within our property lines every year.

One of my favorite regular visitors is the nuthatch. Usually when you see a nuthatch, the usual suspects of chickadees, flickers and woodpeckers are not far behind. If I may digress a bit on the chickadee, I appreciate it because it is one of the birds I can identify by sound. Even my untrained ear can identify the familiar "chick-a-dee-dee"! I have often lamented to my husband that they should have named more birds by the song it sings so that identification for amateurs like myself would be easier! Sorry Dylan!

Back to the nuthatch. What is it about them that I love? I think it is their pure exuberance as they acrobatically hop up and down the maples. That's it in a nuthatch! They seem to be a cheerful bird and I appreciate animals (and people for that matter), who do things a little off from the norm.

Related to the nuthatch is another bird I love, the tufted titmouse. I think it is one of the most subtly enchanting and beautiful birds in my yard. To me it doesn't need the vibrant colors of the blue jay or cardinal to be noticed, mostly because it has a crown. The titmouse seems above

the colorful and loud spectacles that are so common! It appears a humbly dignified bird whose presence I am grateful for.

There is one vibrant bird whose arrival I anticipate every year. The ruby-throated hummingbird descends to my yard in early summer. I always seem to have at least one family of them in my yard every summer. Hummingbirds are incredible. I have read that their wings beat up to 80 times per second. I have two favorite moments when watching hummingbirds. One of them is seeing them chase each other through the yard, squealing with glee. The other is when they stop. To me, after watching them dizzily darting from bee balm to phlox, the

moment they perch in the crabapple tree and just stop is amazing. On a lazy summer afternoon, I have been known to watch these miraculous birds for long stretches of time. Who says that a day observing birds isn't a day well spent?

About a week ago I was enjoying the 70-degree weather of our early spring and reading outside for the first time this year. I heard the rare monkey-like sounds of the pileated woodpecker and was lucky enough to see one voraciously searching for bugs in one of our dead trees. Between this sighting and the bluebirds, I have already had a successful bird watching season!

Just like I don't chase away squirrels from my bird feeders, I don't chase away hawks either. I let the cycle of life proceed undisturbed, even when I don't want to. Well, sometimes anyways! Last summer, young sharp-shinned hawk flew into my husband's moving car on Route 119. After being successfully rehabbed by a wonder-

ful bird rehabilitator in Winchester, the hawk was released back into the general vicinity of its accident. Shortly thereafter, we had a sharp-shinned hawk hunting for prey in our yard. I like to think it is the same hawk, but who knows?

What I consider my luckiest bird sighting happened two summers ago. Just by chance, I looked up and saw a scarlet tanager for the first time. Its brilliant color contrasted against the evergreen of the pine tree it perched in. That was an exciting day. I saw it in the green border of my yard for a week or two, and then it seemed to disappear. Like a special

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occasion or holiday, I savored its arrival and at its departure wistfully and hoped that we would meet again!

If you are interested in attracting birds to your yard, you need to provide them with food, water and shelter. In addition to a variety of birdseed, it is important to have an assortment of vegetation, shrubs, trees, and vines to provide fruit and shelter for all kinds of birds. Adding birdbaths and birdhouses are also an invitation for them to not just visit but to stay. For more information, the Richmond Public Library is fortunate enough to have a large selection of birding books due to a generous benefactor.

I hope you have enjoyed this article, stay tuned next month for the story of the moose who ate my garden!

Definitely Definitions  
Terri O'Rorke

GRIFT, GRIFTER (noun) GRIFTED, GRIFT-ING, GRIFT (verb)  
1. money made dishonestly, as in a swindle  
2. a swindle or confidence game  
3. to engage in swindling or cheating  
4. to obtain by swindling or cheating

South of the Border  
Bob Weekes

Traveling south on Route 32 from the Massachusetts' border and on into Athol has been a daunting driving experience for many years, especially in the wintertime. Seasonal challenges include unplowed snow, sheets of ice produced by puddled water, frost heaves from hell, bumps and loose gravel that skate cars sideways, potholes that alter one's wheel and backbone alignment, and seriously decaying pavement (when you can actually find some). Route 32's abysmal condition has always made me wonder how Massachusetts has avoided lawsuits from its citizens who reside along this stretch of the road.

Well things are changing. The Massachusetts State Department of Transportation has designated a section of 32 South starting at the NH border as a "Reclamation Project" to the tune of \$4 million. See below:

"ROYALSTON- RECLAMATION OF ATHOL RICHMOND ROAD (ROUTE 32), FROM ELM AVENUE TO THE N.H. S.L

"The scope of work for the proposed project is to reconstruct Athol-Richmond Road in the town of Royalston from Elm Avenue to the New Hampshire state border. The length of the roadway is approximately 5.3 miles. Under this program, the roadway is to be reconstructed within the footprint of the existing roadway and widened in areas as appropriate for safety reasons. Cross culverts along the entire project length will be evaluated and considered for replacement as required either by condition or hydraulic capacity. At certain selected locations, the roadway will be evaluated to determine if the profile can be raised in order to alleviate local flooding, which has occurred mostly due to the lack of adequate pipe size and beaver activity. All of this needs to be balanced against the impacts to the adjacent wetland resource areas and trees, which line the roadway. Finally, new pavement markings and signage will be installed to delineate travel on the new roadway."

I'm told that "reclamation" does not mean digging down to the frost line and rebuilding the road, which is why, I think, Route 32 north of the New Hampshire border is such a contrast. Rather, MassDot intends to "reclaim" the road, which means digging "below" the pavement (which may be an inch or two...or maybe none) and laying down a new layer of road surface. But MassDOT is serious. It has already leased land at Hubbard Forest Industries (on 32 South) to park its heavy equipment (trucks, road graders, wood chippers, etc.) to handle this project and is presently surveying and marking the road. Road reclamation may already have started by the time this issue goes to print, since work has been ongoing on Bliss Hill Road through Baptist Corners to Athol Road to provide a suitable detour.

Now, dear Rooster readers, a reality check. Travel on #32 South has been so uncomfortable and threatening to shocks and struts that it has not become a serious contender as a north-south travel highway. But is that about to change?

AdviCoach Tip of the Month  
Michelle Connor

The Key to Time Management

Last month we talked about Organizing so it is important to follow-up with Time Management! Time management, planning and organizing are the most important strategies to implement into your business.

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Avoid procrastination  
Create an organized approach to tasks and responsibilities to reach goals.

Plan Your Time

Minimizing time wasters and gaining control over your time begins with effective planning. The minutes or hours you spend planning before you act can turn into days or weeks of time saved.

The first step in planning is to take a few minutes each morning to make a list of all the tasks you have to accomplish that day.

At the beginning of each week, create an expanded list that includes all the essential tasks and activities that must be completed for the week. This list would include timelines for short-term projects, scheduled meetings and deadlines.

At the beginning of each month, draw up a master list for that month. Transfer this information to your weekly and daily lists when the time comes. This way, not only will your time be well planned, but you also won't forget to do any important tasks.

Let's identify some common time wasters. See if you recognize any of these.

Reacting instead of acting

Many people waste a lot of time reacting to what's going on around them instead of determining how their time should be spent. They bounce from one task to another without making much headway on anything.

Not thinking far enough ahead

Some people fail to put in enough time upfront planning their work-determining priorities, deciding how things will be done, anticipating problems. But if you don't plan effectively, you can't work efficiently.

Inadequate preparation

Too often people don't take enough time to prepare for a job. Instead of gathering all the equipment, materials, and information they need before they start, they jump right in and later waste time running around looking for the things they need to complete the job.

Procrastination

For many people, the real king of time wasters is procrastination. They keep putting things off, wasting valuable time, and creating a situation in which they will later be pressed to get the job done without enough time to do it

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well or face the prospect of missing a deadline.  
Here are some more tips for beating procrastination:  
1.) Time yourself. Tell yourself that you'll work on the task for at least 10 or 15 minutes before you know it, it's done!  
2.) Reward yourself as you complete each task.  
3.) Finally, learn from experience. Why put yourself through the hassles created by procrastinating?

Quotable Quote  
Terri O'Rorke

If women are expected to do the same work as men, we must teach them the same things. Plato, 427—347 BC

Vehicle Fluids  
Joe Boulay

The importance of exchanging your vehicles fluids

Having your engine's oil and filter changed on a regular basis is an important first step to properly maintain your vehicle for a long life of dependability. Another very important factor is the remaining fluids in your car. These fluids need to be checked at every oil and filter service. Not just the level of the fluids, but the condition of the fluids. The trick here is to exchange your fluids before they get too dirty. If you purchased your car new fluids start to dark-

en in color around 30 to 40k miles. In an explanation to follow you will get a detailed description of each fluid in your vehicle and why it is important to exchange it.

Brake fluid

One of the most important and neglected fluids in vehicles today is brake fluid. Brake fluid is hygroscopic. This means it attracts moisture easily. New brake fluid has a boiling point right around 450 degrees F. When moisture is introduced to brake fluid over time it greatly reduces its effectiveness to transmit the pressure that you are applying from the brake pedal to each wheel needed to stop the vehicle. When brake fluid contains over 2% moisture content it is a good time to think about exchanging it for new fluid. There are vehicles on the road right now with 10+ year old fluid in them! Typically every 2 to 3 years you should

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exchange your brake fluid. When brake fluid has too much moisture in it and it gets too hot it will boil causing it to aerate the fluid with tiny air bubbles and cause your brake pedal to fade or become spongy. Also old brake fluid and too much moisture can eat away at the copper lining inside the brake line, over time this can shorten the life of other components in your cars braking system such as master cylinders, wheel cylinders and caliper piston seals. Just remember if you have just had a brake job done it has only been half-done without a brake fluid exchange.

(to be continued)

## Vintage Detectives Do Their Thing on Old Miniseries

Frank Behrens

Every month seems to bring out new DVD sets filled with crime series, only a very few of which are distinguishable from the rest, and about all of them taking themselves ever so seriously. It is not like that in one of my favorite offerings from overseas.

The 1973 miniseries "The Rivals of Sherlock Holmes, Set 2" is now available in a boxed set of four DVDs from Acorn Media, and it is even better than the first set. Here are another 13 tales of sleuths—professional and amateur, some good, some dishonest, and now and then an individual forced into crime detection against his or her will.

The best of the lot is "Cell 13," in which an eccentric Professor van Dusen (Douglas Wilmer), known in his short stories as The Thinking Machine, makes a bet that he can think his way out of a high security cell in a local prison—and of course does so!

Others in this set include reporter Polly Burton (Judy Geeson), South African Inspector Lipinzi (Barry Keegan), Mr. Laxworthy (Bernard Hepton), Eugene Valmont (Charles Gray), Danish policeman Lt. Holst (John Thaw), private detective Dagobert Trostler (Ronald Lewis), Dr. John Thorndike (Barrie Ingham), William Drew of the Foreign Office (Derek Jacobi), the Purser Horrocks on a luxury liner (Ronald Fraser), a gypsy pawnshop owner named Hagar (Sara Kestelman), and junior defense barrister Charles Dallas (Robin Ellis).

The plots vary widely, concerned as they are with poisoning in a London underground train, thefts of diamonds and amber necklaces, secret plans that can rock governments, counterfeiting, severed fingers, obscene letters, anarchist plots, gold stolen from sealed vaults, missing

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QCs, and a mad scientist.

Some tales are tongue-in-cheek humorous, other quite serious. All of the episodes are pretty much studio-bound—which adds to the Victorian and Edwardian period charm—and the acting is on a fairly high level. It is also good to become acquainted with those fictional characters who were outshone by Conan Doyle's creation.

Each episode runs 50 minutes and there are subtitles.

So much for the rivals. Now for the Man himself.

There have been many Sherlock Holmes/Dr. Watson pairings on the big and small screen: Basil Rathbone/Nigel Bruce; Ronald Howard/H. Marion Crawford; Christopher Plummer/James Mason—far too many to list here, especially since (by one count) there have been 211 films featuring Arthur Conan Doyle's immortal duo.

Some actors have been barely adequate as Holmes (Edward Woodward, Jonathan Price), some have been perfectly awful (Christopher Lee), some have been "definitive" (Rathbone, Jeremy Brett). Better than adequate but not quite excellent is Peter Cushing, that old star of so many Hammer horror films. I saw him play Holmes in "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (1959) but did not know that in 1968 he was to reprise the role in a British miniseries that is now available as a 3-DVD set from A&E: "The Sherlock Holmes Collection."

The Watsons were played as bumbling fools (Bruce) or quite intelligent gentlemen (Edward Hardwicke in the Brett series). Nigel Stock's Watson is closer to Bruce's and somewhat one-dimensional.

Cushing solves once again the case of the Baskerville hound in a two-part treatment. The other cases, all of which have been seen with Jeremy Brett, include the novels "A Study in Scarlet" and "The Sign of Four," and the short stories "The Bascombe Valley Mystery," and "The Blue Carbuncle." (The last is the best of the group because of its humor and good characterizations in minor roles.)

Cushing, looking far too emaciated for such an active detective, plays his character with a good sense of humor.

The episodes, however, all have that pacing of the older made-for-television dramas. Paradoxically, forcing the two novel-length Doyle tales into 50 minutes each compresses the action far too much and omits a good deal of the background that led to the crimes.

But Holmes is Holmes—and any respectful treatment of the venerable crime tales is worth seeing. There is a nice bonus documentary about Holmes included with the tales.

## The Web of Life

Jean Tandy

[The following words are excerpted from a letter attributed to Chief Seattle of the Dwamish Indian tribe in what is now the state of Washington. The letter is thought to have been written in response to the request of President Franklin Pierce that the tribe sell its land to the United States government in 1854]

The idea is strange to us.

If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them?

Every part of this earth is sacred to my people. Every shining pine needle, every shore, every mist in the dark woods, every clearing, and every humming insect is holy in the memory and experience of my people.

The sap which courses through the trees carries the memories of my people.

This shining water that lives in the streams and rivers is not just water but the blood of our ancestors. If we sell you land, you must remember that it is sacred, and you must teach your children that it is sacred and that each reflection in the clear water of the lakes tells of events and memories in the life of my people.

Water's murmur is the voice of my father's father. The rivers are our brothers, they quench our thirst. You must remember...that the rivers are our brothers, and yours, and henceforth give the rivers the kindness you would give any brother.

Our dead never forget this beautiful earth, for it is the mother of the red man. We are part of the earth, and it is part of us. The perfumed flowers are our sisters; the deer, the horse, the great eagle, these are our brothers. The rocky

crests, the juices of the meadows, the body heat of the pony, and man—all belong to the same family.

We know that the white man does not understand our ways. One portion of the land is the same to him as the next, for he is a stranger who comes in the night and takes from the land whatever he needs. The earth is not his brother but his enemy, and when he has conquered it, he moves on. He treats his mother, the earth, and his brother, the sky, as things to be bought, plundered, sold like sheep or bright beads. His appetite will devour the earth and leave behind only a desert.

There is no quiet place in the white man's cities. No place to hear the unfurling of leaves in spring or the rustle of an insect's wings. The clatter only seems to insult the ears. And what is there to life if a man cannot hear the lonely cry of the whippoorwill or the arguments of the frogs

around the pond at night? The Indian prefers the soft sound of the wind darting over the face of the pond, and the smell of the wind itself, cleansed by a mid-day rain, or scented with the pinion pine.

The air is precious to the red man, for all things share the same breath...the beast, the tree, the man...they all share the same breath.

But if we sell you our land, you must remember that the air is precious to us, that the air shares its spirit with all the life it supports. The wind that gave our grandfather his first breath also receives his last sigh, and the wind must also give our children the spirit of life. And if we sell you our land, you must keep it apart and sacred, as a place where even the white man can go to taste the wind that is sweetened by the meadow's flowers.

So we will consider your offer to buy our land. If we decide to accept, I will make one condition: the white man must treat the beasts of this land as his brothers.

I do not understand how the smoking iron horse can be more important than the buffalo that we kill only to stay alive. What is a man without the beasts? If all the beasts were gone, men would die from great loneliness of the spirit. For whatever happens to the beasts, soon happens to man. All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did

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not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself.

Where is the thicket? Gone.

Where is the eagle? Gone.

And what is it to say goodbye to the swift pony and the hunt?

It is the end of living, even though our life may somehow linger.

When the last red man has vanished from this earth and his memory is only the shadow of a cloud across the prairie, those shores and forests will still hold the spirits of my people, for they love this earth as the newborn loves its mother's heartbeat.

## Short Walks With Long Views

Bob Weekes

Hikers know the psychic rewards of our beautiful New Hampshire hills and mountains: sweeping vistas for the eye and the camera, clear air, bountiful wildlife and wildflowers, not to mention a healthy dose of oneness with nature. But couch potatoes miss out on these rewards, worrying about the time and effort required of them to "reach the heights." Others with small children also do not venture out, fearing that today's kids might find a walk in the woods too strenuous...or not entertaining enough.

So here are some suggestions for a few easy, rewarding, and nearby "short walks with long views." Bring your kids or grandkids, a few water bottles and, perhaps, a picnic lunch. And leave your universal remotes, cell phones and Blackberries home (pick some along the trails instead).

**Mount Caesar** – a 962 foot "mountain" in the center of Swanzey Center, named for Caesar Freeman, a freed slave. Drive through the cemetery entrance (two granite posts) directly opposite the Town Hall and park where you won't block other cars. Walk straight ahead to the northwest corner. Just over the stone wall you'll see an old woods road that travels around the flank of Mt. Caesar for about a half-mile. Watch for the Mt. Caesar trail sign on your left where the path climbs uphill for another half mile or so to the top. There you'll find an aircraft beacon, beautiful views of the hills of Richmond over Route 32 to the south, and of Mount Monadnock on a short side trail to the east. Plop down on the pine needle-covered ledges and enjoy the view and a bite to eat.

**Little Monadnock** – note: this is Little Monadnock, not the Grand or Pack versions of the same name. Anyway, find the trail in Fitzwilliam's Rhododendron State Park,



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which was declared a National Natural Landmark in 1982. Shoot for July, when the Rhododendron forest is in bloom (call ahead for blooming news). Follow the park trail for 2/10ths of a mile, bearing right at a sign to Little Monadnock. A mile later you'll emerge onto a rocky open ledge with a view of the Grand Monadnock to the north-east. Upon returning to Richmond, reward yourself with an ice cream cone at the Four Corners Store.

**Mt. Wantastiquet** – this mountain sits on the New Hampshire side of the Connecticut River across from Brattleboro and offers breathtaking 180-degree views high above the city and the Vermont countryside. It is a favorite of hawk watchers in the fall, but fun for anyone on a clear day. The trailhead is located off Mountain Road, just west of the Hinsdale Wal-Mart. The trail to the top is 2.2 miles long but is gradual, consisting of nine switchbacks that are reasonably kind to the feet and legs. Plan an hour or so to walk to the top, less to come down.

**Royalston Falls** – this walk will reward you not with a view from the top of anything but with a nearby scenic wonder, a 50-foot waterfall and granite gorge. Drive south on #32 to the trailhead parking area, six tenths of a mile beyond the Massachusetts border. Then just follow the blazed trail. Although the falls today have returned to nature, old timers in these parts tell us that the area was once a popular recreational hotspot complete with both a playground and casino. In those days it was reachable from Greenwoods Road (south) in Richmond or the Falls Road (north) in Royalston off Route 68.

## Musings

Marie Juhlin

I wonder how long it takes NOT to be a flatlander? We've been here now for five years and I'm still hearing that name tossed jokingly around. Thing is that we came from the Berkshires, so we're not exactly flatlanders! That's okay, though. Just give us another twenty years or so to prove ourselves!

Kudos to those wonderful people from Richmond and

surrounding towns who did the roadside clean-ups. Now the roads of this glorious area look as pristine as they do in tourist brochures.

It is so disheartening to see garbage strewn alongside the roads of our beautiful area. My husband and I were exploring a back road south of Richmond and came upon a beautiful little winding stream. We parked the truck and walked over to the small bridge to peer into the water. We were shocked to find a garbage dump on the sides of the stream: a broken baby stroller, dirty disposable diapers, empty beer and soda cans, fishing line in the trees, beside and in the stream and much more. We picked up what we could at the time and continued down the dirt road. Not 500 feet from the garbage dump by the stream were the remnants of someone's lunch. Please, please try to keep New Hampshire beautiful! We carry a plastic bag in the truck and all our garbage comes home with us to our trash bins. It doesn't take much to stick the garbage in a bag 'til you get home, and Mother Nature will thank you for it.

Along those same lines, we've been behind many pick-up trucks whose drivers are headed for the recycling center. Thank you! However, I am sure you do not realize that, left uncovered, your trash is blowing out of the bed of the truck! Again, Mother Nature and our critters will thank you for taking note of that.

Speaking of Mother(s), Mother's Day was a wonderful one for me this year. Two of my three grown kids surprised me with a visit and some beautiful flowers which are now IN my house because the temps outside are below freezing. But I digress. It is especially interesting for me to watch the interaction of the siblings who, at the ages between 7 and 16, were ready to murder each other. As they grew up, it was fun having "deep" philosophical conversations with them and the friends they brought to our house. (Remember that class? "If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear it, does it make a sound?") Now brother and sister actually converse with each other and seem to enjoy each other's company! Will wonders never cease?

My middle daughter is a physical therapist known in our family for her happy out-going manner and practical

jokes. Lately, I've been getting emails from companies supplying wheel chairs, adult diapers, walkers, and other health aids. Of course she denies it, but I recognize her work. If I get too close to the truth on any of her other "tricks," she reminds me "Just remember who's choosing your nursing home!" I feel like Rodney Dangerfield!

Last, but not least, is my monthly plug for our wonderful library. As a recent AARP article says, 66 percent of Americans 50-plus are card-carrying library patrons. More and more libraries are offering free or near-free programs such as book clubs, fitness classes, film nights, etc. As the article says, it brings new meaning to the phrase "check it out." Come check out our library. It's the greatest little library in the area!

## Selectmen Minutes

Date: 1 March 2010

Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan

Read mail and signed checks. Sandy Gillis is in as observer. Brad Grinstead is in as observer.

Peter Majoy requested a non-public session with the Selectmen. JC made a motion to go into non-public session per 91-A:3 II(e). The vote was unanimous to go into non-public session. Out of non-public session at 7:16. The Selectmen voted to seal the minutes.

Christine Bryan and her son Damian, who is working on his Citizenship in the Community badge, came in to see the Selectmen on how our town government works. Damian sat in on the Selectmen's

meeting to observe.

John and Linda Rule came in on request of the Selectmen to discuss their Building Permit. #2009-019. The selectmen explained that their construction diagram did not show the connecting structure from the house to the accessory dwelling. The diagram was altered and initialed.

Jeremy Patria was in to go over his occupancy permit with the Selectmen. Jim Schultz was contacted, Zoning Compliance Officer, who will do the final inspection.

Doug Bersaw called to get the Selectmen's schedule for Town Meeting day. JC called Alison



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VanBrocklin to request for her to contact the minister from the Richmond Community Church, who traditionally does the benediction. Brad Grinstead was asked to find a student vocalist to sing the National Anthem.

Janel Swanson, Selectmen's Assistant, submitted a letter of resignation. She will work with the Board to find a replacement.

Nicolas Bosonetto came in to discuss articles in the Richmond Rooster.

There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

**Date: 8 March 2010**


Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan

Read mail and signed checks. Sandra Gillis, Brad Grinstead and Richard Baird in to observe.

Wendy O'Brien in to question the Selectmen about putting up a couple of signs during the voting session tomorrow. Aine deDanaan came in to discuss the Candidate Night remarks that were made by some people attending. She also discussed Town Meeting being held on Tuesday versus Saturday this year.

John Boccalini, Vicki and Russ Provost, Jack and Susan Marsden, Kim Mattson, Terri O'Rorke, Den'al McElhiney, Jean Tandy, Fred Goldberg, Theresa Majoy, Johnathan Bloom, Sheila Blair, Melinda Honkala, Aine and Andreas deDanaan were in to speak about recent political flyers sent to residents of Richmond.. The groups stated that the flyers were "acts of violence," and that the selectmen should respond to their instances of half truths and lies. Terri O'Rorke requested that the flyers be attached to the minutes. The selectmen declined, saying that as these were not town business and not sent specifically to the selectmen then they do not warrant attachment Vicki Provost requested that the selectmen speak to one item in one of the flyers regarding her husband's lawsuit with the town. We assured Vicki that the lawsuit was misrepresented in the flyer. The entire group asked for Dana Taylor's resignation because of the flyer on which he identified himself as the fiscal agent. Russ Provost requested of the Selectmen to find out how Dana Taylor got a private email; Sandy Perry said she, too had seen the email, which was part of a legal packet she received regarding ongoing litigation.


Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, came in to discuss some last minute election issues.



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There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:15 PM

The Selectmen adjourned to the Veteran's Hall to set up for polling. No decisions were made.

**Date: 15 March 2010**

Attending: JC Boudreau, Wes Vaughan, Sandra Gillis  
Read mail and signed checks.

Wes and JC welcomed Sandra Gillis as the newly elected Selectman for the next three years. The Selectmen also want to thank Sean McElhiney as outgoing Selectmen for his diligence as Selectman for the last three years.

Roberta Fraiser was in to be interviewed for the position of Selectmen's Assistant. Meghan Hardy was in to be interviewed for the position of Selectmen's Assistant. Brad Grinstead, Stan Pogorzelski and Richard Baird in to observe. Bill Johnson was in for a building permit for Map/lot 405-084-5. Building permit 2010-001 was assigned. Richard Auger was in to inform the Selectmen that there is metal junk on Town Forest Road.

An abandoned truck on foreclosed property on Greenwoods Road. Selectmen JC advised Richard that he would talk to the Conservation Commission and the property owner on Greenwoods Road. Andy Wood came in to discuss communication equipment with the Selectmen, and the replacing of bulletproof vests.

Russ and Vicki Provost were in to talk about threats, security and depositions. John Boccalini and Robert Weeks came in and requested to go into executive session under RSA 91A :3 II c. JC made a motion to go into non-public session. Seconded by Wes. Motion was passed unanimously. Non public session commenced at 8:54 p.m. Returned to public session at 9:26 p.m. No decisions made. Motion passed to seal the minutes.

Sheila Blair came in and requested to go into non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II c. JC made the motion to go into non-public session. Seconded by Wes. Motion passed unanimously. Went into non-public session at 9:28

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p.m. Exited non-public session at 9:35 p.m. No decision was made. Motion passed to seal the minutes.

Bill Fall came in to get an exemption form. The Selectmen voted the following positions to be filled within office.

Selectmen (Chair) JC Boudreau.

Selectmen Ex Officio to the Planning Board, Wes Vaughan.

Selectmen's Welfare rep., Sandra Gillis.

Solid Waste rep., Wes Vaughan.

There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

**Date: 22 March 2010**

Attending: JC Boudreau, Wes Vaughan, Sandra Gillis  
Read mail and signed checks.

Brad Grinstead and Richard Baird in as observers.

The Board voted unanimously to add newly elected Sandra Gillis to the TDBank signature card and to remove Sean McElhiney, outgoing Selectmen.

Butch Nelson came in to see the Selectmen regarding installing a filter on the water line due to excessive rust in the water. Requested by the Selectmen.

The Selectmen signed two Pistol Permits, R338514 and R338513 and an application to rent the Vets Hall on 11 April 2010 by Wendy O'Brien, Town Librarian.

Bob Coy was in and advised the Selectmen that he was going to contact Janel regarding the Vermont Yankee billing.

The Selectmen unanimously voted to appoint Janel Swanson as the Town Deputy Treasurer.

The Selectmen signed off on the following appointments; Brendan Bosquet to the office of Sargeant in the Police Dept., Janel Swanson as Town Deputy Treasurer, Sandra Gillis as Welfare Rep., Wes Vaughan as Solid Waste Rep and Ex-Officio to the Planning Board. Sandra Perry as a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

The Selectmen are planning to fill vacant positions on the Beach and Recreation Committees.

Jeremy Patria came in to speak to the Zoning Compliance Officer. Bev called Jim Schultz (ZCO) and left a message.

The Selectmen held a phone conference with the town attorney, commencing 8:40 p.m. The Selectmen exited phone conference at 8:50 p.m.

Sandra Gillis read a synopsis on the procedure in hiring the Assistant to the Selectmen, which will become an



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attachment to the minutes. Sandra requested to go into non-public session to discuss the filling of the position. The Selectmen voted unanimously to go into executive session at 9:00 p.m. Exited non-public session at 9:25 p.m.

Darold Tanner came in to see the Selectmen about maintaining the grounds around the town buildings. The Selectmen have hired him to do the work same as last year.

There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

**Date: 29 March 2010**

Attending: JC Boudreau, Wes Vaughan, Sandra Gillis  
Read mail and signed checks.

Brad Grinstead in to observe.

Steve Boscarino came in to inform the Selectmen regarding pending legislation HB 1335.

Wes made a motion to go into executive session under RSA 91A:3 II (b). To discuss a legal matter. The Selectmen unanimously voted to go into executive session at 7:15. Exited executive session at 7:33. Voted to seal the minutes.

JC made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) to interview a prospective employee for the town. The Selectmen voted unanimously to go into non-public session at 7:39. Exited non-public session at 8:05. The Selection voted to hire a new Selectmen's Assistant, Roberta Fraser. Non-Public session minutes: The Selectmen offered the position to Ms. Fraser. The Board will draft a letter of engagement to Ms. Fraser with conditions of employment to be vetted by Attorney Tower. The position of Assistant to the Selectmen is a 20 hour per week, part time position, reimbursed at \$15 per hour. Benefits are not offered for part time positions. Ms. Fraser accepted the position and will begin training on Friday, April 2 at 9 a.m. She plans to work Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays 9-2, and Monday evenings from 8-10 p.m.

Peter Majoy and Jack Marsden (VEC) came in to discuss energy usage in Town of Richmond buildings with special interest at the Veterans Hall. Bev to call Discount Oil to check on the piping that goes into the chimney at the Veterans Hall. JC recommended the Voluntary Energy Committee to come up with energy projects to put on the warrant in the fall.

The Board signed the TDBank signature card form. The Board signed an intent to cut, Map 411 Lot 32.

There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

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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.

**Fire Warden:** Ed Atkins  
**EMERGENCY: POLICE/FIRE/RESCUE ■ 9-1-1**  
■ Selectmen —239-4232  
■ Town Clerk —239-6202  
■ Tax Collector —239-6106

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