



SEPTEMBER 2013

America the Beautiful

Peter Majoy

If you have ever watched an individual or a large group sing “America the Beautiful” or found yourself singing this heart warming patriotic song, you understood directly its beauty, its great appreciation for the essence of America, and why it is often the lyrics of choice at municipal gatherings in the United States as it was at the last Town Meeting in Richmond.

Editors note: Response to this article can be found in The Richmond Bantam section of therichmondrooster.org



Katharine Lee Bates
(1859-1929)

“America the Beautiful”, written by Katherine Lee Bates, has become one of the most beloved patriotic songs in the United States. The first stanza goes as follows:

O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

Katharine Lee Bates became the head of the English Department at Wellesley College, one of the few colleges then open to the enrollment of females. For twenty-five years she lived with her partner, Katharine Coman until Coman’s death in 1915. Katherine Lee Bates was a lesbian.

This wonderful woman gave us the lyrics to this moving song with the lines, “And crown thy good with brotherhood/ From sea to shining sea.” These lines have become historically ironic given their author’s identity and the intolerant fact, empty myths, and hatred which gay people have had to suffer at the hands of those possessed of an absence of “brotherhood from sea to shining sea.”

Items of ignorance and bias toward our gay brothers and sisters were listed and exposed in the article, “10 Anti-Gay Myths Debunked” by Evelyn Schlatter and Robert Steinback published by the *Southern Poverty Law Center’s Intelligence Report*, Winter 2010, Number 140. These poorly researched, non-scientific, false, and hate-filled ten myths about what it means to be gay continue to be spread by organizations that are anti-gay and whose anti-LGBT propaganda is part of a much larger effort to spread cultural bias and ignorance in order to promote a political world view based on an ignorant and intolerant religious set of values as well as a mistaken understanding of the United States Constitution.

Of the ten myths, one stands out as a baseline lie that undergirds the other nine. It is that “Gay People can choose to leave homosexuality.” Part of the argument in this myth is that gays can abandon their homosexuality via sexual re-orientation therapy. The SPLC article states that, “In 2009 the American Psychological Association adopted a resolution, accompanied by a 138-page report, that repudiated ex-gay therapy...the resolution also affirmed that same sex sexual and romantic feelings are normal.”

While hatred of and violence toward gay people continues,

a number of very important decisions have been made respecting the freedom and rights of gay people: (1) anti-gay military policies have been erased; (2) thirteen states have approved same sex marriage with more to come; (3) DOMA (Defense of Marriage Act) was declared unconstitutional; (4) California Proposition 8 which outlawed same sex marriage was also determined to be unconstitutional.

As we try to live up to the lyrics of "America the Beautiful" like "And crown thy good with brotherhood/From sea to shining sea," that brotherhood is challenged by small minded arrogance that asserts, for example, that gay men lack virility, or that lesbian women lack true femininity. To show how foolish such suggestions are, such critics should take note of the number of athletes (both male and female) who have openly revealed their sexual identity like Brian Sims.



Brian Sims, (1978 – Present) were behind him 100%, and never avoided him in the locker room. This is compassionate virility. Brian Sims became a lawyer with the Philadelphia Bar Association working with the Pennsylvania Legislature regarding discrimination against gay people. Go to www.pahouse.com/sims/ to find out more about his work. Parallel examples of lesbian athletes whose femininity and maternal identity can just as easily be seen.

And so we come full circle back to our town where Hosea Ballou (1771 – 1852) was born. Known as the "father of American Universalism," he made this statement about preachers who have hardened the hearts of those around them and transmitted a "spirit of enmity"... "By having such an example constantly before their eyes, they have become so transformed into its image, that, whenever they have the power, they have actually executed a vengeance on men and women, which evinced that the cruelty of their doctrine had overcome the native kindness and compassion of the human heart." By 1970, the Unitarian Universalist Association passed a resolution to help end discrimination against gay people. To read about the work this faith community has done, go to www.uua.org/lgbtq

They continue to welcome and stand up for **all** people.

M. Scott Peck, MD in his *The Different Drum: Community Making and Peace* states, "An important aspect of the realism of community deserves mention: humility. While rugged individualism predisposes one to arrogance, the 'soft' individualism of community leads to humility. Begin to appreciate each others' gifts, and you begin to appreciate your own limitations. Witness others share their brokenness, and you will become able to share your own inadequacy and imperfection. Be fully aware of human variety, and you will recognize the interdependence of humanity." We are all part of one human family with differences on many levels, and it is humility that draws us closer to this sense of life on planet earth.

George Clooney tells us that, "At some point in our lifetime, gay marriage won't be an issue, and everyone who stood against this civil right will look as outdated as George Wallace standing on the school steps keeping James Hood from entering the University of Alabama because he was black." Among our brothers and sisters, we embrace LGBTs with love and compassion. For sure, the extent that any town basks in the image of "America the Beautiful" by Katherine Lee Bates will depend on what each of us contributes to "And crown thy good with brotherhood/From sea to shining sea."

Notes from the Selectmen's Office

The numbers are in...the final cost to replace the Fay Martin Bridge over Tully Brook was \$565,419. The Town of Richmond will be reimbursed \$452,335 by NHDOT (80%), which will repay the bank note. The Town of Richmond and the St. Benedict Center each reserved \$87,500 to pay for the original estimated cost (\$175,000) of the bridge replacement. However, the final cost to each with the NH DOT grant is \$56,542 (10%), saving both entities \$30,958.

This is a fine example of your tax dollars at work in your home town. We've all paid state taxes for years and a portion of those taxes has gone into the NHDOT Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance program, helping to build and rebuild infrastructure in other NH communities over the years. This NHDOT grant enabled the Town of Richmond to bring a portion of our tax dollars home, building new infrastructure benefiting our community and saving taxpayer dollars. Thanks to all who made this project a reality. The beautiful new bridge has been open for several months now and the new sign will be erected soon. It will read:



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Last month the Selectmen met to review town policies, dating back to the 1960s. Thanks to Selectman Jameson and Secretary Bev Hart for researching and compiling the information. Some policies were outdated or obsolete. These have been or will be revised or replaced with updated policies. The Selectmen will add new policies to meet the ever-changing needs of the municipality. Jameson plans to index them for easy access.

You may have noticed municipal construction and renovation underway in town. The Selectmen awarded the bid to Marvin Smart to replace the flat portion of the Richmond Fire Department roof. The work began in August. We also selected Bob Mann to bring in his crew to repaint the interior of the Veterans Hall, sealing the lead paint properly to safeguard our residents and their children. This project was bid out, but when the Town received no bids, various painting crews were asked to provide estimates to do this work. Mr. Mann's estimate was midway between the four estimates received. He is state certified to work with lead paint and experienced working with historic buildings.

The Veterans Hall floors will be refinished at the same time the repainting is underway, following a closely choreographed plan developed by members of the Building Committee. Plans are underway to move many of the board and committee meetings from the CD building into the Veterans Hall in the future and this renovation is part of that plan. The Veterans Hall is a multipurpose building. It is not only the historic venue for our Annual Town Meeting, but it is available to the public for a modest fee.

You are always welcome to attend and observe Selectmen's meetings. We urge you to make an appointment if you want to meet with us. We invite you to become involved in your municipal government.

Town Clerk's Office

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

For those of you who use the Town of Winchester transfer station to dispose of your household trash and recyclables,

stickers expire September 30th. New stickers are available at the clerk's office and at the Winchester transfer station. Please bring the registration for the vehicle that you want to take your trash in when you purchase the sticker. Stickers are assigned by vehicle license plate number and you must be a Richmond resident and/or property owner to use the transfer station.

September 2nd is Labor Day, marking the official end of summer. This office will be closed that day. Please keep in mind that I will be open only on Wednesday, September 4th from 9 – 12 and 1 – 5, and on Thursday, September 5th from 9 – 12 for that holiday week.

As the nights grow colder, we toss another blanket on our beds and snuggle into the warmth. The wetlands begin to reflect autumn's colors. As we step out of our cars, we pause for just a moment in our busy lives, hearing the geese honking far above our heads. We look up. We breathe in the cool air. And we think upon these things that touch our lives.

Richmond Library

Wendy O'Brien

Story times

Wednesdays with Wendy continues throughout the fall at 10:00 a.m. Come enjoy stories, a craft, and a small snack.

New! Saturday Story Time

As several of our Wednesday Story Time attendees are graduating to preschool this fall, we will begin offering a Saturday Story Time on one Saturday per month. Our first will be September 14th at 11:00 a.m. Children of all ages are welcome!

Reading with Keeta and Kallie

We have scheduled a visit with Kate Simmington, Keeta and Kallie on Saturday, September 21st at 11:00 a.m. Kallie and Keeta continue to offer their 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.

Summer Reading Program Success!

We are pleased to report that kids throughout Richmond read 5,745 minutes during the summer for our "Dig into Reading!" program! We had fun with weekly programming on Wednesdays, a mock archaeological dig, and a yummy ice cream social finale. We hope that everyone had fun and that we helped to keep reading skills sharp for the start of school this fall.

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Used Book Sale and Raffle

At the time of writing, we are eagerly awaiting our Book Sale and Raffle on Sunday, August 25th. But we would like to take a moment to thank the donors to our raffle: The Works Bakery and Café, The Colonial Theatre, Carol Jameson and Peter Mulhall, Terri O'Rorke, The Toadstool Bookshop and Jan Weekes. Thank you so very much!

Fire House News

Melanie Ellis

The advantage to living in a small, rural town is privacy. Most of us in town enjoy a house "off the beaten path;" in the woods, with trees all around for our privacy. The disadvantage is that it becomes difficult for emergency vehicles to get through your driveway. No one wants to think that an emergency will happen to them, but it can.

Like everything else in the world, fire trucks are getting bigger and more expensive. If the Richmond Fire Department were to completely outfit a brand new engine with all the equipment needed to meet NFPA minimum standards, it would cost close to \$400,000. To safely and proficiently do the job fire-fighters do, we need to have every tool at the ready. In a town with limited fire hydrants and water supply, we need a truck that can carry enough water to efficiently contain and put out the fire while waiting for Mutual Aid to arrive.

Driveways that are small, narrow, and overgrown by trees or brush can be a hazard to the fire trucks. Low hanging trees can scrape the sides of the truck, they can knock off the light bars and do damage to the mirrors. Our biggest fire truck is 10 feet high and 10 feet wide. We would not be able to get the truck through a driveway smaller than that which could lead to loss of property and worse, loss of life. The best way to help us with this problem would be to cut back trees and bushes, trim branches, and watch for overhangs that may catch on the top of the trucks.

The fire danger is slowly starting to creep back up. Please be "fire smart" when burning. If you have any questions concerning the rules for burning, please contact Chief and Fire Warden Ed Atkins at 239-6337.

Congratulations

Neil Moriarty

Brigitte Mary Miller received a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Cabrini College in Radnor, PA on May 19, 2013.

Daniel Calderon received his Masters in Business Administration in general management from New Hampshire's Plymouth State University.

Channez M. Rogers (nee Schmidt), a Richmond resident, obtained her Juris Doctorate degree – Cum Laude from the Western New England University in Springfield, MA.

Congratulations to Richmond's Dixie Gurian

Dixie was named one of twenty influential women in *The Keene Sentinel's Extraordinary Women* – August 2013. A nice article that shows some highs and lows of her life. Ms. Gurian is a past member and chair of the Monadnock School Board.

Successful Summer for ACES* 93

For those who do not remember ACES 93, it is the before-and-after school program that continues though the summer. In Swanzey and Richmond 145 kids signed up, but the average daily attendance was 85. Beside the everyday learning experiences of math and reading, students were led through Smart TALK, a program designed to make them feel good about themselves, accept responsibility, and feel connected to others in the group. These skills are reinforced all day long. The ACES program gets the students physically active for at least 45 minutes a day and includes a soccer program.

ACES 93 will expand into the Middle School in 2013/2014

The success in the lower grades should be seen in grades 7 and 8.

Successful Summer for Middle and High School Students

Twenty-six students did recovery work on missed credits – twenty-one credits were recovered. For the advanced students, thirteen kids signed up and received ten new credits. Some students started their Senior project.

Student Computers Arriving for 2013/2014 School Year

Soon each student in grades 6 to 9 will receive a computer for their use. They will be responsible for them, just as they would be for school books. Another benefit to this program will be the first and only computer in some homes. I help with the GED** Math program in Keene. You would be surprised at the lack of access to computers when I encouraged using the website *Kahn Academy* that I have promoted many times.

Computer Promotion: Take a Look at Leap Motion

Put **Leap Motion** into Google and poke around. This little device (about \$70 and some software) uses your hands or fingers to manipulate things on the computer. I predict that someday this device will replace the computer mouse. I will expand on this when Leap Motion device becomes available.

Husky Pride Partnership Letter from Principal Butterfield



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Jed Butterfield is putting the final touches on Husky Pride letter soliciting annual fund (or equal) donations and to help Monadnock students. Last year Fenton Dealerships donated a car to a lucky winning student. Mr. Butterfield wants to expand that idea with more prizes for more students.

**All Children Educated Safely **General Education Development*

Robert V. Lewis, MD A Long and Well-Lived Life

John Lewis

Robert V. Lewis M.D. of Providence, R.I. and Richmond, N.H. passed away on July 6, 2013 in the home where he had lived for more than 60 years in the company of his children who loved him deeply. He was married to Edith Irey Lewis for 43 years before her death in 1986.

Dr. Lewis was born in Pawtucket, R. I. on May 23, 1917, the son of Alfred Ernest and Harriet Frances (Maxcy) Lewis. He attended the public schools of Pawtucket and graduated from Brown University (1939) and the University of Pennsylvania Medical School (1943). He interned at the Lankenau Hospital Germantown, PA and the Rhode Island Hospital. From 1944 to 1947 he served in the U.S. Army Medical Corp in the European theater. He returned to Providence in 1947 and was awarded a Haffenraffer Research Fellowship at the Rhode Island Hospital from 1947 to 1948. His deep and abiding interest in Internal Medicine grew from the study of the natural variation of serum proteins. He practiced medicine with great distinction in Providence on Angell Street until his retirement at the age of 90.

He was an active contributor to the intellectual life of Providence. For many years he contributed to the RI Medical Journal. He was a member of the Providence Art Club, University

Club, and Hope Club. He also served as Surgeon General. Dr. Lewis was a reknown essayist for the SAR, Mayflower, and Society of Colonial Wars heritage societies through which he celebrated the intrepidity of his New England yeoman heritage.

His prodigious energies were restored in a very special white farmstead in Richmond, NH to whose embrace and comfort he first retreated in October 1947 just home from the European war. He was invited there by a Mrs. Amidon who had been flower girl at his mother's wedding. She had watched the last Lewis child, "little Robert" grow, and thought he was a "most polite and clever little boy." She took quite a shine to him as he told his children with immodest pride. It was there in the remoteness of Cheshire County, that he began to put the European horror behind him and give thoughtful shape to his civilian future in medicine. He returned from his sojourn in Richmond to Providence with a vision of professional clarity. To celebrate that achievement, he returned each fall for 60 years for the especially vivid foliage of the second week in October.

For nearly 40 years after Mrs. Amidon's passing, the Richmond farm became his own, and he, its weekend squire. His route to Richmond never varied. It took him through Worcester, MA, along the course of his beloved Blackstone River. This city was half-way to him and he told his children many times how his cares and concerns of his doctoring world would yield to his anticipation of a refreshing afternoon swim in Cass Pond in late summer. In other seasons, he would look forward to fire building exercises in his Franklin stove against the very coldness of New Hampshire winter.

Once settled in, he would survey his acres with a woodsman's prideful eye, or fish for trout with his neighbor Harry Morse. And always in summer times he would enjoy the fresh-est of Harry's garden at dinners he enjoyed on his beloved

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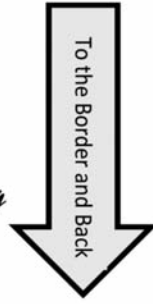
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screened in porch. He organized the attic apartment of the centuries old farmhouse as his "Other Office." Ensnored there at his card table and with his tape recorder alive, he would bring closure to his week, recast his literary reviews, and refocus his thinking, all in a space that had been paneled in pine, hewn roughly from the surrounding forest a century earlier. And then with a weekend of recreation and lungs full of the freshest mountain air, he was prepared for the Providence week ahead.

His telephone in Richmond was unlisted though most everyone knew how to reach him.

In truth he never left his beloved patients very far behind. He was especially proud as an inveterate genealogist to tell us that he had cared for three generations of numerous Rhode Island families and we know he did so with an attentiveness described nowadays as 24/7.

He was just as caring as a country physician, maintaining his professional medical license in New Hampshire for 50 years, dispensing care in the same unstinting way to those who had welcomed him into their community decades before. He remained quite well informed about goings on in 03470, gathering useful intelligence from his frequent visits during many decades with Gerry Brewer and others at the Four Corner store over the nourishment of a hot dog always heaped Monadnock-high with relish.

Dr. Lewis taught his children and grandchildren to love Richmond as well. On a crisp fall day during one of his earliest October week sojourns with his wife Edith, he discovered the extraordinary beauty and tidiness of Camp Takodah. Years later his sons, John, Jamie, and many grandchildren became Tako-dians. The family has continued to retreat to Richmond and Cass Pond with great affection for more than 50 years.

Summer 2013 Cass Pond "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly"

Elaine Moriarty

The Good: We have had less trash to pick up and there has been minimal vandalism this summer.

An example of Good Parenting: one mother with four young children sets a wonderful example, always a calm voice, plays with them, as well as teaching swimming and water safety, along with good disciplining when it is necessary, (she knows who she is). As I write this, I am looking forward to Second Annual Children's successful beach party.

The Bad: Wet towels on picnic tables. We acquired the tables after requests for a place to eat. We did not intend them to be towel racks. Do you practice that in your homes? Continuous uninvited people from surrounding towns. *Examples of poor parenting:* teaching children to throw rocks in the swimming area as a game. Then later, when one child throws a rock that hits another child, parental response is "you don't throw rocks." Where did that child learn to throw rocks, earlier that day – from that parent?

Another incident involved adults chasing the ducks and then harassing them with a water gun because their child was terrified of them. Instead, they could have calmed the child and explained that the ducks were harmless. Stop and think, the mallards and all other creatures that call Cass Pond home, need to be respected in their habitat.



Burn marks on the picnic table.

The Ugly: A burnt table. A parent loudly berating a young child (with unprintable foul language) for soiling his diaper, which she then threw on the road, on her

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Wes Vaughan

way out of the beach. I have also picked up other diapers left on the beach this summer. Would you throw diapers on your lawn at home? How difficult is it to bring a small trash bag with you, when you know that you will probably be changing your child's diaper at the beach.

The Beach Committee works hard to provide you with a clean, stress-free summer paradise. We are there to listen to your requests and concerns and act on them appropriately. We work with the Select ladies, the Police Department and the Road Agent to maintain the Richmond Town Beach. Show pride in the nicest beach in the area. ***Please Help Us to Keep it That Way.*** Thank you.

REMEMBER to obtain a beach sticker for your vehicle (if you haven't already done so). They're free and can be obtained from the beach committee or the town clerk.

Recent Vandalism

John Boccalini

There have been recent acts of vandalism in the town of Richmond on both town and personal property. Graffiti now covers the cement supporting walls of the new Fay Martin Bridge over Tully Brook. These walls are covered with lewd comments, expressions of hate and a couple of reverse swastikas. A tree and telephone pole were also recipients of graffiti and the stop sign at the corner of Fay Martin and Tully Brook roads was pulled out. The Porto-Potty at the Town beach was knocked over spewing its contents on part of the parking lot. Beer cans and trash were littered on the beach and "donuts" were wheeled into the parking lot. As for personal property multiple mailboxes were damaged on Rt. 119, Tully Brook Road and Fay Martin Road and wheelies churned donuts in the St. Benedict Center's parking and volleyball area. Police are investigating and would appreciate any leads to solving these crimes.



Summers End

Judith Graves

Another season is threatening to close down on us way too soon. The seasons just seem to move like the clouds in the sky – rolling along, one into the other. I was thinking of what to write this month as I sat outside looking up at the fluffy clouds that just seemed to float lazily along, making a picture of an animal, an angel, mountains, and all sorts of shapes. I loved to do that as a child and somehow still love it as an adult. It lets your mind drift along on a dream. Then I realized that a dream is just a dream, but a goal is a dream with a plan and a deadline. So here comes the goal, plan, and deadline.

As I walked to the mailbox this morning, I stopped to clip the trailing peppermint and wove it into a mini wreath. These mini wreaths have the sweetest uses as I plop them on a statue's head, encircle a candle, hang them on a peg, or just drop them on a table. I make a lot of mini wreaths as the season rolls on. Some I attach dried flowers to, some just get a ribbon to hang on a wall or peg, and some just circle the candles that I have set around my home.

Then on the way back, I gathered some of the curly mint that's in flower, and tucked it in as a background to an already gathered bouquet ready to add raffia to, hang on the wall, or lay on a dresser. So many things to gather from nature.

Available at Periwinkle Cottage Studios, these gatherings are snatched up as quickly as they are made. Some of my Natural Design items are in the Amos J. Blake Museum in Fitzwilliam's Country Store and at The Wren's Nest in the Colony Mill. Make an appointment to see the Studios in action.

As I walk the woodlands, I see Partridge Berries already getting red that I will gather for the many berry bowls come November. The hydrangeas look smart as they grow, and I will fill baskets with them or turn them into wreaths come October. I watch nature twist and turn itself into what it will become when ready to harvest.

The Not So Secret Garden at Periwinkle Cottage Studios is the spot to enjoy nature when you visit. The hummingbirds, bees, butterflies, and birds hang out all around you as they suck the nectar, sip the minty water in the birdbath, and gather seeds from the feeders and ground below. Sit a spell, listen to the quiet and *shh*, the fairies are sleeping under the thyme leaves.

Summer is coming to an end, but there is still so much to enjoy as the days shorten. Chill is in the air which makes a hot

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cup of herb tea such a treat. We are still picking vegetables daily for our meals. Pumpkins are looking good, as are the tassels on the corn, and the green tomatoes are ripening on the vines. Heading into fall isn't really so bad, is it?

Watch the goldenrod bud before your eyes. Gather a bunch and hang it upside-down to dry so that you can fill a basket (no one is allergic to golden rod, they say it is the ragweed that is in bloom at the same time that is the culprit); pick a handful of berries; the Queen Anne's lace is ready for making into natural snowflakes for your tree or gift toppers; find fallen white birch logs and take some of the bark to cut out hearts and little flowers to attach to a candle; pick up moss buttons from the ground and on rocks; dry it; find little hemlock cones and string them for your tree or across the mantle; pick up a feather that a bird has dropped to tuck into a nest or use as a bookmark; and watch for little things that can add to a bowl of potpourri.

If you would like to receive a newsletter from Periwinkle Cottage, email your address to pstudios19@myfairpoint.net or make an appointment (603-239-8005) to see us and pick one up. Call first, as we are often out gathering treasures.

Our Grand Open House is November 8, 9, 9 – 3 each day so be sure to mark your calendar and come by to see us.

RCUMC News

Pastor Arnie Johnson


The Richmond Community United Methodist Church has had another blessed month! Don and Lois Ray hosted the Annual Church Picnic at their home on Laurel Lake in Fitzwilliam. During that event, ten adults from our church and our sister church, West Rindge UMC, were baptized and reaffirmed baptism by immersion in the lake. Pastor Arnie Johnson was assisted in the baptisms by Rev. Elizabeth Davis, Pastor at West

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Rindge, and Rev. Dr. Mary Johnson. The celebration continued during a following Sunday service with baptisms for one infant, two young children, and one youth, and the reception of three adults into membership in the Church! A very blessed month indeed!

The busy month continued with our well-attended 20th Annual Salad Supper and Auction. No one was left hungry. There were also some wonderful leftovers for attendees to take home. John Pappas, auctioneer from the Gallery at Knotty Pine in West Swanzey, led us in very spirited "bidding wars" for the wonderful items donated by many merchants and individuals. Thank you again, John, for the wonderful experience!

We continued the month with the well-attended outdoor Community Day Celebration Sunday Service in the Richmond Pavilion on August 25 with great gospel music once again performed by the Middle River Gospel Band. People were "dancing in the aisles." The "Amens" and "Hallelujahs" were being lifted! At noon, the Richmond Volunteer Fire Department hosted their Annual Chicken Bar-B-Que with wonderful attendance by the residents of Richmond and surrounding communities! It is always one of the best attended events of the year and provided added support for this very important Town Department! And the music and dancing continued!

And, if that weren't enough, the Annual Church Yard Sale on August 31 was well attended. People were seen with arms full of "treasures!" It's amazing that so many items get "recycled" each year to new homes. We truly appreciate all the items donated to the church by the wonderful people of Richmond and surrounding communities. Items that did not sell were donated to worthy service organizations which kept the items in circulation to needy individuals and families.

Great things continue to happen at the Richmond Commu-



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Sunday Worship Services
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Richmond Community United Methodist Church

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nity United Methodist Church! Thank you all for your support! Come join us every Sunday at 9 a.m. The Church is located at 11 Fitzwilliam Rd. (Rte. 119), just east of the Richmond Four Corner Store! Come and be blessed!

Night Care Program

Donna M. Howland

The Winchester Learning Center, a non-profit childcare, pre-school, and family resource center is located at 109 Keene Road in Winchester, NH. We are now accepting applications for enrollment in our Night Care Program beginning September 3, 2013. Funding for this program has been provided by a generous grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and the Keene Rotary Club. We are also able to offer this care because of continued support from the Monadnock United Way.

The Night Care Program will run from 4 p.m. to 12 a.m. Monday through Friday. The program will serve children from one year to twelve years of age. Our program features CACFP/USDA supported dinner and snack at no extra cost to our parents. Homework support will be available to school age children. A developmentally appropriate evening rhythm including brushing teeth and bedtime stories will be provided.

Please call 603-239-7347 or email roycewlc@gmail.com for more information, or to make an appointment to enroll your child. The Winchester Learning Center is a Monadnock United Way Agency.

To the Editor

Aquila Putri

My name is Aquila Putri and I am an Indonesian exchange student. I am here through the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (KL-YES) program and hosted through PAX, the

Program of Academic Exchange. I have been living in Richmond since last August and have been staying with the Meyers (Wildermuth) family and attending Monadnock Regional High School as a senior.

As graduation comes and passes, the time for me to go back to Indonesia draws closer. I am writing this letter to express my gratitude to everyone who has made my exchange year so colorful and meaningful. First and foremost, thanks go to my wonderful, amazing, and loving host mom JoAnne Meyers and her husband Ken, who opened their home to me and welcomed me with the tightest bear hug. I feel truly blessed that they made me feel like a real daughter this past year, welcomed me into their families, and introduced me to even more amazing people.

I also thank everyone at Monadnock Regional High School, especially the principal, Mr. Jed Butterfield, and all the teachers and staff for welcoming me to this school and giving me the all-American education experience. My exchange year became really meaningful, not only through the courses and classes, but also the real life discussions and experiences provided by the teachers and students, who became really good friends to me, alike.

I'd also like to thank my PAX coordinator, Mrs. Kelly Brigham-Steiner who arranged every little thing about my placement here, making sure that my exchange year went without a hitch and was as enjoyable as possible. Families who wish to host an exchange student should call Mrs. Brigham-Steiner at 603-903-2949.

Last but not least, I'd like to thank the community of the Monadnock region and Keene, the place where I did most of my activities during my exchange year. The value of community is really shown by the people in those places, and it inspires me to apply the good values that I experienced in my country.


I know that future exchange students will always be welcomed here and experience the same thrill and excitement as I did, hopefully better. This year was not merely a year in a lifetime; it was a lifetime in a year.

With thanks, Aquila

Richmond Family Farm Day

Richmond Agricultural Commission

Need an excuse to escape the digital world for a few hours? We have just the solution. Through the cooperative effort of Richmond's Agricultural Commission, Conservation Commission and Historical Society, a "Family Farm Day" has been planned



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for you and your family for September 14, 2013 from 1 – 4 p.m. at the Windswept Mountain View Christmas Tree Farm on Rte. 119/Fitzwilliam Road in Richmond.

The events of the afternoon include presentations on what it takes to grow many varieties of apples; tidbits on gardening and how to close up your gardens in preparation for next year's growing season; and a bit of local history on the "Ashuelot Turnpike" and the role it played in the development of Richmond. You will actually be able to see remnants of this turnpike on the Windswept Mountain View Christmas Tree Farm which is owned by Jeff and Susan Taylor. The highpoint of the afternoon, which should be a delight to all ages, is a tractor-drawn hayride through the apple orchards and Christmas trees where the view is spectacular! On a clear day three states and several mountain ranges can be captured by the naked eye.

In addition, there will be a plant swap for anyone wishing to swap plants or expand existing home gardens. Free handouts on various topics from the Extension Service will also be available. All presentations will be held in the "barn/gift shop." As parking can be a bit tight (up to maybe 30 cars), we ask that folks meet behind the Pavilion, if possible, and carpool. Directions will be available at the Pavilion.

This is a first-time event which may lead to future such events. We hope you and your family will enjoy this opportunity to spend a couple of hours in a fun and educational farm setting. On behalf of the three committees, thank you for your continued support of community events.

Out and About

John Boccalini

Sun. Sept. 1, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Art in the Park, Keene NH.

Sun., Sept. 1, 4 p.m. Absurd Person Singular: Peterborough

Players, 55 Hadley Road. \$37

Wed. - Sun. Sept. 4 – 15, Tue. at 7 p.m., W – Sat., at 8 p.m., Sun. at 4 p.m.: (no Mon. performance) **Talley's Folly**, Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road. Sat \$39, all other \$37.

Sat. Sept. 14, 1 – 4 p.m. "Richmond's Family Farm Day" **Windswept Mountain View Christmas Tree Farm, Rt. 119, 323 Fitzwilliam Rd., Richmond**

Sat. Sept. 14, 6 – 11 p.m.: Hawaiian Luau! Music, Food, Fun. Keene VFW, 459 Winchester St., Keene.

Sun. Sept. 15, 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. NH Mustang Club Fall Harvest Car Show. Mount Sunapee Resort, 1398 Rte 103, Newbury, NH

Wed. – Sun. Sept. 18 – 22, Tue at 7 p.m., W – Sat., 8 p.m., Sun. 4 p.m. (no Mon. performance) **Tea For Three**, Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road. Sat. \$39, all other \$37.

Fri. Sept. 20, 8 p.m. Matt and Shannon Heaton: Nelson Town Hall, Nelson.

Sat. Sept. 21, 8 p.m. Classic Albums Live. Abbey Road. The Colonial Theater, Keene. \$42/38/28

Sun. Sept. 22, 3 – 5 p.m. Music in Bass Hall: The Mare Duo: 19 Grove St, Peterborough.

Sat. Sept. 28, 3 p.m. Children's Stage – Oliver Twist. The Colonial Theater, Keene. Adult \$15, Youth \$10

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Ongoing:

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

Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Celtic Music Night. Harlow's Pub, Peterborough.

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

Thursday, 9 p.m. Bluegrass Jam, Harlow's Pub, P'borough.

First Friday/month 8.p.m. CJ the DJ Karaoke, Dragon Palace, 7 Marlboro Rd., Troy.

Sing Along With the Hits of 1918

Frank Behrens

That marvelous series from Archeophone Records, The Phonographic Yearbook, has just grown by one more CD, "1918: 'Like the sunshine after the rain'."

I can only hope that the Archeophone people will eventually have one CD for each year from 1900 to 1922; and at this point, they lack ten years. What an amazing project!

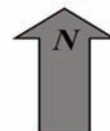
Each CD is accompanied by a booklet packed with information about the times and about each song on the disc, with plenty of photos to make it all the more vivid. The sound, considering the acoustic nature of the technology back then, is surprisingly good; and the tendency of the singers to enunciate (!) each word sets a standard that has been long since ignored.

1918 saw the last days of the war, the armistice, and the deadly flu epidemic. No one, to my knowledge, wrote songs about the latter, but most of the songs recorded in that year had much to do with the war.

Those with direct references to WWI are "Send me away with a smile," the overly optimistic "I don't know where I'm going but I'm on my way," and, as examples of old songs used for new purposes, "The battle hymn of the republic" and "Hail! hail! the gang's all here."

In a lighter vein, there are "Oh, how I hate to get up in the morning," "They were all out of step but Jim," and "I don't want to get well" (because the wounded soldier has fallen in

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love with his nurse). "Oh, Frenchy" is about an American nurse attracted to a French casualty.

Recycling the sentimental song about the child trying to phone her mother up in heaven, "Hello, central, give me no man's land" drew many a tear, as did "Just a baby's prayer at twilight (for her daddy over there)."

The orchestral "Hindustan" brings to mind the some of the exotic places the soldiers were seeing, and "Roses of Picardy" does the same for some of the beautiful places.

To make a fair representation of all sorts of popular songs, "1918" includes "Darktown strutters' ball," "Everything is peaches down in Georgia," "Tiger rag," "I'm always chasing rainbows," and "Smiles."


Among the singers are John McCormack, Arthur Fields, Billy Murray, Al Jolson, Henry Burr, Van and Schenck, and Enrico Caruso. The latter belts out "Over there" in English and then in French in a most impressive way.

What a wonderful way to liven up a history lesson, you teachers out there!

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Mon. 7:00 PM – ?

Selectmen's Assistant: Heidi Wood

Town Secretary: Beverly Hart

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Tues. 8 AM – 12 noon

Wed. 8 AM – 12 noon, 1:00 PM – 5 PM

Thurs. 8 AM – 12 noon

Town Clerk: Annette Tokunaga

Deputy Clerk: Pamela Goodell

Mon. 9 AM – 12 noon, 1 – 4 PM, 6 – 8 PM

Wed. 9 AM – noon, 1 – 5 PM, Thurs. 9 AM – 12 noon

Tax Collector: Steve Boscarino

Deputy Tax Collector: Denise Nolan

Mon. 7 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 2 PM – 4 PM

Planning Board: Rick Lewis, Chairperson

Meetings held at Civil Defense Building
1st and 3rd Tues. of the month – 7:30 PM

Transfer Station & Recycling Facility:

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Sat. 8 AM – 5 PM

Town Library: Wendy O'Brien, Librarian

Tues. 4 PM – 7 PM, Wed. 9 AM – 12 noon

Thurs. 4 PM – 7 PM, Sat. 10 AM – 2 PM

Police (Non Emergency): 239-6007

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Selectmen – 239-4232

Town Clerk – 239-6202

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