



OCTOBER 2013

Notes from the Selectmen's Office

Budget. It's budget season. Yes, already! Christine Filmore, NHMA attorney, writes in an article in the fall issue of *NH Town and City* magazine, "If you asked a person with very little knowledge about municipal budgeting, what a budget should look like, they might say it would be a good idea to have a budget that allows the governing body to provide (a) the right goods, services, and human resources (b) at the right time (c) in a way that meets all applicable laws and makes sense for the community (d) that the town or city can afford... If you really think about it, that's the goal we all hope to achieve in the end. What that person might not realize is that there are a lot of obstacles to be overcome on the way to that goal."

It all starts with department and committee leadership. They see the details of their own budgetary needs to provide the right services and human resources at the right time in a way that meets all applicable laws and makes sense for the community. Developing a realistic departmental or committee budget is the first and most important step in creating this budget.

In Richmond, the Selectmen put together the proposed budget that goes to the voters, based on meetings with department and committee leadership, and holds public hearings on the total budget. We've revised our budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) preparation materials and process so it's easier to create, compare and track budgets. We are working closely again this year with departments and committees to craft a Town budget that meets the Town's goal of providing the municipal services you need and want, but keeps the budget as low as possible. The Selectmen will also work with the CIP Committee to update the five-year CIP plan for capital projects 2014-2019. For the purpose of the CIP, "capital projects" are defined as those projects outside normal operations and maintenance, and having the following characteristics:

- A gross cost of at least \$5,000; and
- A useful life of at least five years; and
- Is non-recurring (not an annual operating budget item), or
- Any project requiring bond financing.

We will meet with Departments and Committees in October and November to review their individual budgets and CIP plans. Budget hearings will be held in early 2014.

Recent Renovations. By the time you read this article, the Veterans Hall interior renovation will be completed, or nearing



Civil Defense building

completion, as will the exterior renovation to the Civil Defense building and the roof replacement for the Fire Department. Best of all, the Fire Department's newly refurbished fire truck will have returned home to Richmond.

Building Exchange. In September the Police Department moved from the Fire Department/Safety building into the Civil Defense building, exchanging places with the Emergency Management operation. With the pending closure of Vermont Yankee, the town will be able to focus on and prepare even more for natural disasters while remaining vigilant to the challenges the VY closing and decommissioning may create.

The former police department space will be renovated to accommodate the emergency operations center and the EOC communications will be combined with the fire department communications systems. The Fire Department and EOC will share the existing training room and kitchen, temporarily.

On the recommendation of the Municipal Building Committee, putting these emergency services under one roof just makes sense. This space rearrangement will also allow the Fire Department to eventually open another bay so the Rescue vehicle can exit at the front of the building, rather than plow through mud at the rear of the building. Four necessary renovations will be completed this year to accommodate this move, with others planned for next year.

Other News. Thanks to Selectman Jameson who has spent countless hours streamlining Richmond's welfare guidelines to more effectively and efficiently meet the needs of Richmond clients.

The Selectmen decided to move the town website to a new provider, GovOffice, and began training for its operation in late September. It's proved extremely difficult to provide a fully

functional website at low cost to the Town, but the new provider's services promise to be affordable and easy to use, and they have a great technical support track record. Meanwhile, Heidi Wood is sending the Selectmen's agendas and minutes by email to a long list of interested parties until the website is reliable. If you wish to be added to this list, please call her at 239-4232.

Have a wonderful Fall and as always, you are welcome to attend and observe Selectmen's meetings. We urge you to make an appointment if you want to meet with us, and you are invited to become involved in your municipal government.

Town Clerk's Office

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

Changes were made to the NH Voter ID Law during the 2013 legislative session. These changes will not affect you as a Richmond voter until the March 11, 2014 Town Election, provided that no unanticipated elections occur prior to that date. The "Explanatory Document" from the State of NH, detailing the changes is below. Come into the clerk's office or give us a call if you have any questions regarding these changes to the NH Voter ID Law.

Remember to renew your vehicle registration in October if you are the sole owner or the first owner of that vehicle and you were born in the month of October. You will also need to do a renewal if you lease a vehicle from a company with a name that has a first word that begins with the letters R or S. You can also renew in October if your registration expires in November or December 2013 or in January 2014. Please bring the original, expired or expiring registration when you come in to do your renewal. Copies are not acceptable unless renewing by mail.

The office will be closed on October 14, 2013, in observance of Columbus Day. Because the office is regularly closed on Tuesday, office hours for that week will be Wednesday from 9-noon and 1-5 p.m. and Thursday from 9-noon.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE Voter ID Law-RSA 659:13 (Effective July 24, 2013) Explanatory Document

During the 2013 legislative session the legislature made changes to the "Voter ID Law" (RSA 659:13). This explanatory document is required under RSA 652:26 to help educate the public about the law's requirements and application and outlines the law's requirements.

What type of ID will I need to vote?

- Driver's license issued by any state or federal government;
- Non-driver ID card issued by NH DMV or motor vehicle agency of another state;
- Photo ID card for "voting identification only" issued by NH DMV (RSA 260:21);
- United States armed services identification card;
- United States passport or passcard;
- NH student ID card (see more information below);

- A photo ID not mentioned above, but determined to be legitimate by the moderator, supervisors of the checklist, or town or city clerk. If any person authorized to challenge a voter does so under this provision, the voter shall be required to fill out a challenged voter affidavit before obtaining a ballot.
- Verification of the voter's identity by a moderator or supervisor of the checklist or the town or city clerk. If any person authorized to challenge a voter does so under this provision, the voter shall be required to fill out a challenged voter affidavit before obtaining a ballot.
- An acceptable photo ID must have an expiration date or date of issuance. The ID will remain valid 5 years beyond the expiration date or date of issuance unless the voter is 65 or older in which case the expiration date can be exceeded beyond 5 years. The name on the ID shall substantially conform to the name on the checklist.

More on student ID cards:

Acceptable student photo ID cards must be issued by:

- A college, university, or career school approved or licensed to operate in New Hampshire
- A public high school in New Hampshire
- A non public high school in New Hampshire accredited by a private school accrediting agency that IS recognized by the NH Department of Education
- Dartmouth College
- A college or university operated by the university system of New Hampshire or the community college system of New Hampshire

Beginning in 2014 all colleges or universities operated by the university system or community college system of New Hampshire must include the date of issuance on the student ID card. Student ID cards without a date of issuance will be accepted until September 1, 2018. Each August the Commissioner of the Department of Education will provide to the Secretary of State a list of all approved licensed and accredited schools from which a student ID IS acceptable

What if I do not have an approved photo ID?

Any voter who does not present an approved photo ID will be permitted to vote after executing a "challenged voter affidavit." A voter who does not have an approved photo ID may obtain a free photo ID for voting purposes only by presenting a voucher



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from their town/city clerk or the Secretary of State to any NH DMV office that issues identification.

Is there any post-election action required by me after I vote without an approved photo ID?

If you filled out a "challenged voter affidavit" in order to vote on Election Day, you will receive a verification letter from the Secretary of State requesting confirmation that you voted in the election. If you do not respond in writing to the Secretary of State within 90 days of the date it was mailed, the Attorney General will conduct an investigation to determine whether fraudulent voting occurred.

Where can I get more information?

Your town or city clerk or the Secretary of State.

Issued: August 2013

Richmond Library

Wendy O'Brien

Sunflowers

Have you noticed the beautiful sunflowers outside the RPL this year? Louise Hallas donated them as tiny plants to our story hour children in the Spring. How have they grown! The children have loved watching their plantings grow taller and taller, and are looking forward to harvesting the seeds (if the chipmunks don't eat them first!). Thank you Louise!

Story times

Wednesdays with Wendy continues throughout the fall at 10:00 a.m. Come enjoy stories, a craft, and a small snack. We will also have a Saturday story time on October 12 at 11:00 a.m. Children of all ages are welcome!

Reading with Keeta and Kallie

We have scheduled a visit on Saturday October 19 at 11:00 a.m. with Kate Simmington, Keeta and Kallie. 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.

Creative Donations

Thanks to a very generous and creative donor, we will have several new magazines here at the RPL. This donor used their hotel points to give us free magazine subscriptions. We are now pleased to offer: *The Atlantic*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Fam-*

ily Fun, and *Parenting*. Other donors give us copies of *Popular Science* and *Popular Photography* when they have finished reading them. All of our magazines circulate for four weeks, and include such popular titles as: *Oprah*, *Cook's Illustrated*, *Garden Gate*, and *This Old House*. If you have a current magazine subscription that you would like to donate monthly (or weekly!) when you are finished, please feel free to contact us!

Fire House News

Melanie Ellis

The Richmond Fire Department will be hosting an open house on Saturday, October 5 from 12 p.m. till 2 p.m. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served. You are invited to bring family and friends and visit with your local firefighters and take a tour of the fire station. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

The nights are getting cooler and you may start to snuggle in front of a cozy fire or bask in the warmth of your wood stove. The last thing you are likely to be thinking about is the condition of your chimney. However, if you don't give some thought to it before you light those winter fires, your enjoyment may be very short-lived. Why? Dirty chimneys can cause chimney fires, which damage structures and could cause a house fire.

Chimney fires can be caused by the build-up of creosote along the chimney lining. This build-up is caused by unburned materials in the smoke accumulating along the chimney walls and creating a sticky substance that can easily catch fire. This substance is similar to tar. When the temperatures within the chimney are below 250 degrees Fahrenheit, the substance will condense along the chimney surface. The substance turns into a dark, sticky highly flammable substance when the temperature drops below 150 degrees Fahrenheit.

Knowing how to identify the warning signs of a chimney fire is a great way to prevent a chimney fire from getting out of control. Dark smoke will often billow out of the chimney top and those inside the house may be frightened to hear what sounds like a train or air plane flying close by. These fires are often described as producing a loud sucking noise, or rattling pipes. Although many chimney fires cause a disturbance, you may also have a chimney fire and never know it. Besides the raging blazes, slow burning fires can also take place within the chimney walls and you may never know these fires are going on. These fires may burn silently, but their silence is no indication of the harm they may cause. Slow burning fires burn at incredibly high temperatures and can cause serious structural

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damage to the chimney as well as nearby walls of the home. Regardless of how dramatic the blaze sounds, all chimney fires can cause substantial damage and mandate damage control once they are put out.

If you think you are having a chimney fire, call the Fire Department or Ed Atkins at 239-6337 right away and evacuate the building till the fire department arrives. After a chimney fire it is important to get a professional opinion of the cause of the fire and ways to prevent it from happening again. Never relight a fire after a chimney fire happens without having your chimney inspected first.

Cass Pond End to Summer

Elaine Moriarty

As the sun is lower in the sky, the shadows on Cass Pond grow longer each afternoon signaling the end to swimming and boating season.

On the positive side, we had two new picnic tables donated by a generous resident who wishes to remain anonymous. Thank you, once again. We had a rock barrier installed to prevent beach damage and it has been successful. Overall there has been a decrease in trash to be picked up. We conducted a successful children's beach party (see separate article). We've made gains on getting beach stickers (required) on windshields, in an effort to enforce the rule of Richmond resident/property owners only and their guests at the beach.

On the negative side, we had the theft of a sign and the port-o-potty was tipped over once. Wet towels on picnic tables caused staining on the tables. One party's grill scorched the top of the large table and left marks from a clamp on the bench. Dirty diapers were left on the beach several times. There has been an inconsid-

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erate domination of picnic tables by some groups, piling on their belongings for hours on end and not using the tables necessarily for food. This prevents other beach goers from eating on the tables (their real purpose). STOP, THINK, SHARE.

Kayaks and other boats do not belong in the swimming area nor do fishermen. Feeding, chasing, or, intent to harm the many creature inhabitants of Cass Pond is UNACCEPTABLE.

We need to respect the creatures who live in the pond as we are sharing their habitat with them.

Non-residents (from surrounding towns mostly) blatant use of our beach, taking up valuable, limited parking space is an issue we are working on.

The Beach Committee, Select-ladies, Police Department and our Road Agent have all worked hard to provide beach lovers with enjoyment at our summer retreat. Please take pride in it and if the majority respects our precious resource, it sets an example and acts as an inspiration for all to follow suit.
 SEE YOU NEXT SPRING.

Things and Thoughts from the District

Neil Moriarty

I hope you received the *Monadnock Education Matters (Fall 2013) Newsletter*. It is filled with good articles. If only they would stop using abbreviations (or at least explain them) so that lay people could understand them! Very few of the writers take the time to spell out the item first before using the educational shorthand. I will be talking to them (again) about that.

I would like to congratulate the Monadnock Regional School District (MRSD) custodial staff for a great job on getting the schools ready for opening day. Well done!

Speaking of Custodial Staff, our Facilities Manager, David

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LaPointe's son Nate won the home Run Derby for the New England College Baseball League (NECB). Dad Dave did the pitching. Mr. LaPointe played some pro ball himself. He is an MRSD grad and athletic hall-of-fame member.

No more Honors for the fourth graders. Fourth graders will not be on the honor roll any longer. MRSD will start honors recognition in fifth grade. Sorry parents.

Reminder: If you want your child PUBLICLY recognized for honors, you must release the school district to publish his/her name, or the school will not forward the name to me. If you call me, I will try to get the child's name in. Remember it might be two months late, depending on the time of your phone call.

It's Now \$1 Million That Will Offset Taxes!

The Local Government Center (LGC) refund of insurance payments that goes to the taxpayers will be about \$500,000. Another \$500,000 will be returned as surplus from the Fiscal Year 2012-2013. This \$1 million will reduce that property tax bill of each district town. That's also \$1 million that won't be available next year which will lead to sticker shock in December 2014 property tax bills. Enjoy it this winter.

ACES 93* Received an 80+% rating from its users. There has been such a huge positive reception at Mt. Caesar that there is now a waiting list. It is possible that the program might be split in two (One at Mt Caesar and one at Cutler.)

If you have suggestions, concerns or comments please call me at 239 4031, or email cmoriarty@ne.rr.com, or Jim Carney at 239 4948 can also help you with questions on school issues.

* All Children Educated Safely, and 93 is our unit number.

FREE Help for Your Child

Neil Moriarty

To help get your child ready for Kindergarten there are free classes, including free toys, books, puzzles and games. Workshop dates are October 12, for ages 2 and 3; October 26, for ages 1 and 2; and November 16 for ages 0 to 1. Classes are held at Mt Caesar, 585 Old Homestead Hwy (across from the High school) in Swanzy, on Saturday mornings 10 a.m. for 1 1/2 hours. Contacts: jhof@mrds.org or csmith@mrds.org, or call 603-357-0400.

There will be more classes in the winter and spring for ages 0 to 5 (older children's fall classes were in September). Good luck, and if you have any trouble making contact let me know at 239-4031 or email: cmoriarty@ne.rr.com.

Cutler School Honor Roll Fourth Quarter 2013 - PLUS

Neil Moriarty

At last I was able to receive the Cutler School honor roll for the end of 2012-2013 year.

Additionally, 8th grader Ashley Tomer made honors in the Middle School.

As mentioned in the *Things from* article, fourth graders will no longer receive honors from Monadnock.

Here is the Cutler Honor Roll:

Students	Grade	Honor
Melody Ayotte	Grade 5	Honors
Cody Cox	Grade 5	Honors
Kylee Hillock	Grade 5	Honors
Molly Hulett	Grade ?	Principal's List
Phoenix Lutz	Grade 5	Honors
Whitney Maynard	Grade 5	Principal's List
Cassidy Purrington	Grade 5	Honors

Richmond Holiday Fair

We are pleased to announce that the annual Richmond Holiday Fair will be held on Saturday, November 9, 2013, at the Richmond Veterans Hall, Route 32, Richmond, NH. Shopping hours are from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. with luncheon served from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

The Holiday Fair is sponsored by the Richmond Community Church. It provides local artisans an opportunity to present handcrafted treasures and shoppers a unique beginning to the holiday season. At the time of this writing there are still vendor tables available to rent. If you are interested, please call Alison at 239-4494.

Energy from the Sun

Sheila Blair and Jonathan Bloom

Several months ago we started thinking about installing solar panels and found that some friends in Fitzwilliam were thinking the same thoughts, so we ended up doing our research jointly.

There are two basic ways of financing photovoltaic panels to produce electricity: you can either have an outside company install and own the panels and lease the production back to you, or you can own the panels and sell your excess power back to the utility company. We decided on the latter option, although the up-front cost is much greater. We had the money, which

wasn't earning much in the bank, and so we figured that buying our own system would give us a better return on our money than we were getting by keeping it in the bank.

Sheila made a few calls around town to people we heard might know something or someone, and we eventually called or emailed three companies, two of which we invited to come give us an estimate of what it might cost, what we would get out of it, and how long it would take.

One company from the other side of the state specialized in the electrical aspects, while the other company, Solar Source, a division of Melanson in Keene, was the one we eventually chose. Well known as a roofing company, Melanson's Solar Source division impressed us with the people who came and how they explained the costs and process to us. We were particularly impressed by their knowledge of roofing and their careful consideration of how the 200-year old timbers of the garage roof would support the weight of the panels.

Basically, they said, it would cost about \$18,000 for the system of which \$3500 would be rebated to us by the State of New Hampshire and \$5500 would be a tax credit on our Federal Income Tax, bringing our out-of-pocket cost to about \$9000.

They gave us projections based on our energy usage and the size of the system that suggested it would pay for itself within 7-9 years. After that, we'd be making money on the system! In addition, the panels are guaranteed for over twenty years although they said that the inverter might have to be replaced after about ten years at a cost of perhaps \$2000. All of these figures were included in their calculation of the return on our investment. We were expected to pay a 10% deposit and pay the rest upon completion of the work. They would take care of all the paperwork, electricians, and contacting PSNH to change our meter.

They suggested we install fourteen panels on our garage-barn because one side of the roof faces due south and is not obstructed by trees. We could have put the panels on our house, which also faces south, but we didn't really want to look at them all the time. On the garage they're not particularly visible to our neighbors, who we told about our project and who okayed it. Furthermore, we already had an electrical subpanel in the garage, so the system could be tied in through that.

We decided to use eighteen Mage panels (made in Ger-



many) that could nominally produce just under 5000 watts – the maximum allowed for the state rebate – and they're arranged with fourteen panels in two rows of seven laid vertically topped with four panels laid horizontally. They're set into a metal rack that sits just above the roof, which we had just reshingled the season before. (It's a good idea to check your roof before you install panels.)

The guys from Solar Source were very careful about placing and flashing the supports, and we haven't seen any evidence of leaks on the inside. From the road you'd hardly notice the panels are there, except for a bit of conduit that carries the power from them into the garage where they installed a Fronius inverter. The inverter is wired into the garage subpanel, and a few breakers in the main panel in the house had to be moved to conform to code.

The installation people from Solar Source were extremely courteous and neat: they carefully set up scaffolding and we hardly knew they were there. They provided an electrician to install and make the necessary changes to our wiring and they arranged for PSNH to come put in the new digital meter (That took less than minute). Everyone came when promised.

Finally having everything in place, we were very impatient to turn the system on, but we had to wait for a last check. Once the system was turned on, in mid-October, it was sort of anti-climactic, since the electricity didn't feel any different. We heard the inverter hum and watched our meter go backward, as power flowed from our system back into the grid (and into your houses!) but since our meter was now digital, no wheel turned in the opposite direction, only some digital boxes moved in a different direction.

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The dramatic difference was in our electric bill: just from the first bill we discovered that we were cutting our electricity usage in half. Of course the situation got worse in November (the cloudiest month) and December and January (snow on the panels prevented them from generating electricity), but it steadily improved. Last month we saw our PSNH bill drop \$100 in comparison to the previous year! Assuming we get an average of \$75 per month in savings, that would be \$900 a year at current electric rates, and in addition we will get another \$130-150/year by selling our REC (Renewable Energy Credits) to an aggregator in Maine, who bundles and sells them on the open market in Connecticut. So we think that the estimate of seven to nine years for a return on investment is reasonable.

We're thrilled with our photovoltaic system as it does exactly what was promised with no effort on our part. We got our rebate check from the State of NH within a few weeks and filed for the tax credit. We did not want to spend the extra money on a battery system, which would have allowed us to store the extra power we produced, so all our extra power goes back into the grid.

That means there are several safety features incorporated into the system. First, if the power lines are down the system doesn't send power into the system that might hurt someone working on the lines. The inverter needs to be connected to the grid to "wake up" in the morning and to stay in phase with the alternating current provided by PSNH, so the system doesn't work when the power is out, even if it is sunny out.

We still have to rely on our generator to keep the house running when there is a power outage. That seems odd, but that's how it works. The panels generate most efficiently in

clear cold weather, but the days are short in the winter and it's often cloudy. The panels are less efficient in hot weather, but the days are sunnier and much longer in the summer so production is much greater. The panels still work on cloudy days, although they don't produce as much.

Once a month I go out to check what our production is in megawatt hours (mWh) and then I email the figure to the company in Maine. The inverter has a display panel that gives you that figure, as well as how much money we've saved and how many tons of CO2 we haven't put into the atmosphere.

According to its calculations, in the past nine months our system will have produced over 3.655 mWh of energy, saved us \$511 and kept 2.375 tons of CO2 out of the atmosphere. We think it's a win-win situation: a good deal for our pocketbooks and a good deal for the environment.

Vermont Yankee Closing

John Boccalini

If you haven't heard the news, the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant's owner, Entergy Corp. announced that the plant will stop producing power after its current fuel cycle and move to a complete shut down in the last quarter of 2014.

Harvest Potluck Supper with An Evening of Storytelling

John Lewis

Through a grant from the NH Humanities Council, Rebecca Rule, NH humorist/storyteller, returns to Richmond on Oct. 5 at the Putnam Family Performing Arts Center in the North Village of Camp Takodah at 55 Fitzwilliam Road.

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A potluck dinner begins at 5 p.m. and at 6 p.m. Rebecca Rule presents **“Moved & Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire.”** Back by popular demand and drawing on research from her book, *Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire, the Present, the Past, and the Future*, Rebecca Rule is sure to entertain everyone with stories of the rituals, traditions and history of town meeting, including the perennial characters, the literature, the humor, and the wisdom of this uniquely New Hampshire tradition. No doubt lively audience participation will be included!

Attendees are asked to bring a covered dish and a non-perishable food item for the Community Pantry – beverages will be provided. Directions to the Art Center: Enter Camp Takodah off Route 119 and follow the camp road for less than a mile to the large overhead Camp Takodah North sign. Take a left and follow the road to the first large building on your right which is the new Putnam Family Art Center. Parking is on the large ball field at the far end of the North Village.

This program (free and open to the public) is made possible through the cooperative efforts of Richmond’s Agricultural Commission, Conservation Commission, Historical Society, and Camp Takodah. Please contact Nancy Lescynski 239-6277 or Theresa Majoy 239-6058 for more information.

Children’s Beach Party 2013

The Beach Committee

A successful, ideal summer day in August delighted the children who attended our party. There were a variety of games, prizes and lunch. The laughter, smiles and competition were fun to watch. Every child along with their parents expressed thank yous when the party was over. It will be bigger and better next year; hope to see you there.

Fall Again

Judith M. Graves



The woolly bear showed himself this week and the middle band was really long. Daddy used to tell me that would mean a lot of snow ahead, and so brace yourself. But before we have to burn the wood that is piling in the woodshed, we have some awesome autumn weather ahead for October and November. Lots of last minute plans for the last BBQ of the summer, last get together around the fire pit or even the swimming pool.

Today I picked hydrangeas. Lots of them and hung them in the upper garage to dry. We have a family wedding next August and they want hydrangeas to decorate the halls, and if not picked and readied now, won’t be ready next August. After two close frosts they are bright pink and ready to pick. Gather four or five heads on eight to nine inch stems and tie them to dry upside down. I place clothesline across the beams and tie each bunch onto the line. They also can be placed in a basket and allowed to just dry in place for a gorgeous basket of



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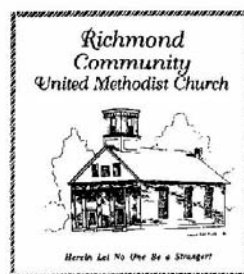
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E-mail: ADJA@myfairpoint.net



Welcome to the Richmond Community Church



Pastor Arnold Johnson

**Sunday Worship Services
9:00 a.m.**

*We are a celebrational and compassionate people.
We champion the simple worth of all people.*

Come and join our Family!

hydrangeas all winter long. Nice for gifts to give out later.

There are so many events to think about at this time of the year. Here on Bullock Road at Periwinkle Cottage Studios on November 8 and 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day we are holding an Open House. Add this visit to your calendar. The studios will be brimming with antiques, vintage, holiday, and natural designs.

I was pulling moss off the rocks this past week to add to my berry bowls, covering balls with fine wire wrapped to hold the moss onto the balls. Fill a basket of these moss balls and add a hook to hang on the tree. So many wonderful natural designs from the woods to add to your décor. I found a bevy of little hemlock cones that I pushed with a needle and made a chain that I plan to put on our tree this year too.

My dried bouquets are ready and all in cello packs ready for you to drop into a basket, vase, or pottery piece. The Court Yard garden is coming down to some last flowers like begonias. The marigolds and calendula's are still looking fine. Sunflowers are grand this year. Save a large head of seeds and put it into your bird bath in the winter for a buffet for the birds. I will have them here at the open house. The pumpkins are ready to display, corn stalks to be tied to all the posts, and gourds to fill baskets. A bale of hay or two to sit on as you sip some hot mulled cider with doughnuts adds to the fun.

Apples will soon be picked and made into sauce and pies. A trip out in a wagon to the orchards with the children all excited is part of the fall New England experience.

Hope to see you at the Open House here November 8 and 9, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Enjoy the chill in the air, the frost on the pumpkin, and the breathtaking foliage that we are soon to see. Email me at pstudios19@myfairpoint.net with any inquiries about herbs or what to do with some of nature's bounty. Enjoy Fall in New Hampshire!!!

Systemization Drives Innovation

Michelle Connor

As a business owner, you understand commitment. You give up evenings when there's work to do. Your weekends suffer because of that emergency that can't wait. Your sweat is what keeps the company moving. But are you committed to creating a business that truly supports your life?

In order to run your business instead of allowing it to run you, your commitment has to be more than putting out fires. A

business can only support your life when it relies on systems, not on you. You need a vision for your company, and then put systems in place to achieve that vision.

Committing to systematizing your business and developing a systems strategy is important not only because it helps you document how to do things in your business, but also because it helps you discover opportunities to make things better!

It is surprising how many new ideas a business owner has to improve their business when you begin to create a business systems strategy. You don't just clarify and document systems; you can reinvent many of them! By defining all of the systems in your business, you will have a detailed picture of exactly how your business should work. When you look at the inner-workings of your company, you can create and re-work your business systems to truly support your life and reduce the number of fires.

Press Release

Frank Behrens

The Edge Ensemble Theatre Company is now holding auditions for a February production of *Almost, Maine* by John Cariani. There are roles for men and women, fifteen years and older. Designers and technicians are also needed. Kim Dupuis will be interviewing actors and technicians over the next few weeks.

To audition for a role or to volunteer as a member of the crew (set construction, costumes, lighting, and other opportunities). Contact The Edge Ensemble at 603-352-5657 or email TheEdgeEnsemble@aol.com. See edgeensemble.org for details.

RCUMC News

Pastor Arnie Johnson

September has been a busy month for some. It is the end of summer vacations and when schools are back in service. Well, almost the end of summer vacations!

Pastor Arnie and Mary took the last week in August and the first week in September to take their vacation which was thoroughly enjoyed with many relaxing day-trips. Jack Sears, a good friend of the Church was the guest preacher for the first two Sundays in September and his messages were well received as always. Sunday School will once again resume after its summer vacation.

September 15 marked the departure of one of our members and a strong supporter of the Church. It is always difficult to



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say goodbye to a good friend, but we hope and pray that she will come back a visit when she can. A cake and wonderful conversation followed the service.

The next big church event will be the Holiday Fair on November 9 in the Veteran's Hall on Route 32. It is such a wonderful event, especially with Christmas coming. There are always a great number of home-made crafts for sale that can fit the needs of so many people on your gift list. Please come and enjoy all the efforts of many!

Come join us in worship any Sunday at 9 a.m. at 11 Fitzwilliam Rd. (Route 119, just east of the 4-Corner Store). We would be very pleased to meet you! And don't forget our Food Pantry located in the Town Hall on Route 32. We are very blessed to have so many supporters of this ministry. Please continue to donate non-perishable items. You can drop them off at the Town Hall or at Church on Sundays.

Victor Herbert Classic

Frank Behrens



It is interesting to note that Victor Herbert's "The Fortune Teller" opened in 1898, only two years after Gilbert and Sullivan's last collaboration, "The Grand Duke." In the Gilbert work, one man finds himself engaged to four women; in the Herbert, one woman finds herself engaged to three men. Even

Herbert's music in "Fortune Teller" sounds similar to parts of "Grand Duke." But in the world of musical theatre, such things are bound to happen.

The Ohio Light Opera has a long series of operatic recordings, to which "The Fortune Teller" is the prominent entry. It is available in a 2-CD set from Albany Records. The book and lyrics by Henry B. Smith tell the story of a Gypsy named Musette who is a dead ringer for the prima ballerina of the Budapest Opera, Irma (both roles sung here by Amy Maples).

The penniless Count Berezowski (Logan Walsh) wants to marry Irma because of her bracelet (just accept that for now), but Musette poses as Irma and winds up engaged to him while Irma disguises herself as her twin brother Fedor, lest he be charged with desertion. (I am not making this up!) At any rate,

the dialogue is included in both the recording and booklet and can be cheerfully ignored by programming it out.

More than one Herbert tune does not quite make it, such as the military choruses, which suffer by comparison with Sullivan's march in "Patience." But two melodies have often been sung out of context on collections of Herbert's songs: "Romany life," which celebrates the Gypsy world outlook, and the hauntingly beautiful "Gypsy Love Song," which is sung to entice Musette into staying with her people.

In fact, I have grown so used to hearing sopranos and mezzos sing the latter that I was surprised to find it is a man, Sandor (David Kelleher-Flight), who is assigned this gem.

Although one or two of the men read their lines in that "this is an operetta" lilt, the silly plot can stand that treatment, while the other musical pieces range from pretty good to exquisite.

And I am assured by John Ostendorf the Recording Producer, that the dialogue is found in the original script though it is highly abridged.

Finally, Conductor Steven Byess leads singers and orchestra with brio. Good work all around.

Out and About

John Bocalini

Wed. Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m. Menopause: The Musical. Colonial Theater, Keene. \$52.50/\$48.50/\$38.50

Fri. Oct. 4, – 7 p.m. Masks & Memories. Colonial Theater, Keene. \$40

Sat.-Sun. Oct 5 – 6 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Cheshire Craftsmen Fair. Keene recreation Center, 312 Washington St.

Sat. Oct. 5, noon – 2 p.m. Open House at the Richmond Fire Department. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served.

Sat. Oct. 5, 5 p.m. Rebecca Rule, NE humorist/storyteller returns to Richmond. Join us with a potluck supper at Camp Takodah. Sponsored by the Richmond's Historical Society & Agricultural Commission.

Fri. – Sat. Oct. 11 – 12, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Frost Heaves presents all-new Foliage Follies: Peterborough Players Theatre, 55 Hadley Rd. Peterborough.

Sat. Oct. 12, 8: p.m. North Shore Comedy presents: Jimmie Walker. Colonial Theater, Keene. \$23

Sat. – Sun., Oct. 12 – 13, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Fall Foliage Art Studio Tour: Visit artists' studios in the Monadnock Region. <http://sitekreator.com/fallfoilage/Home.html> for info.

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Oct 18, 8 pm Grand Slambovians – Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road Peterborough.

Sat. Oct. 19 Noon – 8:30 p.m. Pumpkin Festival Let it shine! Keene Central Square.

Sat – Oct 19 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Celebrate Samhain is New England's premier Samhain festival dedicated to the ancient Celtic celebration. Peterborough Community Center, Peterborough. \$8 with food donation, \$10 without donation

Sun. Oct. 20, 5 – 7:30 p.m. Oktoberfest The Inn at East Hill Farm. Call 242-6495 for reservations. 460 Monadnock St., Troy.

Fri. Oct. 25, 6:30 - 9:30 Auction of Historic Proportions. Historical Society of Cheshire, 246 Main St. Keene.

Sun. Oct. 26, 2 p.m. Bubbke Mania. Colonial Theater, Keene. \$19 adult/\$15 youth

Thurs. Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m. Amazing Kreskin. Colonial Theater, Keene. \$25

Sunflowers Restaurant , 21B Main St. Jaffrey

Music Schedule

Music at brunch 11:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m.

Dinner Sunday and Friday beginning at 6 p.m.

Sun. Oct. 6:

Brunch – Bob Pettegrew, piano

Dinner – Walt Sayre, piano

Fri. Oct. 11, Dinner – John Cucchi, guitar

Sun. Oct. 13:

Brunch – Bob Arpin, guitar

Dinner – ZanRicky, vocals and guitar

Fri. Oct. 18, Dinner – The Grumbling Rustics, banjo and guitar

Sun Oct. 20:

Brunch – Ted Mann, guitar

Dinner – Wendy Keith and Jim Gordon, vocals and guitar

Fri Oct. 25, Dinner – John Cucchi, guitar and vocals

Sun Oct. 27:

Brunch – JT Lawrence, banjo, mandolin and guitar

Dinner – Rick and the Redhead, Diane Kellner vocals and Rick Ammons guitar

No cover charge. Tips appreciated. Reservations recommended!

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.

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.

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BBQ

John Boccalini

Annual Richmond Fire Dept. Chicken BBQ was held on August 25. The chicken dinners were sold out and the weather perfect. The Fire Mutual Aid fire safety trailer was set up for children to take a walk through to learn about fire safety. Music for the event was provided by the Middle River Gospel Band (below). The winners of the raffles were Pete Majoy of the 50/50 raffle and Gabriel LaPlume of the cord of wood raffle. The Parks and Recreation Department horseshoe contest was a nail biter to the end with Marcus Beauregard winning first place and Bill Coll second place. A good time was had by all.



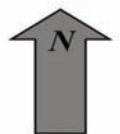
QUOTABLE QUOTE

Terri O'Rorke

"Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

Frederick Douglass Feb. 1818 – Feb. 20, 1895
(Former American slave, abolitionist)

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volunteers*



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Bill Coll (left) and (right) Marcus Beauregard and the final throw.



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Municipal Building Committee

The 2012 Municipal Building Committee (MBC) was created by the Selectmen to help organize, and establish the needs of Richmond to accommodate the towns present and future growth.

All residents know that the spaces available to our town buildings are limited. The MBC started by contacting all municipalities within our town asking their needs. Nothing extravagant but enough space to allow for present and future service to our town. Many of our present building arrangements were established in the 60s with no thought of future growth. It seemed that every building in our town had the same problem, lack of space. The most surprising was our emergency services, Fire Department, Police Department and Rescue, all of which have extreme space issues. All of these departments also are safety related and could mean the saving of property or human life. Information collected with the 2012 Capital Im-

provement recommendations were also taken into consideration. Southwest Region Planning Commission growth chart for this area was also acquired and studied by the committee.

Our Tax Collector, Selectmen, and Town Clerk have issues with space, and parking at the Town Hall, and a driveway shared with a private home creates problems of its own. Anyone who has seen the Tax Collector’s office knows that it is the size of a postage stamp. The Selectmen recently renovated their office area and have vastly improved it, but it still does not conform with what the State of NH requires a town to have. The Town Clerk feels she has sufficient space to last her the next 10 years.

The Town Hall meets all handicapped requirements as deemed by the State of NH.

The MBC then looked at real property that the Town owns in and around our municipal buildings with the thought of expanding present buildings for increased space. The results were very eye opening.

Municipality building/ property	Acreages and additional notes
Rt. 119 (west of the 4Corners)	6.00 (classified as wetlands by a wetlands professional).
Richmond Public Library	.22 (Parking issue for emergency services)
Fire, Police and pavilion	1.00 (Parking issue for emergency services)
Richard Whitney Park	.45
Civil Defense Building	.65 (Used by 7 other municipalities for meetings parking issue for Emergency services.
Amidon Park	1.70 (Baseball field, sink holes, wetlands issue) Parking issue
Old Town Shed	.86 (Removed used for extra parking)
Town Shed	19.00 (Houses road dept.; no septic or well at this time)
Town municipal property	46.00 (North on 32, by 4-corners pond, small apron to a town 60 ft. right-of-way. ? new municipal building site.
Town Hall	.65
Veterans Hall	.32
Memorial Park/Phone building	1.16
Quaker Cemetery	.80
Middle Town Cemetery	1.60
<p>It became very clear to the committee that the Town didn’t own the real or adjacent property to put additions on any of our present buildings. The decision to look into building a new municipal building with the cost quoted @ \$300.00 /sq. foot just didn’t seem feasible. The Town pays for our present buildings of which many are on the Historic Registry. Why not take advantage of them. The committee set out to utilize the present space the town has but in a different configuration to provide a more adequate space for emergency services.</p> <p>The areas marked on the map in gray are the current town properties.</p>	

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Board of Selectmen:

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

Selectmen's Assistant: Heidi Wood

Town Secretary: Beverly Hart

Mon. 9 AM – 11 AM, 6 PM – 8 PM

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

Fire/ Rescue (Non Emergency): 239-4466

Fire Warden: Ed Atkins, 239-6337

Selectmen – 239-4232

Town Clerk – 239-6202

Tax Collector – 239-6106

Road Agent: Mark Beal 903-2184

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