

APRIL 2013

Around the Town

John Boccalini

It Happened One Rainy Day aka Election Results

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

The rainfall was steady throughout the day on March 12 as was the flow of voters at the Veterans Memorial Hall. Although the voter turnout was lower than the average for the past ten years, the voting booths were almost always occupied. With three ballots in hand (two town and one school), the voting process was lengthy. In particular, the "green" ballot for the proposed changes to the zoning ordinances was a challenging twenty-two pages long.

The NH Voter ID Law that was implemented last year was in effect at the March election. Once again, all Richmond voters were able to receive their ballots by providing an acceptable photo ID as prescribed in the law. Changes to this law take effect after September 1, 2013. As there are no scheduled elections slated for the remainder of this year, I will provide relevant information as the next election approaches.

Of the 829 registered voters, 335 voted, giving Richmond a 40% turnout. Of the two contested races, Selectman for a 3-year term and Selectman for a 1-year term, Carol Jameson and Sandra Gillis, respectively, received the most votes. No one was on the ballot for cemetery trustee and Bill Coll was voted into office as a write-in. All other offices were uncontested races. All the proposed changes to the zoning ordinances passed. A complete list of results, including write-in votes, is posted at the Town Hall and the Veterans Memorial Hall.

The Monadnock Regional School District election was held on the same day as the town election. The majority of Richmond voters approved seven of the ten articles. On Article Four ("Collective Bargaining Agreement...between the Monadnock Regional School Board and the Monadnock Association of Principals/Supervisors), Article 6 (\$200,000 to the School Building Capital Reserve Fund), and Article 8 (School Resource Officer), more of Richmond's voters voted against these articles than voted for them. Results are posted at the Town Hall and the Veterans Memorial Hall.

Here are a few things that I'll remember from that day. Winter was on its way out and Spring was approaching, as evidenced by the mud and large water puddles in the parking lot.

Umbrellas and raincoats were the preferred accessories. One voter was accompanied in the voting booth by a very large, black and well-behaved dog. Children experienced the voting process with parents or grandparents, some wide-eyed, others transfixed by the games on their little hand-held electronic devices. And the smiles. I will remember the smiles.

Thank you to all who voted! And thank you to all who worked that day!

Dog Licenses

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

Dog licenses expire on April 30, 2013. We will begin making phone calls May 1, 2013 as a friendly reminder to those of you who have not yet licensed your dogs. Please don't wait to get a phone call from the town clerk's office! If you have recently added a dog to your family, you must license it. Bring the rabies certificate and any documentation verifying that the dog has been spayed or neutered. Call 239-6202 with questions. We are always happy to help.

School District Voting Results March 2013

Neil Moriarty

Article 1 Passes: Operating budget \$32,409,110

1519 YES; 392 NO.

Article 2 Passes: High School Building \$1,548,627

1423 YES: 499 NO.

Article 3 Passes: Before and After School \$75,000

1236 YES 663 NO.

Article 4 FAILS: Principal's Contract \$52,811

574 YES, 1336 NO.

Article 5 Passes: Redistribution of School Board vote weight

1642 YES; 253 NO.

Article 6 FAILS: Save up to \$200,000 of Sullivan withdrawal money

Article 7 Passes: Change Formula to calculate each town's portion of Operating Budget

1170 YES; 708 NO.

Article 8 Passes: Resource Officer funds \$56,787.67

1097 YES; 814 NO.

Highway Maintenance Plan 2013-2018

2012-13 LANG ROAD – replace culverts, ditch, gravel and grade

MONUMENT ROAD – replace culvert, gravel and grade

2014-15 TULLY BROOK ROAD – replace culvert, gravel and grade
OLD TURNPIKE ROAD BRIDGE – replace bridge, gravel

WHIPPLE HILL ROAD BRIDGE - repair

2015-16 FAY MARTIN ROAD UPGRADE – per court order
 2016-17 BULLOCK ROAD – replace culverts, ditch, gravel and grade

2018-19 FISH HATCHERY ROAD – upgrade Route 119 to Mill Road

From the Tax Collector

Steve Boscarino

The Tax Collector has a **NEW** post office box. **PO Box 493**, **Winchester**, **NH 03470-0493**. The change was made to accommodate large flats and a large volume of mail during tax season time; rarely, there is a small parcel.

The change is effective as of 2/27/2013. Mail sent to the **OLD** PO Box 462 will be forwarded for up to one year.

Highlights Of 2013 Budget

The proposed operating budget provides funding for managing the town more efficiently with less money than the previous year. It funds capital projects that address the deferred maintenance of valuable assets, our roads and our municipal buildings, and funds the reserves that anticipate equipment needed in the future. This budget funds those organizations that help us take care of Richmond residents who need help to make ends meet. It also acknowledges that need in our increased welfare budget.

The proposed Operating Budget has decreased this year by \$6,012. Thanks to all departments for careful consideration of expenses.

For the first time in three years Executive Staff will receive a 1.5% cost-of-living increase and two more hours have been added to the Assistant to the Selectmen position for website maintenance.

The Moderator and Supervisor of the Checklist Budgets have decreased considerably reflecting fewer elections in 2013.

The Land Use Budget, incorporating both the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment budgets, provides for additional hours for the Land Use Assistant position, reflecting the realities of the position, created in 2012.

The General Government Buildings budget, with additional funds from reserve, will complete the repair of the north wall of the Town Hall, pending for many years. It funds repairing the exterior of the Civil Defense Building, repairing a section of the Fire Department roof, and will complete planned repairs in the Library.

Perhaps most exciting of all is the recommendation of the Richmond Building Committee to purchase property adjacent to the Veterans Hall to allow expansion, creating new municipal meeting and office space and additional parking areas. Warrant articles in this budget will, if passed, 1) raise and appropriate \$113,000 to purchase the property, and 2) grant borrowing authority to acquire the property at a cost of \$113,000.

LEGAL EXPENSES 2012 To	otal \$45,920
Hoppock	\$16,123
Coyle zoning violation, Cease & Desist (closed)	677
Bosonetto v Town of Richmond, NH State court	ts 7,764
Bersaw v Town: 91A and Bid Process (dismisse	d) 1,261
Saint Benedict Center temporary bridge agreement	ent 475
Fairpoint lawsuit (pending)	665
La Clair – legal counsel (closed)	228
Cote – legal counsel re: property easement	143
Annual Town Meeting (2012)	1,026
Special Town Meeting (Bond 2012)	3,667
Legal Counsel – general	227
Tower, Crocker	\$5,251
LaClair site plan compliance (closed)	240
Bosonetto v Town of Richmond, Supreme Cour	t 4,807
(dismissed)	
Cote easement, initial work	130
Vachon Clukey letter, auditors	74
Sansoucy	\$850
PSNH BTLA appeal, tech services (settled)	
Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella	\$23,196
PSNH BTLA appeal, legal services (settled)	
Devine Millimet Bond counsel	\$500
TILL IN A STATE OF A	41

This case was dismissed in NH State Courts, now pending in Federal District court, NHMA defending through municipal liability insurance. [Total for this case – 2010, 2011, 2012 = \$30,149] Fairpoint sued towns it serves for taxing their poles, which was made legal in 2011.

Social Hour

Pam Goodell

The next Richmond Social Hour will be Friday April 5, 2013 from 10-11 a.m. at the Vet's Hall. Come join us for coffee and socializing. Maybe the mud will be gone by then!! Call Pam at 239-4790 for more info.

Editor's Comment

John Boccalini

A total of 335 of the towns 829 registered voters turned out for Town Election on March 12.

Congratulations to our newly elected Town Officials:

Carol Jameson and Sandra Gillis – Selectmen.

Norma Thibodeau and Deborah Duffy – Planning Board.

Terri O'Rorke – Trustee of the Trust Fund. Bonnie McCarthy – Library Trustee.

L'Oreal Schmidt – Treasurer.

Bill Coll – Cemetery Trustee.

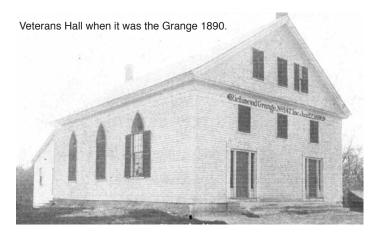
Congratulations also go out to the Planning Board.

All the Proposed Zoning Amendments passed.

Summary of Operating Budget Appropriations for 2013.

Departments	Approved
Art. 9 Executive	54,898
Art.10 Election Registration Vitals	43,232
Art.11 Financial Administration	25,792
Art.11 Auditor	12,000
Art.12 ReValuation/Assessing	13,700
Art.13 Legal	45,000
Art.14 Land Use	11,288
Art.15 General Government	38,700
Art.16 Cemetery	13,450
Art.17 Insurance	22,000
Art.18 Police	92,400
Art.19 Rescue	13,500
Art.20 Fire	41,800
Art.21 Zoning Compliance Officer	500
Art.22 Emergency Management	10,000
Art.23 Highway	180,000
Art.24 Street Lighting	1,000
Art.25 Solid Waste Disposal	60,300
Art.26 Health Officer	538
Art.27 Direct Assistance	22,450
Art.28 Beach	800
Art.29 Parks	850
Art.30 Recreation	600
Art.31 Agriculture Commission	150
Art.32 Library	32,732
Total Operating Appropriations	737,680

In a relatively sedate meeting all of the articles voted on passed as proposed with the exception of two. Article 8 (Ballot item for purchasing and bonding of property) failed by a vote of 58 Yes and 88 No and Article 34 (petitioned article for purchasing a mini-excavator), which failed by a voice vote.



Richmond Library

Wendy O'Brien

The Elaine Moriarty Volunteer of the Year Award

The RPL is pleased to announce that this year's "Elaine Moriarty Volunteer of the Year Award" was given to Patricia Newton. Through Trish's hard work over the past few years, our database has been kept up-to-date, a never ending task! In addition, her willingness to help with a variety of projects has helped to ensure our Library runs smoothly. She always adds a dash of fun into our work day! This award was named after Elaine Moriarty who is beloved by many children and young adults in Richmond for all of her hard work for the RPL over the years. Thank you Elaine and Trish!

Looking for a volunteer opportunity? We need you! Drop by the RPL or give us a call – we have projects ranging from shelving books one day a week to ongoing projects that may interest and challenge you!

Story times

Wednesdays with Wendy continue at 10:00 a.m. throughout Spring. There are themed stories, crafts, and a small snack for the kids, and social time with other parents (sometimes coffee and goodies too!). Come join us!

Reading with Keeta and Kallie

We have scheduled a visit on Saturday, April 13 at 11:00 a.m. for reading with Kate Simmington, Keeta and Kallie. Kallie is back from surgery and Keeta continues to offer her gentle listening ears for children just learning to read or who wish to be more confident in their reading. Thanks to Monadnock Therapy Pets, we are pleased to offer each child that reads their very own stuffed animal dog. Come by for a story or just a pat. No reservations are needed.

Author Birthdays

A recent suggestion from one of our patrons was to feature author birthdays in both the Library and *The Rooster*. In April, William Shakespeare (poet and dramatist), Gertrude Chandler Warner (writer of the children's series *The Boxcar Children*), Maya Angelou (novelist, poet, dramatist and performer), and David Halberstam (historian) were born. We will be featuring selections by each author in the library in as many formats as we can find in our collection. Come and learn something new about these famous authors.

Recent Donation

The Board of Trustees of the Richmond Public Library is pleased to report that they recently accepted a donation of three children's books from the Cheshire County Republican Women. They are *Abe Lincoln Grows Up* by Carl Sandburg; *The Ballot Box Battle* (about Elizabeth Cady Stanton) by Emily Arnold McCully; and *Washington at Valley Forge* by Russell Freedman. These are highly reviewed and well regarded books and welcome additions to the Library's collection.

Out and About

John Boccalini

Wed. Apr. 3, 7:30 p.m. Apple Hill String Quartet, – Keene State College, 90 Wyman Way, Keene, \$20/15

Wed. Apr. 3, 6:30 p.m. Sylvia Scarlett, B&W Film Series, www.ledgertranscript.com/artsliving/calendar/venue?ID=4605 "Jaffrey Public Library, 38 Main St., Jaffrey.

Thurs – Sat Apr. 4 – 6, 6 p.m. – Monadnock Film Festival Colonial Theater, Keene

Apr. 4, 7 p.m. – Toy City

Apr. 5, 11 a.m. - Short Series

Apr. 5, 4 p.m. – Polluting Paradise

Apr. 5, 4 p.m. - Friday Night

Apr. 6, 11.a.m. – Rules of the Game

Apr. 6, 12 p.m. - Film Passes

Apr. 6, 12 p.m. – VIP Passes

Apr. 6, 12 p.m. – Saturday Matinee

Apr. 6, 12 p.m. - Certal Part Five

Fri. Apr, 5, 8 p.m. – The Second City: Laughing Matters. Colonial Theater, Keene

Sun Apr. 7, 3 p.m. – Scottish Music with the Strathspey and Reel Society Bass Hall, 19 Grove St. Peterborough. \$15

Sun Apr. 7, 5 p.m. – **Caribbean Night** – Dinner reservations are required. BYOB \$23.95 per adult and \$12.95 per child, age 5-15, \$7.50 age 2 – 4, plus tax and gratuity. 460 Monadnock St., The Inn at East Hill Farm, Troy.

Wed. Apr. 10, 6:30 p.m. – Decision Before Dawn, B&W Film Series www.ledgertranscript.com/artsliving/calendar/venue? ID=4605" Jaffrey Public Library, 38 Main St., Jaffrey.

Thurs. Apr. 11, 7 p.m. – Exhibition: Monet Portraying Life, Colonial Theater, Keene. \$10.50/8.50

Wed. – Sat. Apr. 10 - 13, 7:30 p.m. An Evening of Dance, a dance celebration of choreography and performance. Keene State College, 90 Wyman Way, Keene, \$10/8.

Sat. Apr. 13, 8 p.m. Abbey Road, live on stage, Colonial Theater, Keene. \$42/38/28

Sun Apr. 14 - 23. Anthony and Cleopatra Free Admission Sun. Apr. 14, 2 p.m. Mt Caesar Union Library, Swanzey

Mon. Apr. 15, 7 p.m. Historical Society of Cheshire County, Keene

Tues. Apr. 16, 7 p.m. Hancock Library, Hancock Thurs Apr. 18, 7 p.m. Veterans Hall, Richmond

Tues. Apr. 23, 7 p.m. Keene Public Library, Keene

Wed. Apr. 17, 6:30 p.m. The Young Lions, B&W Film Series, www.ledgertranscript.com/artsliving/calendar/venue? ID=4605"Jaffrey Public Library, 38 Main St., Jaffrey.

Wed. Apr. 17, 7:00 p.m. Jed Butterfield, Principal MRMHS will be conducting an informative evening for interested students and adults at the Veterans Hall, Richmond.

Wed. Apr. 17, 7:30 p.m. Keene State Guitar Orchestra presents their spring concert. Keene State College, 90 Wyman Way, \$10/5.

Fri. Apr. 19, 8 p.m. – John Pinette, Colonial Theater, Keene. Sat. Apr. 20, ROADSIDE CLEANUP All over Richmond (see details in this issue)

Sat. Apr. 20 3 p.m. - KSC Concert Choir, Alumni Recital Hall, Redfern Arts Center on Brickyard Pond, \$10.

Wed. Apr. 24, 6:30 p.m. Call Northside 777, B&W Film Series, www.ledgertranscript.com/artsliving/calendar/venue?ID =4605"Jaffrey Public Library, 38 Main St., Jaffrey.

Fri. Apr. 26, 6:30 p.m. – The 2013 Annual Social and Raffle, Keene Country Club. \$125 per couple.

Fri. Apr. 26, 7:30 p.m. – Electric Earth Concerts, presents The Borromeo Quartet, Bass Hall, 19 Grove St. Peterborough. Fri. Apr. 26, 8 p.m. – Bob Marley, Comedy. Colonial Theater, Keene. \$27.50.

Sat. Apr. 27, noon – 4:30 p.m. - The Met Live in HD Handel's "http://www.peterboroughplayers.com/GiulioCesare"Giulio Cesare — 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough \$25/20 AND the Colonial Theater, Keene.

Sun, Apr. 28 3p.m. Keene Pops Choir: A Musical Bouquet, Colonial Theater, Keene. \$12.

Ongoing:

Mondays 8 p.m., Contra Dancing, Nelson Town Hall, Variety of callers and musicians. Donation: \$3. Nelson.

Every Tuesday night from 8 – 11 p.m. CJ the DJ hosts karaoke at his hometown bar, Ed's Crossroads Pizza & Subs.

Wednesday, 9:30 – 11 p.m. Open Mic Night – Acoustic only please. Harlow's Pub, Peterborough.

Road Side Cleanup

Russ Provost

The Richmond Roadside Cleanup will be held on Saturday, April 20. Bags and gloves will be available at the Town Pavilion from 6:30-7:30 a.m. on that morning or can be picked up





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Old Radios
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in advance by calling me at 239-7058. We especially need volunteers for Rte. 32 between Bullock and Fish Hatchery Roads.

An Informative Evening

Elaine Moriarty

On Wed. April 17, 2013, at 7 p.m. Jed Butterfield, Richmond Resident and Principal MRHMS will be conducting an informative evening for interested students and adults at the Veterans Hall in Richmond. This is your chance to ask questions, hear about the new scheduling, updates and goals at the middle/high school. Since the majority of your tax dollars go to the school district this should be of interest to all Richmond taxpayers.

Refreshments will be homemade by Elaine Moriarty. Contact Neil or Elaine Moriarty 239-4031 with questions.

RCUMC News

Pastor Arnie Johnson

Great things continue to happen at the Richmond Community United Methodist Church and in our community! We have been offering several Sunday sermon series that have been well received. Once again we celebrated Scouting Sunday in March with a great group of Scouts and leaders attending and being recognized for their unselfish service in their communities. We are always thrilled with their attendance and participation!

Plans are in the works for the return of the Middle River Gospel Band that was so well received at the Church and at the Pavilion during the Fire Department BBQ. Dates will be provided as soon as they are finalized.

If you know of individuals or families who have food or nutritional needs, please tell them about the RCUMC Food Pantry at the Town Hall. It is available during normal office hours. Come join us any Sunday at 9 a.m. at 11 Fitzwilliam Road (Rt.119), approximately 100 yards east of the Four Corners. Come and be blessed!

Are you in a Rut?

Judith Graves

Well it is almost Spring. The groundhog didn't see his shadow which meant that it would be six weeks until spring. Glad he didn't see his shadow because that would have meant six more weeks of winter. Just sounds better when he doesn't see his shadow even though it means the same thing.

I am concerned at this time of year about getting into the same old ruts. We have a brand new year and season to start something new for ourselves that can give us a new perk to our step. Ever notice the ruts people get into? Not you of course, but others. Like at every party gathering the same foods are served. Tuna, ham, or egg rolls, chips, pickles, brownies, punch or coffee is the usual spread. As good as all this food is, isn't it boring? Wouldn't you like to see an entirely different table when you pick up your plate to start to fill it?

And colors... one tends to buy the same colors as if afraid to be different. For years I wore blue or yellow for spring, only to find out that lavenders and greens were the colors I was complimented on. So I changed. What a silly rut that was.

If you've never had anything red, buy a red sweater. If you only buy pink for your little girl, buy yourself a pink blouse. You'll feel like a new person and your step will be bouncier. If your jewelry has always been minimal and small scale, buy a large piece, and add a little more to your jewelry box, and wear it. You'll smile at yourself and feel a bit mischievous, but go for it, it could get you out of a rut.

Gift-giving can be a really boring rut as well. As if fearing

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to be different, or lack of confidence to change, or we get lazy, we buy socks or peanuts for the men and candy or flowers for the women. Now don't get me wrong, I love candy and flowers, but it can be very predictable.

This year, instead of buying every man on your Christmas list a pair of socks, try something out of character like a fancy flashlight, not the ordinary but something that does all sorts of things, or a fire extinguisher for the garage, or a safety deposit box. Get out of your rut and you'll really enjoy gift giving again and get out of a rut.

Now, let's see if we can get out of our boring, predictable ruts and take a brave step out from routine this year. Instead of the same foods at every party, be creative. How about a mug of hot tomato soup with a spoon of mozzarella cheese on top, and hot meatballs in a crock, and sub rolls to scoop the meatballs into, and cheese to sprinkle over the top, cheese spreads shaped like a heart rolled in chives or parsley and crackers, or rolls and choice of fixings on plates to fix your own grinder. Then for dessert, how about candied apples, popcorn balls, or a pedestal plate with cupcakes in yummy colors.

Instead of punch how about hot cider with a cinnamon stick to stir it, or white grape juice with lavender flowers on top. Table settings for the season – like a table cloth of orange calico for autumn, a cut out pumpkin filled with dried weeds and flowers. Your imagination can take you on limitless ideas. Nothing is crazy, just care to be different.

Whatever is your ordinary, do the opposite and the shock might actually be a nice surprise. Some young women hold exchange parties where they bring good clothes and jewelry that they are tired of. They lay them all out for the others to choose from and to take home. No cost, something new and fresh to wear that cost nothing, but was as if you went shopping for a whole new wardrobe. Have a group of your friends over and ask them to bring what they no longer wear or are tired of for an exchange party. Have some not so usual foods to eat and try on new clothes to bring home with you.

If your rut is that after dinner you automatically turn on the TV, change and read a magazine or play a game. Take a walk somewhere you rarely go instead of the same route you always take. We get into a rut having the same barber or hair stylist, same gas station, grocery store, brands, and ordering the same hamburger. Watch yourself and see the patterns and ruts you are stuck in. Be spontaneous. Think about what you are doing and do something else or flip flop and do the opposite.

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I challenge you to do this for one week. Watch yourself doing the same things at the same time, and putting on the same shirt on the same day. Well, maybe not so drastic, but you will have a whole lot of fun doing new things. It is a simple thing we can do to entertain ourselves and others around us. Make it a game and have fun.

Explore things that are new to you. Is there a shop you have never been to before, a restaurant you pass by to go to your favorite haunt, or have you never watched that TV show because you watch reruns of your favorite shows? Enjoy changes and experience different things. Be a little wild and see if you have another personality lurking inside of you. You may be surprised at the many delightful things that await you. Expand your horizons by trying the *out of the ordinary* and you'll get out of your rut and be a less boring, predictable person to yourself and those around you.

We might not even recognize each other as we change hair styles, wear different styles, show up at some event we never went to before, or smile instead of frown. All the changes that will happen in this town in the next month will be fun to see.

Last month I mentioned that it would be nice to see little businesses pop up all over town offering items and services that others are looking for. Cottage industries are welcomed by all of us when we are trying to save gas, or are looking for something new that we can shop for, or keeping the money in our own town and building Richmond so others come here to buy as well. Now, let's start by getting out of our 'old' ruts and reaching out to see what else is out there.

Anthony and Cleopatra

Frank Behrens

The Hourglass Readers will present a reading of Antony and Cleopatra by William Shakespeare at the following:

Mount Caesar Union Library, Swanzey, on Sunday, April 14, 2 p.m.

Historical Society of Cheshire County, Keene, Monday, April 15, 7 p.m.

The Hancock Public Library on Tuesday, April 16, at 7 p.m. Veterans Hall, Richmond, Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m.

All performances are free and open to the public.

Catherine Behrens will direct a cast that includes Wendy Almeida, Mark DiPietro, Peter Eisenstadter, Morganna Ekkens, Helmut Heidl, Clare Margand, Matt McDougall, Dan Patterson, Chris Pratt, Scott Rodenhauser, Katrina Spenceman, and Robert



Wellington. Live music will be provided by Jenny Holan.

The Hourglass Readers is dedicated to performing readings of classical works in abridged versions, allowing actors and audiences to explore works not often performed. The Hourglass Readers is a performing partner with The Edge Ensemble Theatre Company of Keene.

For more information, call (603) 352-2699.

RAC Notes

Richmond Agricultural Commission

The Richmond Agricultural Commission would like to highlight a local farm. Manning Hill Farm in Winchester, NH is a local agricultural endeavor offering fresh milk "bottled on the farm in reusable glass bottles." Manning Hill also offers all natural beef, pasture raised pork, chicken and eggs. They make all the hay and feed for the animals they raise and they sell square and round bales to local animal owners. To learn more, including Farm Store Hours, visit: manninghillfarm.com.

And keep an eye on the *Rooster* for news about this year's "Local Garden Tour" sponsored by the RAC. It will be another great, enjoyable, community endeavor.

It Takes a Town

John Boccalini

The Fay Martin Bridge over Tully Brook is in its final stages of completion. All the concrete work is done, the span is set, and all that remains is backfilling with stone and graveling, grading and asphalting. This will be done when the weather warms up a bit and dries out.

History shows that the bridge was originally constructed in 1930 and reconstructed in 1965. It had a span of 17 ft. and a width of 10.2 ft. – and that it was *red-listed* (structurally defective) by the state in the early 2000s. It became embroiled in a court case in 2008 between the Saint Benedict Center, Inc., and the Town of Richmond. The final order settling all appeals of the case did not occur until March 21, 2011 which left the town with only two years to design, engineer, finance, get all the proper permits to build the bridge, get bids from contractors, and finally construct the bridge to completion by the May 15, 2013 deadline. Unfortunately, the town also had to wait until town meeting in March 2012 to raise and appropriate the monies to begin the process. An oversight of not asking to borrow money for the project led to another delay until the borrowing could be voted on at a special meeting on June 21, 2012.

TIMBERWOLF EXMARK

GARY'S POWER EQUIPMENT Gary Rokes

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ECHO STIHL



There were only eleven months left before the deadline kicked in. If the bridge was not finished by then, the town would have had to forfeit the SBC share of the final cost.

From that point the bridge project went into high gear. The construction was a treat to follow and it wouldn't have happened if not for the effort of the many people involved.

First of all, the selectmen, who took verbal bashings from the naysayers and continued to plod through all the research, organization, and funding to bring a proposal to town meeting.

Second, all the tax payers who voted so we could be in compliance with the court order and the town's agreement with the Saint Benedict Center, which avoided more of a financial burden to the town.

Third, the Engineers at Quantum Construction, James Bouchard and Lisa Martin, who worked diligently to come up with an acceptable design quickly that the State of NH DOT would approve in order that we would only have to pay 20% of the total cost of the replacement bridge. It was Nancy Mayville, Municipal Highways Engineer, State Coordinator and Project Manager for the NHDOT, who pushed Richmond up on the list, so it would be qualified for the State's 80% reimbursement program. She was a significant part of jump starting the project.

Fourth, the Savings Bank of Walpole which responded to Richmond's call for financial help with a very desirable loan.

Requests for bids were sent out in early September and in late October; the decision was made to award the contract to Cold River Bridges, LLC, Walpole, NH which is owned by Jim Hollar and Bill Ballou. Within days the crew arrived and the

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work began. The crew worked through all sorts of inclement weather: a hurricane, a blizzard, and very cold weather. They were Todd Wilcox, Sheldon Munsey, Mark Nash, Andy Laasanan, and foremen John Carr and Bill Labadie.

The large stone and some gravel came from Metcalf Stone Products, Marlborough, NH and some from Pratt's Gravel pit on Fish Hatchery Road in Richmond.

The five precast structures, which make up the span across Tully Brook, were constructed by Michie Corporation of Henniker, NH.

It was Valley Crane Services of Vernon, Vt. that helped manipulate the precast structures into place.

Eleanor Fassett

Pam Goodell

Congratulations to Mrs. Eleanor Fassett upon being the latest recipient of the Richmond 250 Cane for the fourth year in a row! Mrs. Fassett has lived in Richmond for 36 years. She was born on May 11, 1913, and is, therefore, 99 years old. In fact "Happy Birthday" wishes are in order as she turns 100 this coming May! This makes her the oldest citizen living in Richmond.

The cane represents the idea that the knowledge, experience, and wisdom that come with age are to be celebrated. Age itself is to be venerated. It is with the utmost honor, respect, and admiration that we again congratulate Mrs. Eleanor Fassett.

Water Power in Richmond?

Bob Weekes

When we think of New Hampshire "mill towns," we generally think of places like Harrisville, Troy, West Swanzey, Hinsdale, and Jaffrey where large mills sat astride fast flowing rivers that provided water power long before the advent of electricity. Such mills usually occupied the town center, spawning housing and population growth around them. Yet many towns such as Richmond could not have been settled 250 years ago without establishing many of its own water powered mills, albeit mills on a much smaller scale suited to our own smaller streams. The Richmond wilderness of the 18th century was inhospitable enough for homesteaders trying to scratch out a living. In order for life to be self-sufficient, yea, barely sustainable in what was essentially the wilderness northwest of Boston, lumber and shingles were needed to build houses and barns; grain crops

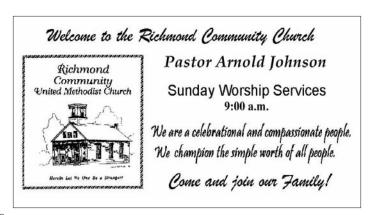
had to be ground to provide food; wood had to be turned into furniture, wooden ware and tools required to run the farms. And in that sense, the Richmond we know today was very much a "mill town" as it once had to be. But water powered?

The reality is that Richmond's waterways are hardly impressive. Most meander lazily north or south before turning west to join the Ashuelot or Millers Rivers which empty into the Connecticut before heading south to Long Island Sound. Today we cross many small bridges in Richmond on Routes 32 and 119, or on Taylor Hill, Mill, Tully Brook, Whipple Hill or Sprague Road, without giving a thought to the small waterways that run below them...or to the mills they once powered. Yet these are the streams that our earliest settlers altered and put to their use, creating mill ponds to store energy, and sluiceways to release it to large wheels when the mills were running.

Most Rooster readers are probably familiar with Richmond's largest water powered mill, the Martin Mills, which were located in an area known as "Red Holler" in the valley at the bottom of Mill Road. These mills along Rice and Martin Brook began sawing wood and grinding meal in 1765 and later evolved into pail making when that industry became firmly established in the Monadnock Region at the end of the Civil War. These mills were run for 200 years by five generations of Martins. They lasted until 1965 when their last owner, the C.L. Lane Company (by then powered by a Fitchburg Steam Engine), lost the mills in Richmond's largest fire. The story is told in a book, The Only Mill in Town (available at the Richmond Public Library), written by Dick Martin who lived at the mills until 1930 when his family's enterprise was, indeed, the only mill left in a town that once depended on many of them. Even as late as the middle of the 19th Century, it was (in Dick's own words) "one of about a dozen mills in operation in Richmond. By that time a gristmill, sawmill or other woodworking shop had been built on just about every waterfall on each of the brooks in town."

Bassett, in his *History of Richmond*, lists a number of these mills although many, in fact, had already disappeared by the time he published his work in 1884. Some of these locations can still be seen by those interested in exploring Richmond's history. When spring returns, take an easy walk down Sprague Road to the site of the old Sprague Mills where you'll find extensive mill foundations and can trace the flow of water through the abandoned raceway to the spot where the wheel





was located. At the height of Mill Road on the corner of Route 32, behind the old Merrifield residence, you can see where the upper mill pond that fed the Martin Mills was located. A second mill pond and some mill foundations are located farther down the hill behind the Balnis residence (once Dick Martin's home) where the oldest mill buildings were located. Drive north on Taylor Hill almost to the Swanzey border by the Perry Farm and you'll find the remains of the Fassett or Taylor Saw Mill, one of the earliest in town. And west of Whipple Hill Road on Route 119 is a house and mill alongside Roaring Brook, perhaps Richmond's most scenic and energetic small river. If you do go exploring, though, please be sure to respect the property rights of the landowners. And do let readers know if there are other mill sites you'd be willing to share.

Before we leave the subject of water power, the Historical Society of Cheshire County has a fascinating exhibit (through June 29th) entitled "The Power of Water: A History of Water Powered Mills in the Monadnock Region." It is free, open to the public and, in my humble opinion, one of the best that the Society has ever mounted. It is profusely illustrated with old photos and artifacts from many surrounding towns, with handson models of old mills that teach youngsters and oldsters alike how our water powered mills of yore actually worked. You can find information about it on the Society's website, hscenh.org. But you'll find a visit to the Society well worth it.

Letter of Thanks

Stillman and Barbara Rogers

This past fall the tree trimming crews working for Public Service Company of NH were all over Route 32 cutting back limbs over the lines. This winter, even during those storms when winds reached 50-60 miles an hour, we not only didn't lose power but we never even had a blink. Since we often call out PSNH when there are problems, it is only fitting to say "Well Done" when they do it right. Well Done PSNH!

Reflect and Take Action

Michelle Connor

Getting a good sense of what worked and what didn't is valuable as business owners approach their business plan for continuous growth in their business. Each quarter, it's vital that business owners develop an actionable plan with specific goals and objectives that support their financial and performance targets. Writing a well thought-out and organized strategic plan dramatically increases a business owner's odds of creating a great financial year. The basics are simple. Business owners should start by doing a review of their business' – Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT analysis). From that, they can create goals and objectives, prioritize action items and identify the measurement tools needed to gain insight as to how they are meeting their goals...this is called moving into the "Your Business 2.0TM" realm. It's basically taking a serious look at the state of your business by defining certain characteristics and then acting on them.

Time spent today on revitalizing a strategic business plan, creating and adhering to goals, and identifying new opportunities like strategic partnerships will all add to positive ROI growth. Set key performance indicators (KPIs) that measure performance on quarterly profits, cost savings, and customer retention.

Thanks for Response

Stillman and Barbara Rogers

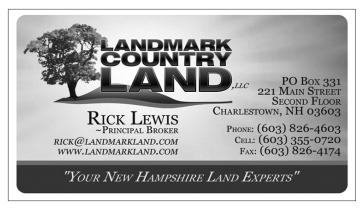
Many great big thanks to the Richmond Police, Fire Department and EMS personnel who responded to our home recently. Barbara had tripped and banged her knee on the steps at the town hall and by the time she got home it was the size of a large grapefruit. Not daring to move her myself, I called 911 and within what seemed no more than five minutes, we had a crowd of helpers and Barbara was safely off to the hospital. It all turned out well, nothing serious broken, but there will be a bit of recovery time. All of you were superb and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Great team Richmond!

Gilbert and Sullivan

Frank Behrens

VAI DVDs clearly demonstrate that Gilbert and Sullivan were not entirely neglected by American television in the 1950s by issuing the complete broadcasts of abridged performances of "The Mikado" (with Groucho Marx) and "The Yeomen of the Guard" (with Alfred Drake). The former includes 12 minutes of Martyn Green as Sir Joseph Porter in selections from "HMS Pinafore."

I was taken by surprise by the arrival of yet another VAI disc, titled "Gilbert & Sullivan, Greatest Hits." It includes four selections from the earlier "Yeomen" and three from "The Mikado" sets, as well as the Martyn Green "Pinafore" excerpts.



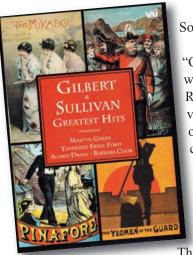
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So much for mild duplication.

There is also a delightful "Gilbert and Sullivan Medley" in which Martyn Green and Cyril Richard share fairly complete versions of six songs from four of the G&S works as they change hats and wigs.

But what makes this set a treasure are the opening and closing sequences taken from "The Ford Show" in which...

Well, let me start again. Thimble Theatre versions of "The

Mikado" are given from a 1959 telecast and "HMS Pinafore" from a 1960 telecast. Running a breathless 25 minutes each, both are hosted and narrated by—okay, let me say it, Tennessee Ernie Ford! And not only that, he sings the comic leads in both!

As for his narratives, who else would describe a tenor being "as happy as a woodpecker in a furniture store" when he meets his soprano? I leave all the other folksy examples to those who purchase this DVD. As for his singing, he did start as a classically trained baritone before he turned to another style of singing. In fact, most of the singing of the other roles is quite good, and Ford manages to keep up nicely.

As for his acting, his Ko-Ko lacks character but his Sir Joseph Porter is quite good, especially when he sings a refrain in that stuffed-shirt upper-class British accent that works so well in farce. In fact, Ford is far better than Green, who seems to sleepwalk through his "Pinafore" songs.

I only wish VAI had come up with a better title. The one chosen has been attached to at least two CDs to my knowledge and possibly to a DVD. And not all the songs heard here could be counted among Gilbert and Sullivan's "greatest" hits. But the contents are such a pleasure, why quibble with the title?

ACES 93

Linda Heath and Elaine Moriarty

A new program has been added to the before/after school program at Mount Caesar School. It is titled CATCH KIDS CLUB, a coordinated school health program designed to promote physical activity, healthy food choices, and the prevention of tobacco use by children. The CATCH program involves children from preschool through 8th grade.



By teaching children that healthy eating and daily physical activity can be a fun thing as well as establishing good habits, it has the rewards of a healthy lifetime.

The staff attended a series of workshops and training sessions that awarded them \$1100 in free equipment to run the program in Swanzey.

There will be a Summer Aces 93 program at Mount Caesar which will run from June 25 until August 16. Fees run from \$85 to \$115 per week, depending on your income. There are discounts for multiple children enrolled from the same family.

Contact lheath@mrsd.org or 903-6537 ext 6537 for information on any of these programs.

Remember, if you have a skill to share or wish to volunteer for as little as one hour per week, you are more than welcome.

Congratulations

Peter Majoy

Richmond is proud to note that our own Rev. Bonnie McCarthy, Ceremonies from the Heart, has been selected, through positive experiences expressed through her clients of Wedding Wire, to receive the Wedding Wire Bride's Choice Award 2013. The annual award recognizes top wedding professionals for their excellence in quality, service and professionalism. The winners of this award are selected solely based on the responses of newlyweds who have experienced the services rated.

We are proud to announce that Rev. McCarthy has received this award for four consecutive years. *Congratulations, Bonnie*.

Response to Gun Rebuttal

Jeani Eismont

I'm writing in response to the letter from Bruce Currier, "Who Is Responsible For School Shooting," in the February 2013 issue of the Richmond Rooster.

I am not putting the blame of the school shooting onto the NRA, which has created programs that have benefited the community as a whole. I understand that you have a right to a conceal-carry permit (unless you are mentally incapable or a felon.) nor am I trying to take your guns away.

I do want to address the other issues you raised. We do not live in Nazi Germany, Stalanist Russia, China or Cambodia. We are the United States of America – a Democracy that has checks and balances to avoid government becoming a subjugator. Mexico is a good example of a country where parts of the civilian population have an abundance of guns and is terrorizing

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the rest of the population. It is not the government of Mexico that is terrorizing the civilians. It is the drug cartels.

You cite alcohol, and the law says that one must be 21 years old to drink. One must show legal proof of that. When a person learns to drive a car, one must take a test to prove that they know the rules of the road and that they have the capabilities to handle a moving machine. Even then, millions of people are killed on the road every day from alcohol and cars.

I totally agree with you that problems in our schools have changed from 1940 to 1990. Education, parental involvement, and better, more well-paid teachers could certainly help change things for the better.

But I don't think that "GUNS DO NOT KILL PEOPLE, people do," is the final decree on this matter. If guns of the sort that killed those children in Newtown were not available, (the automatic, military type firearm with magazines that hold multiple rounds)...if the shooter had a gun that only fired one bullet at a time, would the outcome have been the same?

You are correct that people pull the trigger. But the asault weapons that are available to people who are determined to kill are so much more lethal. Having background checks to determine competency or mental illness or whether a person has a criminal record, is something most people, even many of those in the NRA, agree with. And if people want to own guns to hunt or target practice, then at least register your guns in the same way we register our cars.

Do responsible hunters hunt animals with military weapons? Most responsible hunters, I would suspect, give the animal at least a fighting chance. That is why it is called a sport. Military weapons are used to kill people not animals.

The NRA may do some good things in the community, but

they have influenced politicians in Congress in a very negative way. So much so, that some vote or don't vote only in response to whether they have an A rating from the NRA. Should the NRA have that much power?

I want to thank you for writing and signing your rebuttal in *The Rooster*. There should be an open discussion of controversial issues facing our country. We can disagree but still come together on common grounds such as "How do we stop mass killings?"

Your letter isn't the only one I received. But it was the only mature and open response. I also received menacing mail from someone in our town who did not have the courage to sign it.

Rot 'n Repair

John Boccalini

Town Hall deconstruction and reconstruction. What was holding it all up?

The following pages show the incredible amount of rotten timbers found in the Town Hall.

According to Bill Harper (owner of West Rindge Builders, whose firm did the work), the renovation on the repairs to the building is now complete and only reroofing the building remains.

The cost of the reconstruction project ended up costing the town \$7,000 less than the estimate (\$42,595). It will be applied to the reroofing project which is estimated to cost \$9,433.

I know that I feel much safer being in the Town Hall as a result of the project. It is certainly money well spent to preserve this Historic Building. Like a good haircut, you can hardly notice anything was done.













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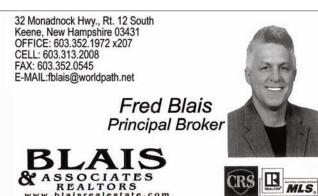
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Congratulations Students!

Richmond Honor Roll and Awards Second Quarter 2012 Neil Moriarty

Cutler School is now using the honors system and are included. Call me if there are other students that should be recognized.

Notes: There are at least three parents who do not want their children's names to be released for publication. I approached the MRSD administration and school board on making honor roll consistent between the elementary schools – they are reviewing policies (with at least one change noted above with Cutler). MRSD does not have awards below 4th grade (also subject to change). Immaculate Heart of Mary School had honors recognition from inception. Grades are here if provided. Legend: Cutler; Emerson, Immaculate Heart of Mary School = IHMS, Monadnock Regional High/Middle School = MRHMS

Melody Ayotte		High Honors	Cutler
Cameron Barth	11	Honors	MRHMS
Olivia Berman	9	Honors	MRHMS
Joshua Boncal*	9	Honors	MRHMS
Antonio Bosonetto	2	Honor Roll	IHMS
Lucia Bosonetto	8	Honor Roll	IHMS
Maria Bosonetto	9	Honor Roll	IHMS
Damian Bryan	10	Honor Roll	IHMS
Hannah Bush	12	High Honors	MRHMS
Chloe Busick	10	Honors	MRHMS
Colt Busick	12	Honors	MRHMS
Cody Cox		Honors	Cutler
,		December Award	Emerson
Joey French		Honorable	IHMS
Mary Grace Grinstead	1 3	Honorable Mention	IHMS
,		Perfect Attendance	
Angela Haynes	11	Honor Roll	IHMS
Spencer Heise	11	High Honors	MRHMS
Trevor Heise		January Award	Emerson
Molly Hulett		Principal's List	Cutler
Andrew Jette		December Award	Emerson
Tarali Kelly	8	Honors	MRHMS
Autumn Love		High Honors	Cutler
Phoenix Lutz		High Honors	Cutler
		Honorable	IHMS
Bernadette Martin	1	Honorable Mention	IHMS
Helena Martin	2	Honorable Mention	IHMS
Jacob Mathewson		Honor Roll	Emerson
Robert Colin Morton	8	Honors	MRHMS
Madison Pearsall	7	High Honors	MRHMS
Cassidy Purrington		High Honors	Cutler
Aqila Putri	12	Honors	MRHMS
Lydia Randall	8	Honors	MRHMS
Breanne Swanson	7	High Honors	MRHMS
Joshua Thompson	5	Honorable Mention	IHMS
Peter Thompson	2	Honorable Mention	IHMS
Kirsten Thayer	9	Honors	MRHMS

* Also Last Semester

The List

I dreamt last night of making lists of tasks that must be done, not shunned.

It seems I printed out in letters big and bold today's priorities.

And now tomorrow's here and I can't find the detailed list I dreamt I made.

I reconstruct scheduled activities; it helps me track the gap between

the best of plans and actualities. Sometimes, I skip unpleasant chores –

blood tests or painting narrow stairway halls, or cutting down invasive vines.

But lists produce results; just look at us. We may have feet of clay, but DNA,

one long sequence of four nucleotides, infuses our animus.

It's said: to type our genome formula would make a list two million pages long.

Lists are composite things – the tesserae of daily life – what bills to pay,

what groceries to buy and lay away. Lists grow in length like old stonewalls

made from debris of fractured glacial rocks. It took a farmer's practiced hands

to grasp their complementary designs. What rustic Michelangelo

fit loose fragments into a boundary wall that rivals Rome's mosaic floors?

His old stonewalls have stood three centuries despite the absence of cement, despite the pull of time and gravity.

Was farmer's skill innate or taught?

Perhaps he learned this craft from his father? An interlude of playfulness,

an early "Lego" set, born from the need to clear the land and still have fun?

But this is fantasy! It took a team of rugged men and strong horses

to excavate and sled these fractal stones to where they would be woven into walls.

Sometimes we need a nudge to find our place within our fate's hard carapace.

The art is to remove the drudgery from tasks done from necessity!

Francis Morrissey 7/26/2012

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105 Old Homestead Highway, Richmond NH 03470 Board of Selectmen:

Deborah Boncal, Sandra Gillis, Carol Jameson Mon. 7:00 PM -?

Selectmen's Assistant: Roberta Frasier **Town Secretary:** Beverly Hart Mon. 10 AM – noon, 6 PM – 8 PM 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

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Tax Collector: Steve Boscarino **Deputy Tax Collector:** Denise Nolan Mon. 7 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 2 PM – 4 PM

Planning Board: Richard Drew, Chairperson Meetings held at Civil Defense Building 1st & 3rd Tues of the Month – 7:30 PM

Transfer Station & Recycling Facility:

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Town Library: Wendy O'Brien, Librarian Tues. 4:00 pm – 7 pm, Wed. 9:00 am – 12 pm Thurs. 4:00 pm – 7 pm, Sat. 10 am – 2 pm

Police (Non Emergency): 239-6007 Fire/ Rescue (Non Emergency): 239-4466

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