

MAY 2012

PART OF THE RHYTHM OF RICHMOND

Pete Majoy



Here we are as May 2012 arrives with the soil's unquenched thirst for water. If you have a garden, the better way to express the soil's suffering would be to say it is starving for rain. Of course, our ponds and beaches thirst for us to swim there and row our boats.

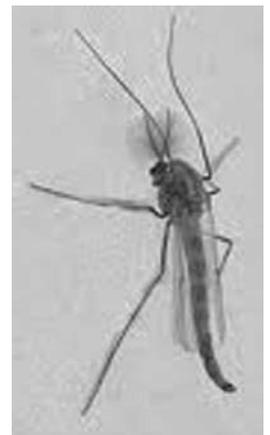


Already, our dwelling places whisper

and a few scream at us for attention. There are foundations breathing heavy under the weight of it all with sweat pouring from old wooden supports huffing and puffing "If you don't fix me asap, you'll regret you held a deaf ear to my request, you idiot!" Surely, old paint and new paint are addressed in a respectful manner: "Dear Paint, some old brushes which some of you know and new ones which all of you do not are



awaiting their intimate contact with you so that you both can bring new life to the inside and outside structures of our domain." The paint cans giggle in anticipation while ladders are tested along with the gathering



of hammers, nails, screws and screw drivers both manually and battery driven, the wood supply and all else that poses either in storage at home or shelves in hardware stores waiting to be purchased. >>



It is a time to finalize plans of travel to camps that border Richmond lakes and ponds that feed business to local stores here and in neighboring towns while townees plan their excursions elsewhere

somewhat nearby and far away where oceans lay in wait and/or relatives lay in wait for the visit that feeds the soil of our souls and love smiles openly.

Of course, the emergence of black flies, myriad species of bugs, beautiful butterflies and worms continue as reminders of the fleeting pace of time.



Selectmen's Notes

Selectboard

Fay Martin Bridge Replacement update. The Selectmen have learned that Article 39, regarding the Fay Martin Bridge replacement, was disallowed by the Department of Revenue Administration for technical violation. The amendment adding the phrase "or borrow at the discretion of the Selectmen" created the technical violation.

For those of you not in attendance at Town Meeting, the Selectmen explained that on the Monday before town meeting they first learned that it was highly unlikely that the town would receive reimbursement from NH Department of Transportation [NHDOT] concurrent with bridge construction costs. The Selectmen deliberated how best to proceed with the bridge replacement article at Town Meeting if state funding was not going to be timely. Without the revenue from timely reimbursement for construction costs, the taxpayer would see a much higher tax rate next year. It would be offset in future years by the reimbursement of course, but the Selectmen did not want to impose this burden on taxpayers particularly in this economy. The only option was to get authorization to borrow, to offset the tax burden until NH DOT could reimburse the expenses.

At Town Meeting, on advice of counsel, it was decided to insert language in Article 39 to authorize borrowing. If the NHDOT reimbursement is not timely, only then would the

Selectmen initiate a loan. The article, which passed, has been disallowed by NH Department of Revenue Administration [DRA].

Because the option to borrow had not been considered prior to town meeting, and only became a possibility the week before town meeting, there wasn't time to warn the public and hold the required hearings to seek authorization to borrow, under the Municipal Finance Act. The only option for funding the bridge replacement through loans is to petition the court for permission to hold a special town meeting. And, with Article 39 disallowed, the town will have to vote again to raise and appropriate the necessary funds. The Selectmen will direct Attorney Hoppock to petition the court for this permission. If successful, Richmond voters will be asked to attend a very brief town meeting to vote by secret ballot on the question of authorization to borrow and to raise and appropriate the necessary funds to replace the bridge by the court imposed deadline of May 14, 2013.

The deadline is part of the settlement agreement between the Town and the Saint Benedict Center. The court ordered that the two entities share 50:50 the cost of the bridge replacement, but if the town has not completed construction by the deadline the Saint Benedict Center share will be withdrawn, per court order. Both parties to the agreement have already reserved their share of the expected cost of the bridge. [With NHDOT funding, the state pays 80% of the cost and the Town and the Saint

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TOWN MEETING 2012

photos by Sandy Holbrook



Benedict Center splits the remaining 20%, 50:50.]

It is very important for all voters to attend this meeting. To authorize long term borrowing requires a 2/3 vote of those present and voting. The discussion of the bridge replacement costs and funding at town meeting was thorough, but there will be several additional opportunities to revisit any questions or comments when we hear from the court about a special town meeting. Please watch for the required hearings to be posted at Town Hall, the Veterans Hall, the Civil Defense Building and the *Keene Sentinel*.

New Website. The Selectmen decided on a new website provider last month and during May the transition to a new website will be made. Please watch for announcements of this new website. broadbandnh.org. to complete a survey.

Richmond Wants You!

Selectboard

The Select Board is looking for 'a few good people' to advise us on several issues: pursuing high speed broadband internet access for the town; building a team to perambulate the town boundaries; and planning for community development, improvement, and beautification. These will be informal advisory teams who may plan, research and take action on these projects. If you are interested in any of the above opportunities to volunteer for your town, please contact the Selectmen at 239-4232 or Roberta at rfraser@richmond.nh.gov.

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 of NH. The form (DP-8) can be found on the State website, www.revenue.nh.gov. They will also be available at the Town Hall for anyone wishing to pick one up. The deadline for the form to be received by the State is before June 30th. Call the clerk's office at 239-6202 for more information or for help filling out the forms.

Town Clerk's Office

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

May 28 – Town Clerk's office is CLOSED for Memorial Day
May 31 – Deadline to license your dog to avoid penalty fees

With spring in full blossom, thoughts turn to water sports and being in the sun. This is a reminder that you can now reg-

ister your boat at the Town Clerk's office!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who voted for me on March 13, 2012. I am both proud and humbled to represent the Town of Richmond and its residents as your town clerk.

SPRING CLARENCE SALE

Clarence? Yes, Clarence, the Richmond Public Library's book-worm wants you to rush to your Library and shop our new selections of "slightly read" science, animal, fiction and mystery books...and "hardly seen or heard" audio-visual treats (DVD's, VHS tapes and audio-books). All at our neighborly rock-bottom prices. Please don't disappoint Clarence.

Richmond Library

Wendy O'Brien

Storytimes

There will be a brief story hour for younger elementary school aged children on Tuesday, May 1st at around 2:00 p.m.

Preschool story times known as Wednesdays with Wendy continue at 10:00 a.m. throughout May. Come enjoy themed stories, a craft, and a small snack.

Get to Know Your Library Day!

The Richmond Public Library invites you and your family to "Get to Know Your Library Day!" on Saturday, May 19 starting at 11:00 a.m. With the help of volunteer Megan Naso, there will be a scavenger hunt, an outdoor book walk, and pizza at 12:00 Noon. Drop by and find out about our free 24-hr WiFi, two public computers with a high speed internet connection, and a color printer to help with those tricky school projects. Not to mention the latest books, movies and downloadable audio/ebooks for you! Information will be available about story times, crafts, our summer reading program for kids of all ages, and a new summer Teen program developed by teen volunteer Mike Churilo!

Please Read To Your Kids Every Night!

The Richmond Agricultural Commission

Sandy Holbrook

Bears & Birdfeeders...The sight of a feeder hanging, regardless of what kind of seed is in it, will invite a curious (and hungry) bear. This is especially true for a bear that has been successful at raiding feeders in the past. All bird foods and seeds will attract bears. It is recommended that people do not feed birds between April 1 and December 1. However, if you

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insist on feeding birds, the best option is to erect a portable electric fence around the feed site or bring in feeders during the night hours. This reminder comes from Andrew Timmins, Bear Project Leader – NH Fish & Game via the *Weekly Market Bulletin*.

RAC Facebook Page – We have new photo submissions on our Facebook page...be sure to check them out as they are awesome! We are postponing our deadlines for submissions until late fall to give everyone a chance to add to the Richmond gallery. There are some beautiful shots of Richmond waiting to be captured by the photo lens. If you are experiencing problems logging onto our Facebook page, please contact either Wes Vaughan 239-7426 or Sandy Holbrook 239-4628.

Things From the District

Neil Moriarty

Do you remember the abbreviations: MRSD = Monadnock Regional School District (region equals: Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Richmond, Roxbury, Swanzey, Sullivan, Troy); RSA = Revised Statutes Annotated (State Laws); SAU = School Administrative Unit (high level administrative services for a school district – ours is SAU 93)?

MRSD March Votes Results

The warrant articles passed with two exceptions: the Resource Officer (a recount resulted in a defeat by 25 votes); and \$50,000 contribution of the Special Education Trust. I had forgotten that we needed to elect a moderator; however, Bill Hutwelker ran unopposed and therefore was elected.

Property Tax Impact Barring a major school funding change from our friends in Concord (that can happen all the way into June), the tax impact from the school district warrant; combined with a favorable County tax rate, should show a decrease in our TOWN Property Tax December 2012. The letter

you received about the town revaluation certainly impacts every individual tax bill. Add to that the uncertainty of Fay Martin Bridge warrant and it's anyone's guess on an individual property tax bill for December 2012. Remember that the changes will be in the December 2012 Tax Bill, not in the June 2012 Bill (with very few exceptions, the June Bill is 50% of last year's tax bill.)

Sullivan Elementary School will close effective June 2012. Based on the vote of the Sullivan community to withdraw from Monadnock School District, your school board has voted to close Sullivan Elementary School. Your board felt it had no moral obligation of keeping it open – even the education template favors closing this school. There is a dollar savings that will be realized here; however, there is debate still about teacher types and firming up the need for a temporary building (the building would be needed for a maximum of two years.) In the end there will be about 80 less students in Monadnock. Based on the Surry model, the current Sullivan high school students (and possibly the middle school students) will most likely finish their high school years at Monadnock.

Sullivan Leaving the district – What's Next? There is a mandatory (RSA requirement) process within the district that must be completed. A committee of one board member, and one selectman, from each of the towns is to meet, create a recommendation, and vote on the recommendation for the Sullivan withdrawal. Given this is on schedule, there will be a vote of the entire district on the withdrawal of Sullivan – most likely within the March 2013 warrant voting. You may recall this also happened with the Town of Surry withdrawal.

Superintendent Dr David Hodgdon has resigned effective June 2012. Dave Hodgdon's resignation leaves as the most senior executive, as the Business Administrator with three years on the job. Two school principals (Cutler and Mount Caesar)

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have been on the job over three years. While we have seen major changes in three years of organizing SAU 93, and administrative staff turnover; not everything is negative: we have seen excellent leadership in building maintenance with our Facilities Project Manager, including cost reductions in building and grounds. Our Student Services (Special Education) Director has implemented many cost saving initiatives. A firm and measurable commitment to improve education from the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction – although we don't meet minimum standards. We now need to hire Principals and a Superintendent to keep moving forward with fewer students and a reduced cost.

Congratulations to Hinsdale High – the only high school in the area to receive passing grades in both reading and math. Someday I will be writing this about MRHS!

Any questions and or comments please call me at 239-4031. Jim Carnie would also help you out on school matters if you call at 239 4948.

The Sandy Feet Kids Club at Cass Pond Summer 2012

Elaine Moriarty

This summer your beach committee will be presenting brief, impromptu, fun lessons, about what lives in Cass Pond. Creatures and how they live in their houses and what we can do to share our swimming place, while respecting them.

I've spent the winter creating visual aids. There will be prizes for correctly answered questions each day, along with snacks and surprises.

Look for the sand pail sign by my chair. Can't wait to feel the sand on my feet. SEE YOU THERE.

Questions? Feel free to call Elaine Moriarty 239-4031

Our Conservation Commission

Sandy Holbrook

By now most of you have figured out the answer to April's article "They are everywhere..." If not, the answer is "volunteers" found in Marie's article on the front page. Over the next several months, you will become reacquainted with or introduced to Richmond's most valuable resource – its volunteers.

To begin a stroll through our Town, let's start in my favorite area – The Bennett Town Forest. Over the past 30 years either on horseback or on skis, I've wandered through the Town For-



Gary Hebert



Jeff Taylor

est poking around empty cellar holes, admiring the stonewalls and enjoying the symphony of the woods. How did this become a treasure in my backyard? Let's begin with a bit of history.

Although the Town Forest had been in existence long before, some of you may recall that in 1984 we officially dedicated the Town Forest to Harry J. Bennett in appreciation for his life-long efforts to conserve Richmond's natural resources. Did you know that the Bennett Town Forest covers approximately 306 acres with approximately 231 acres of merchantable forestland; approximately 50 acres of bogs, marshland and beaver ponds; and 15 acres of access roads, clear cuts and sapling stands? Who manages all this and how do they do it? We have a five-member Conservation Commission, and to find out what they do read on...

First off, this Commission has been self-sustaining and has never asked for assistance from the Town taxpayers! Jeff Taylor (Chairman), who joined the Conservation Commission in 1972 with the other charter members – Harry Bennett, Pete Tandy, Everett Quintard and Bill Sudermann, states, "We have supported ourselves through the efforts of the members, individual private donations, and income from forest management activities within The Bennett Town Forest. In the 70s Harry Bennett sold his maps of the Town for \$1.00 at various Town events. The Commission performed silvicultural work such as tree pruning, thinning and timber stand improvements under the Federal Government Cost Share program. By doing the work

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Andy Powers



Dick Drew

ourselves, we were paid \$20 per acre following the approval of the County Forester.”

In the mid 80s the Commission marked mature trees in parts of the Town Forest for a timber sale. Through a Warrant article passed at Town Meeting the Commission was granted the privilege to use the “harvest” money to reinvest in the Town Forest. As the capital grew, the Commission was able to sponsor Richmond High School youths to a former Conservation Camp held annually at Bear Brook State Park. The Commission also purchased conservation easements into the Town Forest as well as other properties in Town. Conservation books were donated to the Town Library compliments of the Commission.

Its most recent project in the Bennett Town Forest involved mowing tall saplings that re-sprouted from a Red Pine plantation clear cut due to ice and snow damage. This enhances an early successional grass/shrub land that provides ideal habitat to many species of wildlife, particularly Roughed Grouse and Woodcock. This will be followed up with a late summer selective herbicide application to the re-sprouted tree stumps that were mowed to prevent the trees from out competing the desired shrub/ grass land.

Who are the volunteers on the five-member Commission? Jeff Taylor, ISA** & State of NH Certified Arborist; John Randall, NH Licensed Forester; Andrew Powers, Forester & ISA Certified Arborist; Dick Drew, NH Licensed Land Surveyor; and Gary Hebert, avid outdoorsman. If you own property and have questions about options for your land but you’re not sure what direction to take, can you contact them? Absolutely! You

don’t want be in violation or do something that may be detrimental to you or your neighbors. The Conservation Commission is a great educational resource, especially for folks interested in the dynamics of forest plants and their influence on various wildlife populations. Richmond is blessed with an abundance of natural resources, and it’s important to protect them from unreasonable impacts such as uncontrolled development or over-zealous pressure to preserve so they can’t be enjoyed by our residents. Gary Hebert is interested in “wanting to educate and provide guidance to the public toward good stewardship and proper conservation.”

Interesting side note: I learned that Jeff’s interest in pursuing a career relating to the outdoors and natural sciences started early in his youth with his camp days at Camp Wiyaka and Boy Scout Troop 17 of the Athol YMCA. Later as a young man Harry Bennett helped him with sub-division land survey, maps and deed development, which ultimately enabled him to purchase land in Richmond. Thus began his long 40-year relationship with the Commission. His life-long commitment to the outdoors is most evident at his Windswept Christmas Tree Farm where he specializes in growing Fir Trees from around the world – 20 species currently grow on the farm along with many varieties of apple trees. A visit to his farm is a must to anyone who has never been.

In summary, the philosophy of the Conservation Commission remains the same today as was encouraged and practiced by its founder, Harry J. Bennett, and that is... to exercise “wise and intelligent use of our natural resources” for enjoyment and use of Richmond Residents.

THANK YOU, Jeff, John, Andy, Dick and Gary for all that you do to manage and preserve our wonderful Bennett Town Forest and for the services you provide to our Town residents.

**ISA - International Society of Arboriculture

Birds of a Feather: A Vision

Bonnie McCarthy

Hello, fellow Richmond Avians of all feathers. To my hummingbird heart, please allow me the vision that we are all town folk living in different nests. During this vulnerable time of Spring renewal, let us realize that we are more than the fallen leaves of Fall. We are in the season of rebirth where new roots scratch tenderly into the soil to seek purchase. Such is life and such is love; my vision is that they are synonymous.

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"YOUR NEW HAMPSHIRE LAND EXPERTS"

Richmond 2010 Census

John Boccalini

Below are the results of the 2010 census for Richmond N.H. The age results were somewhat lower than National and State results. National results showed a total median age of 35.6, females at 36.9 and males at 34.2. State results showed a total median age of 37.9 females at 38.6 and males at 37.1.

Age Group	Total	Females	Males
Median Age	38.9	38.7	39.1
Age 0 – 5	86 8%	39 7%	47 8%
Age 6 – 11	112 10%	54 10%	58 10%
Age 12 – 17	113 10%	52 10%	61 11%
Age 18 – 24	63 6%	34 7%	29 5%
Age 25 – 34	105 10%	53 10%	52 9%
Age 35 – 44	158 15%	78 15%	80 14%
Age 45 – 54	180 17%	87 17%	93 17%
Age 55 – 64	140 13%	68 13%	72 13%
Age 65 – 74	68 6%	32 6%	36 6%
Age 75 – 84	45 4%	20 4%	25 4%
Age 85+	11 1%	5 1%	6 1%
TOTAL	1081	522	559

Questions for May 2012

1. Can you name the only person to win the New Hampshire Primary three times?
 2. When did the Red Cross integrate the blood bank(s)
- The following are from the 100 questions for the immigrants to answer:
3. Name 3 rights or freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights
 4. Who has the power to declare war?
 5. What kind of government does the United States have?
 6. Which President freed the slaves?
 7. In what year was the Constitution written?
 8. What are the first 10 amendments to the Constitution called?
 9. What is the supreme law of the land?
 10. Where does Congress meet?
- [Answers found within this issue.]

Twenty Years Ago The Old Kayak

Pete Tandy

The kayak sleeps in the loft above the workshop, no longer used and seldom thought of.

If I were to stand by the forge and speak of nearby rivers, “Millers,” or “Deerfield” or even “Connecticut,” the only response would be ironic silence and a sense of my own foolishness.

But sometimes, lost in memory as my hands pursue their task upon the workbench, I’ll glance up and whisper, “Tahquamenon...Au Sable...Big Two-Hearted...” And, ever so faintly, there may come a stirring from the loft, a whisper of remembrance soft as the voice of a paddle as it leaves slack water.

Oh, I know it’s only mice, or the sighing of the wind around the eaves. But still, I wonder if the kayak might dream, as people do, when the world was young.

Thirty something years ago the freight truck dropped the kayak onto the front porch of my Michigan home. One bag with folded hull and laminated crossframes, a slimmer bag with longerons and paddles. Slowly, the pieces of the puzzle learned to find themselves and from the duffle bags, as if by magic, the kayak would reconstitute, gathering scattered bits of itself, chaos flowing into order, like a moving picture of an explosion played in slow reverse.

Cumbersome and heavy by the standards of today, she was strong and stable on the water and could float prodigious mounds of gear. Straight-hulled, with barely any lift, fore or aft she was stodgy as a log when in whitewater but stable and docile in the windy reaches of the long and open lakes. Sedate she was, but still, I feel in memory the ripple and surge of Lake Superior’s strength beneath my knees when we caught the curl of an incoming swell and surfed along that lifting curve, flying...flying...free.

But, mostly, I remember children. Those little kids, now middle-aged, and how they let that kayak become their magic carpet...floating them above the duckweed and the enchanted channels of the Deadstream Swamp and the Maple River flowage...trudging along the wilderness shores of Lake Superior, keeping pace and waiting until the kayak came to shore to trade one sibling for another...wielding a double-ended paddle three times their height, building the stuff of dreams whose images would not be dreamed for decades yet...building a love



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of wildness and a love of beauty...which became a part of them.

Then, suddenly, reality intrudes, bringing the realization that my hands have come to stillness with their task undone; that my mind has floated miles and years away. I glance up to the silent loft and smile. Oh, I know it's not being used and likely should be sold...that old kayak...lying empty in its dreams, yet floating such a freight of memory and love. I could no more sell her to a stranger than I could shoot a faithful horse or dog whose mere utility had passed away.

And so she lies up there above me, dreaming dreams no stranger than my own, I'm sure. And if you should pass my way and see me glancing upward to the loft and hear me whisper, "Tahquamenon, The Big Two-Hearted"...I know you that will understand.

GET READY FOR FUN IN THE SUN!!!! Beach Committee

Please join us at the Town Beach,
Pond Woods Rd

Saturday, May 12, 2012
10:00 am – whenever we finish

We need help in fixing the parking lot
and the beach.

BYO shovels, rakes

Let's make the Town Beach look great for
SUMMER OF 2012

Don't forget your beach stickers,
available at Town Clerks office!

Community Heroes Day

Arnie Johnson

The Richmond Community United Methodist Church is exceedingly grateful for all the community has done to support the Church. Please come to a special service as we honor all our local heroes on Sunday, May 20, 9 a.m., at the church at 11 Fitzwilliam Road in Richmond. We are calling this event Richmond Community Heroes Day which will honor the members of our Fire Department, Emergency Medical Technicians, Police Department, and also our men and women who are members of our Armed Forces, both past and present. We of

the community owe these people a debt of gratitude for their service in keeping us safe, responding to our emergencies, and keeping us living in freedom. Please join us in this celebration! If you are a member of one of these fine organizations, please attend so that we can thank you in person.

Another event coming up is the "arrival" of the Middle River Gospel Band on Sunday, June 10, 9 a.m. at the Church. If you love the sound of great singing and harmony, guitars, mandolins, and pianos, you don't want to miss this event! They are truly professional in their sound even though they live and work in local communities in NH and VT. They all have a call to travel to different venues to give of their time, energy, and beautiful music to bring the Word of the Gospel to the people in song and praise. Please join us in this special service. Admission is free! Come and enjoy! Information about the Middle River Gospel Band can be found at <http://middlerivergospel.com/>.

For those so inclined in the cyber age, you can join the Richmond Community UMC on Face Book by searching for "Richmond Community United Methodist Church." You will find us represented as a group and as a page. These are open to all and include our "happenings," usually including photos, and our future events. Come join us there as well!

Out and About

John Bocalini

Fri. May 4, 7:30 PM, Electric Earth Concert, an evening of Kurt Weill. Peterborough Players Theater Peterborough – \$30.

Sat. May 5, 9 AM, **5K Family Fun Walk for Emily**. Dublin Consolidated School – Dublin, NH – \$10.

Sat. May 5, 9 – 11 AM, **Waking Up The Gardens Workshop**. Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge.

Sat. May 5, 10 AM – 4 PM **Greenerborough**, New England's Green Living Expo and Festival. Downtown Peterborough.

Sat. May 5, 10 AM – 11:30 AM **Woolly Weekend**. Stonewall Farm, Keene.

Sun. May 6, 7 PM, **Love Triangle**, Actors' Circle Theatre presents three one-act plays and three comedic visions of love. Harlow's Pub – Free; donations accepted.

Sun. May 6, 10 – 11:30 AM **Woolly Weekend**. Stonewall Farm, Keene.

Wed. May 9, 3 – 6 PM, **Farmers' Market**. Depot Park, Peterborough.

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Thurs. May 10, 7 PM, **Beauty and the Geek**. Colonial Theater, Keene – \$17.

Fri. May 11, 7 PM, **Beauty and the Geek**. Colonial Theater, Keene – \$17.

Fri. May 11, 9:30 PM, **Sheepdip Project**, ClassicRock. Harlow's, Peterborough.

Sat.– Sun. May 11 – 12, 8 PM, **“Better Living.”** Branch River Theater Community House. Marlborough, \$12/\$10 Seniors.

Sat. May 12, 10 AM, **Richmond Town Beach Clean Up**.

Sat. May 12, 10 AM, Children's Program – **Everything Needs To Eat**. Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge

Sat. May 12, 8 AM – Noon, **Loran Hanson Fishing Derby**. Farm pond on Gulf Rd., Peterborough. Free; donations welcome.

Sat. May 12, 8 PM, **Doo Wopp Hall of Fame**. Colonial Theatre. Keene – \$39/\$35/\$25

Sun. May 13, 10 – 11:30 AM, **Mothers' Day Annual Blessing of the Bikes**

Sun. May 13, 2 PM, **“Better Living.”** Branch River Theater Community House. Marlborough, \$12/\$10 Seniors.

Sun. May 13, 7 PM, **Love Triangle**, Actors' Circle Theatre presents three one-act plays and three comedic visions of love. Harlow's Pub – Free; donations accepted.

Thurs. May 17 – 19, 8 PM, **“Better Living.”** Branch River Theater Community House. Marlborough, \$12/\$10 Seniors.

Sat. May 19, 9 AM, **Children and the Arts Festival**, downtown Peterborough.

Sat. May 19, 9 – 11 AM, **Monadnock Human Society Open House**.

Sat. May 19, 11 AM, **“Get to Know Your Library Day”** Richmond Library.

Sat. May 19, 8 PM, **Saints & Sinners Dance**, Colonial Theater, Keene \$25.00

Sat. May 19, 7:30 PM, **Animaterra. “Refresh the Spirit.”** First Baptist Church, Maple Avenue, Keene, Suggested donation: \$10 adults, \$6 Students.

May 20, 9 AM, **“Honoring our Local Heroes”**. The Richmond Community United Methodist Church

May 20, 2 PM, **“Becoming – The Child's Journey to Adulthood.”** Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough.

May 20, 4 PM, **Animaterra “Refresh the Spirit.”** Union Congregational Church, 33 Concord St. (Rt. 202), Peterborough. Suggested donation: \$10 adults, \$6.

Fri, May 25, 7:30 PM, **Whose Live Anyway?** Colonial Theatre, Keene. \$49/\$45/\$35.

Ongoing

Every Monday 8 PM, **Contra Dancing**, Nelson Town Hall, Variety of callers and musicians. Donation: \$3. Nelson.

Tuesday, 5:30 PM. Soup supper. Community Dinners Reynolds Hall – Peterborough.

Every Tuesday 8 – 11 PM, **Tuesday Night Pizza & Karaoke with CJ the DJ**. Ed's Crossroads Pizza & Subs, Rtes 12 & 119, Fitzwilliam.

Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, **Spaghetti Dinner**. Unitarian Universalist Church. Peterborough, Free.

Every Wednesday, 9:30 – 11 PM, **Open Mic Night – Acoustic** only please. Harlow's Pub, Peterborough.

Every Thursday 8 PM – 1 AM, **CJ the DJ Grumpy**, Don's Sports Bar and Restaurant, Hillsboro.

Safety on our Roadways

Sandra Holbrook

Warmer days are back again and so is the increase in road traffic, especially on Routes 119 and 32. As an avid horseback rider, I would like to remind motorists to slow down when approaching a horse on the highway. Respect the rider's hand signals that may be asking you to slow down and pass wide. Horses on the roadway are usually savvy to road traffic, but they are strong and can be unpredictable. Those few seconds of slowing down to ensure everyone is in a safe mode is greatly appreciated by the rider. Bicyclists approaching a horse from behind should call out to let the rider know you are there. This helps prevent both the rider and horse from becoming startled, as the rider cannot always hear you approaching. Motorized bikers are also asked to slow down and pass wide with caution. I'm happy to report that most of my road experiences on horseback have been very positive, and I thank everyone for your highway courtesy.

Time to Open Up the Porch

Judith M. Graves

The calendar says May in New Hampshire which means the arrival of black fly season, muddy roads, and a whole new world opening up after a long winters nap. My thoughts turn to pushing our living space outdoors, pulling out the patio furniture, putting up the umbrella stand, and getting the fire pit ready. Our front porch is so small and holds two giant rocking chairs, which are perfect for having morning coffee and reading a book, and a nice spot for the chocolate labs to rest on. So nice



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to be able to sit out there again. Pansies are all in the boxes on the ledge and even I bring them inside on chilly nights they are thriving in the spring air.

May of course has Mother's Day which was established as a National holiday in 1914 as the result of one woman's relentless lobbying to honor the memory of her own mother. In 1905 Philadelphian, Anna M. Jarvis led the effort to get the holiday adopted, first by her own state and ultimately by the entire country on the second Sunday in May. Mother's Day is the most celebrated holiday just above Christmas.

This special holiday could not be better timed with the spring so full of flowers. Warmer days soak up the sunshine and Mother's Day marks the beginning of living outdoors. Make her queen for the day. Fire up the grill, lavish Mom with her favorite foods and a tall glass of iced tea with a long stemmed daisy in it. The daisy means innocence, loyal love, 'I'll never tell' and purity. And because I enjoy the folklore of flowers and herbs it also is said that it will show you your future love if you place it under your pillow to sleep on.

Even in the darkest months of the year we can look forward to the dawn of the new season. The promise of Spring is long anticipated here in New England as we watch the world open up into greenery, flowers appear, we can open up windows and clear out the winter blahs, hang laundry out on the lines, and listen to the birds arriving and the ducks on the pond. This morning a blue heron landed on the pond to fish along the edges, what a sight to behold. Ahhh, Spring!

Here is a little quiz for you as you move into your gardening season and may be deciding on something different to plant in your gardens. The answers are at the bottom of the article.

1. Chew this seed for fresher breath.
2. To soften skin pat the dew from this herb on your face.
3. This herb is best frozen to keep it green.
4. Herb that is Nature's Gift.
5. Name a flower that you can eat.

With weather taking a turn from nesting and resting to cleaning and preening it seems good to start clearing the clutter away as well. Winter tends to pile up books and magazines at my house, the winter gear and empty coffee mugs are everywhere. May seems to say clear it all away and open up the living space. Organizing paperwork, rearranging furniture, open up the windows on a warm spring day and changing out the décor with fresh flowers.

So whether you have a porch, a patio, deck, or lawn, spread

out the living space and breathe in the country air. I remember an old timer friend of mine who has passed long away once told me that when he was a little boy growing up in Keene, the doctors would send patients with breathing ailments to Richmond as it had such fine clear air. Not so sure with Chicago winds blowing across us now that it is the same, but it was written in early books that we had the best environment for quality of air. There are many reasons to go outside and spread out on the porch.

Answers: 1. Dill 2. Lady's Mantle 3. Parsley, chive, and basil 4. Dandelion 5. Violet, pansy to name two.

You Know You're from Richmond If...

Jean Tandy

IF...you've looked a black bear in the eye through your kitchen window at 3 a.m. without fainting.

IF...if you've seen two locals behind the wheel, face each other on a one way bridge, and both refuse to back up.

IF...you've seen a coyote hang around your cat's favorite window, whispering "here kitty kitty, come, come, nice little kitty".

IF...you've watched a city slicker drive up to a local and flash \$500 in fresh greens with an offer to buy lots of land...and the local says, "B'gawd, yes sir, back your trunk right up here and we'll fill it with \$500 worth of land.

IF...If your neighbor gets bitchy about the way Town Meetin' went, even though they didn't bother to go vote.

IF...you've lived next door to the same neighbor, seems forever, hardly ever see each other, but the minute you get the flu, you have to grab the baked stuff (secretly) left at your door before your "wild hairy neighbors" get to it.

IF...you know that "real" eagles don't nest in mailboxes.

IF...you're late for a "Very Important Date" because you stopped to witness a mom red fox nurse five kits in the middle of Whipple Hill Road, by the pond.

IF...you have stories of your own you'd like to share with "neighbors". Call 239-6024 and we'll get another column going.

AND by now you know you're from Richmond, because it's forever the most beautiful place in your heart.

What Are The Business Dangers?

Michelle Connor

Within many businesses there are four Core Business Dangers that keep them from meeting their goals. What are those dangers?

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Lack of a Business and Strategic Plan – If you do not know where you are going it doesn't matter how fast you go! A Strategic Plan is a written guide to starting your business successfully and it is essential. A Business Plan will encourage loans, promote growth and along with the Strategic Plan, it will provide a roadmap for you to follow.

Inferior Sales and Marketing – These are the only two “departments” that contribute to your revenue. In fact, a recent survey showed that 87% of executives believe that sales and marketing are the most pivotal areas in accelerating growth.

Cash Flow problems – It's one thing to make money and another to manage it. Cash flow problems are responsible for causing over 70% of businesses to fail within their first year.

Human Capital Mismanagement – “The right people are your most important asset” (Jack Welch – previous Chairman and CEO of GE). Also, “The mismanagement of Human Resources is one of the main reasons that ‘good’ companies never become ‘great’” (Jim Collins author of “Good To Great”)

Ineffective Communication – Does your team really know where your business is going? Establishing healthy communication is the cornerstone to building a culture of teamwork. It's teamwork that remains the ultimate competitive advantage for any business!

World War II Espionage: Successful and Bungling

Frank Behrens

Athena Learning has issued a 4-DVD boxed set titled “Secret War.” It tells in 13 episodes outstanding examples of how Great Britain used spies during WW II to undermine the Germans in any and all possible ways. The film uses a mixture of archival films with re-enactments of the events that led to success or defeat.

Acorn Media once issued a series called “Wish Me Luck,” in which women were sent into occupied France to telegraph information about German troop movements. That story is told here again, but with the British bungling exposed for what it was.

At the orders of Churchill, a unit was formed called the SOE (Secret Operations Executive) to drop operatives behind enemy lines. Either alone with the cooperation of native partisans they were to “set Europe ablaze” with sabotage. They were also required to telegraph in reports and requests. Many of these men and women, with their sending sets, were captured by the

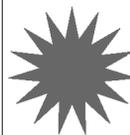
Germans and used to send requests for more men and supplies. The men were to be captured, the supplies confiscated. The SOE people knew that by the sender leaving out a certain “security code,” the receivers in London would know the messages were false.

But the man in charge of the SOE sector was put there by former schoolmates, despite his obvious incompetence; and he was stupid enough to telegraph back, admonishing the spy to include his code in future messages – a very nice gift to the Germans. Indeed, one of his most trusted staff workers had a suspicious background in dealing with Nazi officials to rescue a family member.

Since many of the persons were operating at the same time, there is a good deal of overlap of information in the middle episodes. Indeed, the same archival shots show up again and again, to the point where one Londoner walking down a street with a rolled newspaper becomes an old acquaintance. And of course the shots of paratroopers jumping and landing seem to be the same footage.

The episodes concerned with fooling the Germans into thinking that the Invasion would take place at a site other than Normandy are the most interesting. One double agent nicknamed Garbo would be sending all sorts of reports to the Germans about troops – even inventing insignias for them – that did not exist but were believed in Berlin. Win some, lose some.

All in all, this 656-minute set is quite fascinating, especially since it does not attempt to whitewash the reasons for British failures or withhold some credit for the intelligence of some German officers, who knew what they were doing.



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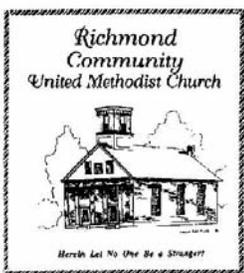
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Answers for May Questions Page 8

1. Richard Nixon won in 1960, 1968, 1972.
2. 1954, until then, black and white donor's blood was not mixed (and I suppose there was also an "other" category.)
3. Your Constitutional Rights:
 - The right of freedom of speech, press, religion, peaceable assembly and requesting change of government.
 - The right to bear arms (the right to have weapons or own a gun, though subject to certain regulations).
 - The government may not quarter, or house, soldiers in the people's homes during peacetime without the people's consent.
 - The government may not search or take a person's property without a warrant.
 - A person may not be tried twice for the same crime and does not have to testify against him/herself.
 - A person charged with a crime still has some rights, such as the right to a trial and to have a lawyer.
 - The right to trial by jury in most cases.
 - Protects people against excessive or unreasonable fines or cruel and unusual punishment.
 - The people have rights other than those mentioned in the Constitution.
 - Any power not given to the federal government by the Constitution is a power of either the states or the people.
4. The Congress
5. Republic
6. Lincoln
7. 1787
8. Bill of Rights (see three above)
9. The United States Constitution
10. In the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Cider Press

George Nelsen

Used to be a Cider-Press just south of the Shephard place, at a place called Harvey LaShore's. It was on the East side of the road, just south of what used to be the Ruby Woods place. It was about 50 to 100 feet east of 32 where Harvey lived. I know you all are big on history. It was still there in 1967 when I visited there. Thought your Richmond History Club would want to check it out. Harvey would press out about a barrel or two every year! I know for sure, that it was still in operation in the 30s and early 40s! My Mother used to give him a nice new White Sweat Shirt at Christmas. (It was black by Summertime.)

Quotable Quotes

Terri O'Rorke

"If you want something spoken tell it to a man, if you want something done tell it to a woman." – Margaret Thatcher

The Green Thing

Author Unknown

Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the older woman that she should bring her own shopping bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologized and explained, "We didn't have this green thing back in my earlier days."

The cashier responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

She was right, our generation didn't have the green thing in its day. Back then, we returned milk bottles, pop bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every shop and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks.

But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day. Back then we washed the baby's nappies because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts – wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing.

But that young lady is right. We didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Back then we had one TV, or radio, in the house – not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of the county of Yorkshire. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the post, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam

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A spectacular beginning to Fitzwilliam's anniversary weekend - bring your family, your appetite, and your dancing shoes!!

• Food and Drink

A free piece of pizza and drink await the lucky first 250 residents who have one of the "250 Anniversary" printed tickets in their hands. Look for them at the Auction, and town-wide locations over the next 3 months. *Note: Tickets are not mandatory for attendance - everyone is invited to bring a picnic dinner and blanket.*

• Potluck Dessert Contest

Calling all pastry and dessert chefs (and absolutely everyone else) - bring your biggest, best, and most delectable desserts to put on display, be judged, and then eaten by everyone. There is nothing like a competition to bring out the best from the kitchen. All in good fun "winning certificates" will be awarded in different categories by our resident food officiants and the whole town will enjoy the sweets.

• Dancing thru Time

Our own CJ the DJ will spin us back through time, playing the "best of the best" songs from 2012 backwards... into the days of pre-revolutionary 1762, the year of our "birth". Come move to the music of your favorite tunes, learn little-known facts about Fitzwilliam's history, and even dance the Polka, Charleston, and Jitterbug! Quick dance demonstrations will be shown for the older dance steps, and everyone will be encouraged to give them a try.

• Past Memories and Future Dreams

Look for an indoor environment... sitting outdoors. An antique desk, chair, and lamp will transport you to another era as you contribute to the Fitzwilliam 250th Anniversary Book. We will all be co-authors together - recording our shared lives here and now, 250 years after the first Fitzwilliam settlers dreamed of what the future would hold for them.

• Common Lights

The Fitzwilliam Common will be a spectacle to behold, something you won't see for another 250 years.

or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn petrol just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right. We didn't have the green thing back then.

We drank water from a fountain or a tap when we were thirsty instead of demanding a plastic bottle flown in from another country. We accepted that a lot of food was seasonal and didn't expect that to be bucked by flying it thousands of air miles around the world. We actually cooked food that didn't come out of a packet, tin or plastic wrap and we could even wash our own vegetables and chop our own salad. But we didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the tram or a bus, and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their mothers into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

But isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

Seven Percent

Regina Brett

From the *Plain Dealer*, Cleveland, Ohio

"To celebrate growing older, I wrote the 45 lessons life taught me. It is the most requested column I've ever written.

My odometer rolled over to 90 in August, so here is the column once more:

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short – enjoy it.
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and family will. Friends are the family that we choose.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Stay true to yourself.

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7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
13. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye But don't worry; God never blinks.
16. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful. Clutter weighs you down in many ways.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
19. It's never too late to be happy. But it's all up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive but don't forget.
29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
33. Believe in miracles.

34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
36. Growing old beats the alternative – dying young.
37. Your children get only one childhood.
38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
41. Envy is a waste of time. Accept what you already have not what you need.
42. The best is yet to come...
43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
44. Yield.
45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."

This is something we should all read at least once a week!!!!

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Mon. 7:00 PM—?

Selectmen's Assistant: Roberta Frasier

Town Secretary: Beverly Hart

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Wed. 8 AM – 12 noon, 1:00 PM – 5 PM

Thurs. 8 AM – 12 noon, 1:00 PM – 4 PM

Town Clerk: Annette Tokunaga

Deputy Clerk: Pamela Goodell

Mon. 9 AM – noon, 1 – 4 PM, 6 – 8 PM

Wed. 9 AM – noon, 1 – 5 PM

Thurs. 9 AM – noon

Tax Collector: Steve Boscarino

Assistant Collector: Denise Nolan

Mon. 7 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 2 PM – 4 PM

Planning Board: Richard Drew, Chairperson

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Thurs. 4:30 PM – 7 PM, Sat. 10 AM – 2 PM

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Fire Warden: Ed Atkins, 239-6337

Selectmen – 239-4232

Town Clerk – 239-6202

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