



MARCH 2013

Town Meetings

John Boccalini

Tuesday, March 12, 2013 starting at 11 am Town meeting - Part 1.

This session includes voting for Town officers and on proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinances.

Saturday, March 16, 2013 starting at 9 am Town meeting – Part 11.

On March 12, 2013 we will elect some of our town officials, one Selectman (3 years), one Selectman (1 year), one Treasurer (3 years), two Planning Board members (3 years), one Library Trustee (3 years), one Cemetery Trustee (3 years) and one Trustee for the Trust Fund (3 years). See the Ballot Sample on page 6.

We will also be voting on certain Zoning Amendments. This year the proposed zoning amendments reflect changes in their wording and numbering so *that they are clearer*, more understandable and in compliance with the State of NH RSA's. The old and the new amendments are placed side by side, so they can be compared by the voter. The new amendments have no comparisons. The document is 22 pages in length and can be read at the Town Clerk's Office during working hours, or call any Planning Board member if you would like help in understanding some of the changes.

This is a summary of the additions and changes:

Amendment 1

302 Manufactured Housing Parks. Changed

Allows individual home which we must allow; but not parks.

305 Signs, under 305.1.8. Allows for decorative signs and adds a sq.ft. maximum for Home Occupations.

306 Fences – New addition

Amendment 2

401 Purpose and Intent: New addition

402 Permitted Use: Under

402.2 Agriculture. Allows roadside stands.

402.2 Home Office. Allows for work to be done at home by individual within home.

405 Lot Frontage and Yard Requirements. Under 405.2 Front Setback. It was 83 feet from center line of road, now it's 50 feet from the edge of public right-of-way.

Amendment 3

404 Permitted Uses:

Under 404.3.2. The size has changed. It used to be a minimum of 400 sq. feet or 30% of the gross floor space. Proposed is 600 sq. ft. which is very large for accessory use, and a lot of things have been removed from the original which was very confusing.

Amendment 4

No real changes. A lot of rewrite and organization.

Amendment 5

A thorough hose cleaning with many changes. A lot removed, simplified and clarified following State guidelines. This section which is eight pages long really allows the ZBA to do its job using our zoning. **Some highlights:** Removes existing criteria which belongs in the Site Plan review with the Planning Board, not the ZBA. It establishes standards for home occupations, commercial and light industrial uses and recreational uses which at this time do not exist.

1004.2 Multi-family dwellings: Provides criteria for multi-family uses by changing the minimum lot size from three acres per unit to three acres for the first unit and 10,000 sq. ft. for each additional unit. This would allow greater flexibility for the property owner.

1004.2 Home Occupations: Much better guidelines to protect the abutter.

1004.4 Commercial or Light Industrial Uses: Adds guidelines and definition.

1004.5.1 Recreational Uses: We have always had a definition but no guidelines.

Amendment 6

Addition of the following definitions:

1604 Agriculture

1612 Commercial Uses

1621 Groundwater Recharge Area

1625 Home Office

1630 Light Industrial Uses

1639 Personal and Professional Services

1642 Public and Semi-Public Uses

1649 Setback

1650 Sign

1651 Sign, Temporary

1657 Surficial

Notes from the Selectmen's Office

The Fay Martin Replacement Bridge is in! Congratulations to all the amazing contractors who made this feat possible. Finishing touches will occur this month and next, but we are already planning a ribbon cutting ceremony when the bridge opens for traffic. Quantum Construction, Cold River Bridges, NHDOT and the Savings Bank of Walpole will be on hand to celebrate with us. As soon as the date is set, we will post it on the website and around town – all are invited to witness this town success.

2013 Budget Highlights. This year's budget anticipates continuing to make too long-deferred repairs of municipal buildings, including the Town Hall north wall, the CD building exterior, and the Fire Department roof. It funds capital projects that will enable ongoing maintenance of our valuable infrastructure assets, both buildings and roadways in the future, and serves to purchase much needed safety equipment for the Fire and Rescue Departments. It calls for saving to repair Fay Martin Road beyond the new bridge, per the court agreement, which specifies completion by January 29, 2016. The Town's share of this upgrade is \$100,000. This budget also funds those organizations that help us take care of Richmond residents who need assistance to make ends meet, and acknowledges that need in the increased municipal direct assistance budget.

While the Operating Budget has decreased (a little) this year, it reflects increased departmental planning for efficiency of service. We thank all departments for their careful consideration of their budgets.

Perhaps the most exciting and challenging project comes from a strong recommendation by the Richmond Buildings Committee to purchase property adjacent to the Veterans Hall. This property is on the market and, if acquired, will allow for expansion of the Veterans Hall, creating additional municipal meeting and office space, more parking area and new recreational opportunities, freeing up areas around the Fire Department and Library for their use. Having the property could also allow for new municipal facilities in the future as the town has need and resources. The committee found the offering price to be favorable.

The Town will decide whether to take advantage of the opportunity to acquire the property this year by passing the following article.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$113,000 for the purpose of purchasing property located at 132 Old Homestead Highway, Map 408, Lot 49, adjacent to the Veterans Hall, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$113,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and further

to raise and appropriate an additional sum of \$35,000 for the first year's payment of said bond. Recommended by Selectmen. (2/3 vote required)

The budget hearings and a bond hearing held in February paved the way for placing this article on the warrant. By law, as an article to bond more than \$100,000, it has to be considered first on the Town Meeting agenda. Immediately following discussion the polls will be open for at least one hour for attendees to vote by ballot.

Town Meeting will open at 9 am and following the brief opening ceremonies, Article 8 will be considered. The Moderator will determine how long to keep the polls open and that decision will be announced prior to opening the polls.

See you on March 12 to vote on the official ballot and again on March 16 at Town Meeting. Thank you for your support – you are always welcome to observe our meetings or make an appointment to meet with us by contacting Roberta or Bev at 239-4232.

Dates to Remember

Thursday, March 7 – Candidates Night – Veterans Hall, 7 pm

Tuesday, March. 12 – Annual Town Meeting First Session voting on candidates for office and zoning ordinances – Veterans Hall, 11 am – 7 pm

Saturday, March 16 – Annual town meeting Second Session for voting on the budget and warrant articles – Veterans Hall, 9 am.

Town Meeting

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

The town meeting will be on two separate days. The First Session, or town election, will be held at the Veteran's Hall on Tuesday, March 12 from 11 am until 7 pm. There will be two town ballots – one ballot will be for the town officers and a second ballot will contain the proposed changes to the zoning ordinances. This means that you, the voter, will receive THREE ballots – one school ballot and two town ballots. Sample ballots are available at the Town Hall.

The Second Session, or business meeting, is scheduled to begin at 9 am at the Veteran's Hall on Saturday, March 16. During the Second Session, all registered voters attending this meeting will have the opportunity to discuss, amend, and vote on the town budget and other business on the warrant.

As per RSA 654:7-a, you may register to vote on March 12 during the polling hours. No voter registration will be available on March 16.

For those who will not be able to come to the polls March 12, absentee ballots are available at the town clerk's office. All requests for absentee ballots must be in writing and request forms are available at the town clerk's office. The voter may either mail or personally deliver the completed absentee ballot to the town clerk's office. Absentee ballots must be HAND-DELIVERED ONLY BY THE VOTER no later than March 11. If absentee ballots are mailed, they must be received no later than 5 pm on March 12. Please call 239-6202 if you have questions.

Town Clerk's Calendar

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

- March 11 OPEN from 4 – 5 pm to accept absentee ballots
March 12 Town Election Polls open from 11 am – 7 pm Veteran's Hall
March 15 OPEN from 3 – 5 pm to accept applications for recounts of votes cast at Town Election for officers
March 16 Second Session of Town Meeting starts at 9 am, Veteran's Hall
March 19 OPEN 3 – 5 pm to accept applications for recounts on any question at Town Election

Editor's Notes

John Bocalini

Many residents have recently switched their internet provider to Fairpoint. In doing so, some have changed their email addresses. As a result some of those people no longer get the *Rooster's* advanced issue or its news or reminder notices. If you want to reestablish this connection or if you would like to start to receive these notices, please let us know. Call 239-6696 or email us at therichmondrooster@yahoo.com.

Fay Martin Update: Slight setback/Quick recovery – During the middle of January, Quantum Construction Consultants notified the town that independent testing indicated that the concrete in some of the five sections of the precast bridge did not reach the required compressive strength. The concrete contractor, Michie Co. out of Henniker, NH, has decided to recast the pieces that had low test results. These pieces passed the retesting and on February 6, three sections of the bridge on the separate truck trailers were left in the parking lot at the Veterans Hall in Richmond.

The next morning at approximately 9 am, a sixty ft.+ crane arrived and the crew began setting it up. The sections were trucked over from the Vets Hall as well as the remaining two sections. When the crane was set up, it began lifting and moving the sections, one at a time, to their place over Tully Brook.

The entire process from crane arrival to crane departure took slightly over four hours to accomplish. What they left was a structure that Richmond Residents can be proud of even before the project is complete.



The Blizzard of 2013 came a day later. On Monday morning the crew was back clearing the snow and preparing the end sections for a slight adjustment and for the fabrication of the wing placements which should be complete before month's end.

All that's left is backfilling so the road can be graded to the bridge, and the asphalt placed.

Thank You

Thank you, Sandra Gillis, for your hard work and perseverance in seeing the Fay Martin Bridge project through to its completion. Despite personnel changes on the Board of Selectmen and other unforeseen obstacles, you would not let this project get derailed, but instead ensured that the bridge was designed to proper engineering specifications, got fast-tracked through the NH DOT for state highway reimbursement, and completed well under budget. We appreciate your leadership and strongly support your candidacy to serve for one more year as Selectman. Sincerely, Nancy and Hank Lescynski

Things and Thoughts From the District – March 2013

Neil Moriarty – MRSD Budget Committee Member
The acronym **ACES 93** stands for All Children Educated Safely (the 93 being our SAU number)– this name replaces Before and After School Programs, which you the voters are subsidizing. **Elaine Moriarty** is now volunteering at **ACES 93** to teach the kids some cooking skills on Wednesdays.

Exciting New Schedules Announced for September 2013

Some very major and exciting changes in our school schedules will be put in place for the 2013-2014 school year. **First** (no priority in sequence) the school year will be shortened to 175 days with 10 minutes added to each school day. Within this schedule, children that need some help, will be able to attend help classes over the school vacations (AM only – they still get some vacation). **Second**, the Middle/High school will have an entirely new class schedule – briefly, the day will be divided into five classes a day (today there are eight classes per day) with a rotating schedule. A chance for students to obtain college credits at the high school, and much more – too complex to explain fully here.

However, Principal Jed Butterfield will be at the **Dessert with the Principal on April 17, 2013, 7:00 pm at the Vets Hall** to explain schedules and any other school item you wish to discuss. I hope to see as many parents as possible there. Did I mention Elaine Moriarty would be making the dessert?

The Technology Subcommittee is looking into various options for introducing computers to be loaned to students. A pilot program is being run in the sixth and seventh grades with some knowledgeable teachers doing the assessment.

On a sadder note: We continue to go backwards on our achievement test scores. We made very little progress on at least matching the state average in: Math, Reading, and Science. At press time I could not get analysis answers on the scores from the SAU 93 administration.

Save yourself a couple of dollars –Vote NO on: Article FOUR – do you receive 36 days vacation? Vote NO on Article SIX – this article puts money away in an account that is already fully funded – the \$184,000 (Sullivan school money) will offset your tax bill; Vote NO on Article EIGHT (Resource Officer) – he or she will not save anyone and the school board is not obligated to spend the \$56,787 on a resource officer. Vote YES on Article SEVEN – this makes the cost per pupil more equitable between our MRSD towns.

If you have thoughts or questions you can call 603-239-4031 or or email cmoriarty@ne.rr.com. Jim Carnie would be glad to assist you on school questions at 239 4031.

Dean's List for 2012

Neil Moriarty

Keene State College

The following Richmond students made the Fall 2012 Dean's List: Joseph Niccolo DeMasco, Gabriel F. LaPlume, Christine V. Scobi, and Emily J. Tague. Congratulations for your efforts.

University of New Hampshire

Michael DeMasco made the list for the fall of 2012.

Atta Boy Michael!

ACES 93

Elaine Moriarty

This year MRSD expanded the Before and After School Program now called **ACES 93** (All Children Educated Safely) to Mt. Caesar and Cutler Schools – with 108 students currently enrolled. This is a combined program and is available from 6 am (before school) to 6 pm (after school). It provides academic enrichment ranging from tutorial and homework time services, creativity with activities such as sewing, after school games, French, arts and crafts, picture writing, a readers theatre, a wild life and bird club, soccer, African drumming, and cooking club.

I am currently a volunteer and am leading the cooking club. It involves as little as one hour per week, if you have an interest in these programs contact Linda Heath, **ACES 93** coordinator, at 603-903-6537 ext. 6537 or lheath@mrdsd.org



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| DANNY WAHL | We are currently looking to purchase many different items, including but not limited to those listed above. | 603-239-7200 |

The Seven Rules of the Toddler

Terri O'Rourke

1. If I like it, it is mine.
2. If it is in my hands, it is mine.
3. If I can take it from you, it is mine.
4. If I had it a little while ago, it is mine.
5. If it is mine, it must never appear to be yours in any way.
6. If I am doing or building something, all of the pieces are mine.
7. If it looks just like mine, it is mine.

Save The Date

Elaine Moriarty

On April 17, 2013, Jed Butterfield, Principal of Monadnock Regional High School will be at the Veteran's Hall at 7 pm for Dessert with Jed. Bring all your questions, more details will follow in the April *Rooster*.

Richmond Library

Wendy O'Brien

Wednesdays with Wendy continue at **10 am** throughout the 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 **Sat. March 16 at 11:00 am** for a visit with Kate Simmington, Keeta and Kallie. Kallie has not been able to come for some time due to a torn ACL, but in the meantime we have been enjoying Keeta's 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.

Stay Tuned! The Elaine Moriarty Volunteer of the Year Award winner to be announced in April! The RPL will be honoring all of its volunteers during National Volunteer week in April, but once a year we select a special person to be the recipient of the Elaine Moriarty Volunteer of the Year Award. 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. Last year's recipients were Abigail and Gabrielle Connell. We are looking forward to announcing this year's recipient(s) in April. 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!

Seeking Donations

It's that time of year for spring cleaning! If you have books, DVDs, or other materials that you are looking to find homes for, please consider donating them to the RPL. Often, we use your donations here in the library to supplement our collections. We use the remaining materials in our ongoing indoor book sale, with the funds raised going toward the purchase of new materials. Unfortunately, we can't take encyclopedias, Reader's Digest Condensed Books, or VHS materials due to space constraints. We can even come to you to pick up materials – call or drop us an email. Thank you for your consideration!

Letter to the Editor

I wish to commend the Richmond Planning Board for their effort, and in my opinion, successful result in re-writing the

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SAMPLE BALLOT

To vote for a person make an (X) in the box to the right of name

FOR SELECTMAN For 3 Years
Vote for not more than 1

DOUGLAS BERSAW _____ ☐

WILLIAM R DANIELS _____ ☐

CAROL JAMESON _____ ☐

_____ ☐

FOR PLANNING BOARD For 3 Years
Vote for not more than 2

NORMA THIBODEAU _____ ☐

DEBORAH DUFFY _____ ☐

_____ ☐

_____ ☐

FOR SELECTMAN For 1 Year
Vote for not more than 1

WESLEY VAUGHAN _____ ☐

SANDRA GILLIS _____ ☐

_____ ☐

FOR CEMETERY TRUSTEE For 3 Years
Vote for not more than 1

_____ ☐

FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEE
For 3 Years
Vote for not more than 1

BONNIE McCARTHY _____ ☐

_____ ☐

FOR TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS
For 3 Years
Vote for not more than 1

TERRI O'RORKE _____ ☐

_____ ☐

FOR TREASURER For 3 Years
Vote for not more than 1

LOREAL RENEE SCHMIDT _____ ☐

_____ ☐

proposed amendments to the zoning ordinances.

My wife and I attended the January 15th Planning Board meeting when the revised amendments were reviewed, discussed, and questions from the public were clarified and answered by Board members. We were very pleased with the way the meeting was conducted, giving all who attended the opportunity to express their concerns, and the willingness of the Board to integrate suggested language changes into the Proposed Amendments.

We feel we can now support these amendments and wish to thank all the members of the Planning Board for their courteous and professional conduct during public hearings.
Jeff and Sue Taylor, taylortreepeople@aol.com

Definitely Definitions

Terri O'Rorke

*The American Heritage Dictionary
of the English Language 4th edition*

Silly: sillier, silliest

1. Exhibiting a lack of wisdom or good sense; foolish
2. Lacking seriousness or irresponsibleness; frivolous
3. Semiconscious; dazed

Quotable Quotes

Terri O'Rorke

"If people never did silly things nothing intelligent would ever get done."

Ludwig Wittgenstein, Austrian-British
philosopher 1889–1951

Out and About

John Boccalini

Fri. Mar. 1, 8 p.m. Bowfire, – Colonial Theater, Keene. \$49.50/\$45.50/\$35.50

Sat. Mar. 2, 7:30 p.m. The Tempest, Keene State College, 90 Wyman Way. \$10 and \$8

Sun. Mar. 3, 5 p.m. March Maple Madness Dinner and Silent Auction. East Hill Farms, 460 Monadnock St. Troy. \$23.95 age 16 to adult; \$12.95 per child age 5 to 15; \$7.50 age 2 to 4 plus tax & gratuities

Wed. Mar 6. 7:30 p.m. KSC Faculty Composers Recital. Keene State College, 90 Wyman Way. \$10 and \$5

Thursday, March 7, 7 p.m. – Candidates Night – Veterans Hall, Richmond. 7 p.m.

Fri Mar. 8, 10 – 11 a.m. Social Hour at the Vet's Hall.

Fri Mar. 8, 7 p.m., Family Dance with Mary DesRosiers Bass Hall, 19 Grove Street, Peterborough. Free

Fri Mar. 8, 7 p.m. Electric Earth Concerts presents The Borrowed Quartet, Beethoven, First Church, 14 Laban Ainsworth Way, Jaffrey.

Fri Mar. 8, 8 p.m., George Thurgood and The Destroyers, Colonial Theater, Keene. \$59.50/\$55.55/\$45.50

Sat. Mar. 9, 8 p.m. Jonathan Edwards, Peterborough Players Theater, 55 Hadley Road. \$22/in advance; \$25/day of performance. www.ledgertranscript.com/artsliving/calendar?SearchEventLocation=Peterborough.

Tues. March 12, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Town Meeting, Part 1, Veterans Hall, Richmond.

Fri. Mar. 15, 7:30 p.m. Electric Earth Concerts presents Pianist Rieko Aiwa, Peterborough Historical Society, 19 Grove St., Peterborough

Mar. 15, 7:30 Cirque Ziva, Colonial Theater, Keene. \$42.50/\$38.50/\$28.50

Sat. Mar. 16, 9 a.m. Town Meeting Part 2, Veterans Hall, Richmond

Sun. Mar. 16, Noon The MET: Live in HD, Francesca Da Rimini, Colonial Theater, Keene and Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road Peterborough. \$25; \$20/students.

Sun. Mar. 17, 7 p.m. Jerrod Niemann, Colonial Theater, Keene. \$33.50

Wed. Mar 20, 7:30 p.m. "Letters Home" Griffin Theatre, Keene State College, 90 Wyman Way, Keene. \$25/\$20(seniors/youth: \$18/\$15)

Fri Mar. 22, 8 p.m. Martha Redbone, Bass Hall, 19 Grove St., Peterborough. \$15/\$12 members, seniors, students

Sun. Mar. 23, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. 4th Annual Taste of Hillsboro, Hillsboro.

Sat. Mar. 23, 7:30 p.m. Electric Earth Concerts presents The Borrowed Quartet, Beethoven, Congregation Ahavas Achim, 84 Hastings Ave. Keene.

Fri. Mar. 29 7:30 p.m. The KSC Percussion Ensemble, Keene State College, 90 Wyman Way, Keene. \$10 and \$5

Fri. Mar. 29, 7:30 a.m. Russian National Ballet Theatre presents Cinderella, Colonial Theater, Keene. \$47/\$43/\$29.

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.

Question to Bond: The Right Thing to Do

Neil Moriarty

On March 16, 2013, we the voters will be asked to authorize the Select Board to purchase a bond (\$113,000) to in turn purchase the property adjacent to the Veteran's Hall. Your Building Committee unanimously supported this purchase. While I personally would rather see the bond paid off over 15 or 30 years (to reduce the annual cost to the taxpayers), nevertheless, it is the right thing to do.

While towns renting property is not popular; nevertheless, it is legal to do so. The property has a house and garage producing a positive cash flow that could be continued. Continuing the rental would make the project a no-cost option – for the period of rental. To continue to rent the property, an agent should be hired (volunteer?) to manage the rental portion of the property to prevent the Select Board having to deal with day-to-day rental issues.

First the cost of the property (four plus acres and build-

ings), which bounds the Vet's Hall property on the West and South, is offered to the town at a very fair price. Second, the town just can't improve the office facilities at the current Town Hall – even if they could, the parking at the Town Hall is less than adequate. At some point we need to improve our office facilities in Richmond. The Vet's Hall offers more than adequate parking, easy access and should be used for more than town meetings. With adequate use, i.e., more town committee meetings in the main hall, the Vet's Hall proper could justify improvements in state-of-the-art computer display capabilities. More committee meetings there (today, many, if not most, town committee meetings are held at the Civil Defense building) relieve the parking in-and-around the firehouse, which today can be problematic.

Among the other benefits, the property would provide a suitable area for a playground and pavilion for use by the town (freeing up property for the Fire Department). We, the 2012 Richmond Building Committee strongly urge voter support for the bond/purchase. Call me with any questions at 239-4031.

Know Your Representative

Russ Provost

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Get involved. I would encourage you to cut this out and keep it handy and contact your representatives on issues that you care about.

Candidate Letter for Selectman 3 years

Carol Jameson

To my Richmond neighbors,

My name is Carol Jameson and I am running for the open seat (three year term) on the Board of Selectman this March. For those of you who read my letter in *The Richmond Rooster* this January, you already know that my husband and I moved to Richmond three years ago, after our five children had grown up and we were able to retire from our jobs in New York. I was a lawyer and my husband, Peter Mulhall, was a high school teacher. We have always loved this area. I went to college in Vermont and my family is from New England (Irasburg, VT and Dunbarton, NH). We love living here and feel very grateful to have been able to move here.

Now that I am retired, I look forward to using my experience, knowledge and legal training in public service. It is my turn to give something back to the community.

I have been attending the meetings of the Board of Selectman for the past three or four months, to get familiar with the process and learn by observing just how things are done, what issues come up for the town, and to get a feeling for if and how I can best serve the town.

So now I want to tell you some of my ideas about how I think I can serve the town, based on my past work experience and legal training, and my observations at the Selectman meetings and in informal discussions with my neighbors.

One thing I hear from many of our neighbors is a desire that the town pull together, move past the previous history of factions and discord, and focus on putting our energy into building community.

My legal training has taught me overall to approach issues fairly and objectively. I don't shoot from the hip. I begin with respect for all viewpoints. I listen well, collect all the information I can, and then address the issue impartially – what legal obligations and responsibilities apply, how do other towns approach the issues, how can we respond with a solution that can be fairly applied to all in town. This is how the current Selectmen Sandra Gillis, Sean McElhiney and Debie Boncal approach their job. I will continue this approach, which helps to build a community of respect in a town where we all have our own individual beliefs and viewpoints.

My legal training has another, more direct advantage to the town, through my understanding the legal process of lawsuits and how state statutes apply to town governance. Although I

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am no longer a practicing lawyer and never was licensed to practice in New Hampshire, I can communicate with the lawyers who represent us and at the Local Government Center easily and right from the start. Coordinating with local lawyers is a large part of what I did in my legal career.

I also appreciate that volunteers in the community organize so many town events – bringing the Aids Quilt to town, putting together a garden tour, holding a harvest festival with wonderful local story telling, morning coffee hour, library story hours, throwing a party this February 23 for current and past town staff and volunteers. These events help bring us together as a community. I will look for other opportunities for us to get together as a community on common ground, and support the ones we have established.

Another thing I hear from our neighbors, of course, is the strain of paying property taxes in this tough economic environment. I see some specific ways in which I might be useful here.

I am researching grant writing, so we can find additional sources of revenue other than property taxes for funding town projects. I wrote proposals in my legal job that are similar in concept – writing applications for the company at which I worked, to get state and municipal tax exemptions and credits in exchange for a commitment to retain jobs in New York, New Jersey, and Florida. This is the other side of the coin – to save the town money in this difficult economy by tapping into public and private grant opportunities, as much as we can. I have signed up for a seminar on grant writing and have begun the networking and research involved. My plan is to start the process, and then bring in other volunteers in town to help based on their ability and expertise.

I have another less developed idea, also in the interest of finding ways to stretch our dollars in this tough economy, to further channel our local resources to help people in town who are particularly hard hit financially. We do this now, informally, neighbors helping neighbors – our New England tradition of community. Can we do more? In Westminster, VT, they formed a non-profit organization called Westminster Cares, to provide local services to town residents that needed them and could not find them elsewhere – meals on wheels, looking in on aged or ill people at home, transportation to doctor's appointments and the like. They hold fundraisers each year such as a garden tour and an art tour to provide funds, in addition to pooling volunteer labor and soliciting donations. In Winchester NH, this year, they started an annual Christmas drive to help families provide

clothes and Christmas gifts for their children who otherwise would not be able to have these things. I don't know whether any of these ideas can be adapted for use in our town, but I would welcome exploring the possibilities with you and following up on whatever we think can be of help.

So, I thank you for the opportunity to serve the town and, if you think I can be of service, I ask for your vote. Please come to Candidates Night on March 7. I want very much to meet you and to hear from you in person about what you see as our most pressing issues, and how your selectman can best serve you.

Candidate Letter for Selectman 3 years

Residents of Richmond,

My name is William "Bill" Daniels and I am running for the office of Selectman. I have lived in the area all my life and twenty of those years have been living here in Richmond with my wife Jen. We have five children and five grandchildren, with one child still attending Monadnock Regional High School.

I am a 1973 graduate of Monadnock Regional High School and a 1979 graduate of the 44th class of the State of New Hampshire Police Academy. I attended Hawthorne College and have attained one-half the credits needed for an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice.

Richmond has been blessed with a number of hard working, dedicated Selectmen in the past and I hope to follow in their footsteps. I have no private agenda nor do I have an "axe to grind" – I would simply like to serve.

I have worked at three different law enforcement agencies in past years, was part of the volunteer Fire Department in Swanzey for ten years, and have worked for the City of Keene Public Works Department. I am well versed in both criminal and civil law, have a hands-on knowledge of the workings of a volunteer fire department, and am very familiar with the process of the Highway Department. This, along with my life-long knowledge of the town and its residents, would lend well to my ability to serve as Selectman.

I am a strong supporter of the above departments but feel obligated to say that I am not in favor of a full-time Police Department now. I don't believe it's warranted or affordable.

All that being said, I respectfully ask for your vote and look forward to meeting you at the "Meet the Candidates Night." In the meantime, anyone who would like to talk with me about my position on anything is welcome to call me at 603-239-7269. Respectfully submitted, William Daniels



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Candidate Letter for Selectman 1 year

Dear Boss, (people of Richmond)

Clearly, I love being your Selectman! After planning to retire this year, I found I couldn't resist the one year left on Lori Scanlan's term. It called to me. And I hope you will vote for me.

I have had other bosses, answered to other chairmen, but never have I had this many bosses (a thousand plus) or bosses whom I respect more and who are challenging, creative, and care so much. You are my boss, and working for you has been (mostly) a pleasure. The first year was hard – learning the rules of municipal government, state government and how they interact. Working as a team governing the town, making tough decisions that are fair and just and abiding by the regulations, being a steward of the town's history, financial health, welfare and future character, growth and development are awesome responsibilities. With my Select Board colleagues, all the dedicated people who generously volunteer their time to serve the town, our amazing employees and excellent partners (among them Avitar Assessing, Quantum Construction, Holman Contracting, West Rindge Builders, NH DOT), the Selectman's job is less daunting and the town is in very professional hands.

In the three years I have been privileged to serve you, we have accomplished much together. Your ideas, advice and counsel have enabled significant change. With the support of Town Meeting last year, the town embarked on a new, and scary to some, adventure – appropriating and then borrowing more than half a million dollars to build a bridge. As a town, we had saved for this bridge, the cost of which we would share with Saint Benedict's Center. With your support we applied for State bridge aid and got it. State aid meant the Town could replace the bridge for less than half the estimated cost of the bridge had we tried to fund it solely by Town tax money. This option freed up those savings for repairing other bridges in town, ones that are not under a deadline to replace, but nevertheless need significant repair and maintenance.

Your volunteer time and energy fueled the remodeling of the Town office, making space for the public to attend and observe the Selectmen's meetings, the staff to work comfortably and current files to be stored conveniently. Software was upgraded to make the Town more efficient and finally our website is online for those of you who wish to visit the Town offices electronically. Policies have been revised and new ones have been formulated to keep Richmond up to date as a municipality.

Under the guidance of Town departments and committees, we are embarking on a coordinated plan to revitalize our historic Town buildings to make them more energy efficient, insure their good repair, build additions to increase needed office and meeting space, and strengthen community ties. The 2013 budget reflects the input of all our departments, committees and commissions, an active capital improvements committee planning for the future, and a creative and forward thinking buildings committee.

Democracy is messy they say, as anyone attending Town Meeting can attest. However, it gives you a direct voice in who runs your town, how it is operated, and the future development of your town. A town is as successful and ethical as the people in leadership positions and as fair and just as the rules and regulations that govern the town – it is up to you to insure that both reflect your informed decision. Please take the few minutes necessary to elect your town leadership and vote yes on the proposed zoning ordinances. And please take the three or four hours necessary to attend town meeting and make the decisions that will affect the Town's future and yours.

Thank you for trusting me to serve you since 2010.
Sandra Gillis

Selectman Farewell Redux

Sean McElhiney

In March, 2007, I became a Selectman. In my three years in office, I learned a lot and began – merely began – to understand how involved a job being part of the governing body of Richmond can be.

When my term expired in March, 2010, I vowed (see my article "Fifteen Things I Learned As A Selectman" in the March 2010 *Rooster*) that I was done with local government. Alas, you know how these things sometimes go: "the best laid plans of mice and men oft go astray."

Last September, Selectmen Sandra Gillis and Deb Boncal invited me to return to Town Hall to fulfill the final six months of the term that had earlier been vacated by Lori Scanlon, who moved out of town, then filled by Marie Knowlton, who also had to vacate the seat when she moved out of town. After some deliberation, I agreed to accept the invitation.

The Selectmen's office I returned to in 2012 is much different than the one I left in 2010. Physically roomier, the office is also home to a much more efficient governing body. Each



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week's agenda is clear, discussion is concise, and hours spent on minutiae has given way to a disciplined decision-making process that leads more often than not to actual decisions. This has much to do with Chairman Gillis's business experience, I have to believe, and her devotion to duty.

Sandra Gillis is the most attentive local government official I have had the privilege of working with. She treats her job as Chairman of the Board of Selectman as if it pays \$1500 a week, not \$1500 a year. She communicates openly and equally with everyone who comes into the Selectmen's office and works tirelessly to make sure every decision she makes is the right decision. But – most important in my opinion – she's not afraid to make mistakes. This is a remarkable quality, bred from earned confidence.

Selectman Boncal's professionalism is also admirable. Her own business experience and current work with two Police Departments in neighboring towns is apparent in her attention to detail and efficient work.

I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve with these two women; the Town of Richmond is lucky to have them. Please vote on March 12 and attend Town Meeting on March 16. With that, once again, I am done.

Candidate Letter for Selectman 1 year

My name is Wes Vaughan and I am running for the one year term of Selectman in the Town of Richmond. I have three years of experience serving the people of Richmond as Selectman from 2008-2010.

There are two reasons for running this year. Number one is in my opinion the office of Selectman is too important for a candidate to run unopposed. Reason number two is due to the fiscal direction this town has taken. We have always been a pay as we go town, with the Fay Martin bridge project we have begun to bond items that we can't afford. This year there is a warrant article to bond for purchasing land. The town owns enough land we don't need more. The bond of \$113,000.00 could be better spent fixing the buildings we have now or eventually building a new or expanded town office. Bonding is the same as deficit spending. Don't we have enough of that in our state and federal government?

I want also to take this opportunity to ask voters to vote YES on the updated zoning amendments. The town voted to pay for these changes two years ago. Last year it was not very

clear as to what we were to vote on. This year the zoning amendments are long but I believe they are clearer, the only real changes are the wording to make them align to the state's RSAs.

Please come out and vote on March 12. I would appreciate your vote, but even if you do not vote for me, come out and cast your vote and be heard. Thank you for your support.

Outstanding Woman!

Michele Connor

Ann Connor, business coach of AdviCoach has been nominated as one of the New Hampshire Business Review (NHBR) 2013 Outstanding Women In Business. Ann has dedicated herself to coaching and guiding business owners to reach their goals. Her continued efforts were recently recognized by NHBR as a nominee for the award. Her work throughout New Hampshire and New England has reached more than 125 non-profit organizations and businesses. Ann's strategic planning expertise creates improved profitability, greater efficiency and cohesive teams for business owners, boards of directors and entrepreneurs. So much so that Ann, along with business partner Michelle Connor, has now become part of the training team that certifies the new AdviCoaches coming on-board across the U.S. Congratulations Ann!

NH Ethics

Jean Tandy

Luke 16:13 *"No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other; or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."*

By NH Law, Ethics are the rules of conduct of all public officials and employees of government. Since New Hampshire is not a "home rule" state, towns are not granted powers directly from the NH Constitution and must receive authority to act through powers expressly granted to them by the legislature and such as are necessarily implied or incidental thereto. Conflict of interest is one breach of law that can raise charges of unethical behavior. In a 1968 NH court case, it was written: A conflict of interest arises "when a public officer votes on a matter in which he has a direct personal and pecuniary interest" which is "immediate, definite, and capable of demonstration; not remote, uncertain, contingent and speculative..." *Atherton v City of Concord*, 109 N.H. 164.

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The Court in Atherton explained: *"The reasons for this rule are obvious. A man cannot serve two masters at the same time, and the public interest must not be jeopardized by the acts of a public official who has a personal financial interest which is, or may be, in conflict with the public interest."*

Exit Nettles, Enter Dudgeon

Frank Behrens

It must have been a challenge to the writers of the "Midsomer Murders" series to have one actor replace a very popular one and have the audience accept him. Thus it was when John Nettles left his role as DCI Tom Barnaby, along with wife and daughter, and went on a long vacation. His cousin DCI John Barnaby (Neil Dudgeon) –you see, the last name lingers on – is transferred from Brighton to the Midsomer territory, and he now is in charge of Tom's longtime assistant DS Ben Jones (Jason Hughes).

Acorn Media has released "Midsomer Murders, Set 21," on 4 DVDs, each running 93 minutes. But will the viewers accept Dudgeon? That is well handled.

Here is the clever part. Jones simply resents his new boss and is grudgingly willing to give him a chance. In the first episode, "Death in the Slow Lane," none of the residents approve of this outsider on principle alone. They are so nasty (here is the clever part of the clever part) that because we cannot identify with the local nasties, we by default begin to sympathize with John Barnaby.

It was necessary that John be unlike his cousin. So in the first episode, he talks to his dog. In the second, "Dark Secrets," his wife Sarah (Fiona Dolman) joins him and takes her job as

the head of a school. As expected, she is just another pesky outsider taking over local affairs. She is also not such a housewife type as was Tom's wife and is a strong character.

Dudgeon is fine in the role. He does lack the humorous sparkle that Nettles showed for twenty seasons; but he has other character traits that make up for it. After all, the worse thing would be a Nettles imitation!

As I keep saying about all police shows, the plots are not very original. The third episode, "Echoes of the Dead," is concerned with murders that seem to copy-cat some of long ago. After watching so many similar plots, I found the murderer easy to spot halfway through.

I think it was an "Inspector Morse" in which his young assistant had to join a Masons group to find a murderer. Here, in "The Oblong Murders," DS Jones has to join a cult dedicated to loving co-existence with coital benefits. He does not find it easy. Yet another overused plot. But very well done.

Once one gets used to the new lead, this series should please even the staunchest supporter of the former Barnaby.

Walk With Me

Betsy Pearsall

So, here I sit, trying to invoke my Muse, to inspire me to write the BEST fundraising letter EVER. What can I say to you that will inspire you to support me in my efforts to walk in another "3Day for the Cure"? Will I shock and frighten you with statistics? Entertain you with stories of my training? Tug at your heart strings with stories of women and men who have fought the valiant fight against cancer, some who have lost that battle, but others who have survived and live life to its fullest?

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I don't know...I don't know what it will take to make you reach for your checkbook or credit card. I don't know magic words I can write that will inspire you to support me with a donation toward finding a cure. I don't know what your experiences have been and how my words will touch you. I don't know...

What I do know are my experiences.

This will be "3Day Walk" Number 8. I've walked in Seattle, Boston, DC, Dallas, San Diego, Phoenix, San Francisco and now on to Cleveland. Four hundred and twenty miles walked, not counting the training that I do to make sure that my body and soles are ready for this adventure. I have met a multitude of strangers along the roads who have quickly become cherished friends. Family, friends and perfect strangers have raised \$23,847 (and counting!) so that we can say the five-year relative survival rate for all women with breast cancer found at a local stage (cancer that has not spread) in the U.S. is 99%.

What I do know is that this event called "The 3Day" has brought meaning to my life, and hope for my future.

There's Bernice a friend's grandmother. Today she is 98 years young and a 37-year Breast Cancer Survivor. There was the waitress at the diner, who saw my pink ribbon pins, put her hand on my shoulder and asked if I was a survivor. When I said "No. All I do is walk." she replied, "Well, you've helped save my life." There was a young woman, who told me she was scared to have a mammogram, because she was scared to know the results. I asked, "Aren't you scared not to know?" She came back the next day and said she was glad she did it. So am I.

What I do know is my heart.

My heart is full of love, respect, awe and sadness. My tears flow freely. My emotions ebb and flow from joy and elation to fear and sadness in an unpredictable unending circle. I love to hear the stories. *Your stories.* It is in these stories, these histories, that I feel the connection to my "3Day" family. I carry them with me and reflect on them as the miles go by. My emotions run high during the days, weeks and months leading up to the "3Day." I wish I had time to hear every story. I reflect on walks of the past, think about my reasons for doing it again. Talk to me... Tell me your story.

Again this year, I would like to offer to have those you honor "Walk With Me." Last year, I wrote their names on slips of paper and inserted them into my shoes, so that they traveled every step of the way with me. I know that this meant a great

deal to many of my supporters, and I would be honored to do this again.

Please join me in my efforts to help find a cure by making a donation. There are several ways that you can do this. By going directly to my website, www.the3day.org/goto/betsynh, you can donate on line. You can download a donation form while you're there if you wish, and mail your donation. Or you can send your donation, in the form of a check made out to the "Susan G Komen 3Day" to me at 20 Old Homestead Highway, Richmond, NH, 03470, and I will be happy to send it in for you.

If donating is not possible for you at this time, I thank you for your warm wishes and unwavering support of my efforts. I fully understand that each of us has our own circumstances and obligations, so if you cannot support me financially, I welcome your kind words, loving energy and prayers. And send this letter along to anyone you can! In Lightness and in Love.

"Oneness in Divine Love."

Bonnie McCarthy *As Written in the Sacred Scriptures of the World

Baha'i: *"Lay not on any soul a load which you would not wish to be laid on you."* (Baha'u'llah LVXI)

Buddhism: *"That which you do not desire for oneself, do not do to others."* (The Staff of Wisdom)

Christianity: *"Do unto others what you would have them do unto you."* (Matthew 7:12) *"Love your neighbor as yourself."* (Luke 10:30)

Confucianism: *"Do not impose on others what you yourself do not desire."* (Analects XII.2)

Hinduism: *"Do nothing to your neighbor which you would not have your neighbor do to you."* (Mahabharata)

Islam: *"Do to all men as you would they should do to you, and reject for others what you would reject for yourself."* (Mishkar-el-Masabih)

Jainism: *"A man should wander about treating all creatures in the world as he himself would be treated."* (Sutra-krit-anga)

Judaism: *"What is hurtful to yourself do not to your fellow man."* (Talmud)

Sikhism: *"Treat others as you would be treated yourself."* (Adi Granth)

Zoroastrianism: *"Do not do to others that which is not well for oneself."* (Shayast-na-shayast 13.29)

*This information was transcribed with permission from the Global Dharma Center web site, (www.globaldharma.org), and found in the "All About GDC" section.



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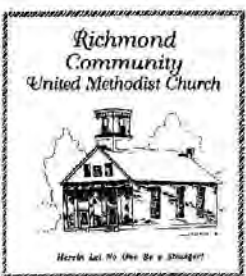
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Social Hour

Pam Goodell

What a great turnout we had at the first social hour in February! Twenty people mixed, mingled, chatted and had a good time getting to know each other. There was coffee, hot chocolate, tea (thank you Robert L.), and cookies (thank you Phyllis R.). The next social hour will be Friday, March 8, from 10 – 11 am at the Vet's Hall. Maybe we will be talking Spring by then. Hope to see you there. We have tentatively scheduled another Social Hour on April 5.

Hazardous Waste

Russ Provost

The Spring 2013 Household Hazardous Waste collection for Richmond residents: Hours of collection: 8 am to 1 pm.

March: 16, 20, 30

April: 13, 17, 27

May: 11, 15, 25

June: 8, 12, 22

All collections will be held at the Keene Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility located adjacent to the Keene Recycling Center, 55 Old Summit Rd, off of Rte. 12 N heading toward Walpole. For information www.keene.nh.us/public-works/recycling-center/hazardous-waste

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Frank P. D'Orio

John Boccalini

Frank Pasquale D'Orio, age 86, of Stratford, Ct. died Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2013 at Lord Chamberlain, Stratford, CT. Born Sept. 6, 1926 in Norwalk CT, Frank was the son of the late Frank J. and Mary (Dugan) D'Orio, and the husband of the late Doris (Andresen) D'Orio.

He served in the Navy during WWII and the Army National Guard in the Korean War. Frank was a fire fighter and Fire Inspector with the Norwalk Fire Dept. from 1953-1978. He enjoyed all outdoor activities.

Frank and his wife Doris moved to Richmond, NH in 1979 and lived on Fish Hatchery Rd. for 26 years before returning to Stratford, CT. Both he and his wife were involved in many town functions. Frank served as Selectman in the early 1980s and as Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief in the late 80s and early 90s. In 1992, both Frank and Doris helped found the Richmond Seniors.

Frank is survived by his son, Frank A. D'Orio and his wife Anne of Stratford, five loving grandchildren and nine cherished great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his daughter, Linda Jean D'Orio and a sister, Mildred Bogdany.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Matthew Church, Norwalk, CT, Jan. 19, 2013 as well as a private burial. Memorial donations may be made to: Swim Across The Sound c/o St. Vincent's Medical Center, 2800 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06606. For the online guestbook, please go to www.magnfuneralhome.com.

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Selectman (3yr)

Selectman (1yr)

Planning Board (3yr)

(Vote for 2)

Trustee of Trust Funds (3yr)

Library Trustee (3yr)

Treasurer (3yr)

Cemetery Trustee (3yr)

Carol Jameson

Sandra Gillis

Deborah R. Duffy

Norma Thibodeau

Terri O'Rorke

Bonnie McCarthy

L'Oreal Schmidt

(Open seat)

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VOTE YES ON PROPOSED ZONING

Article 33: 2011 Town Meeting raised
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March
2013
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VOTE

July 2011-Dec 2011: Planning & Zoning boards met jointly 10
times volunteering their time to bring into compliance
Richmond zoning ordinances.

March 2012: After two public hearings in Dec. 2011 the ballot
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Summer 2012: Sub Committee met to determine how to
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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

Thurs. 9 AM – noon

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:

Tues. 8 AM – 4 PM, Thurs. 8 AM – 7 PM

Sat. 8 AM – 5 PM

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

Fire Warden: Ed Atkins, 239-6337

Selectmen – 239-4232

Town Clerk – 239-6202

Tax Collector – 239-6106

Road Agent: Mark Beal 903-2184

Visit town on-line: <http://richmond.nh.gov>

The Richmond Rooster

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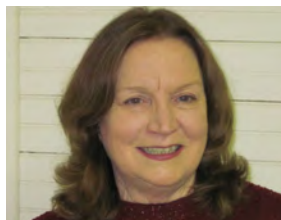
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Selectman - Three Year Term



Bill Daniels



Carol Jameson



Doug Bersaw

Selectman - One Year Term



Sandra Gillis



Wes Vaughan

Meet Your Candidates - Ask Them Questions

CANDIDATES NIGHT - MARCH 7, 2013 7 P.M. - VETERANS HALL

This year there are three candidates, Bill Daniels, Carol Jameson and Doug Bersaw, seeking the one open position for selectman (three-year term). There are also two candidates, Sandra Gillis and Wes Vaughan, seeking the one open position for selectman (one-year term). Our hope is to help you make a more informed decision on who you will vote for at the Town elections on **March 12, 2013, 11a.m.-7 p.m at the Vets Hall**. The same questions were asked of each candidate and were answered by the candidates themselves. Doug Bersaw was the only candidate who did not submit any answers but did send an email stating "Just print your article without any response from me."

IT WILL BE A CLOSE RACE AND YOUR VOTE WILL COUNT!

1. What inspired you to run for the BOS?

BD - There seems to be a changing of the guard in the selectmen's office, and I'm hoping to bring longevity to the office. I have lived in Richmond for about 20 years and have no plans to relocate.

CJ - I am retired and I want to use my experience, knowledge and legal training in public service, and this is an opportunity for me to give something back to the community.

SG - I have served on the Select Board for the past three years which has inspired me to continue to serve Richmond for one more year.

WV - I enjoyed my first 3 years as selectman and would like to return.

2. Have you attended any BOS meetings during the past few months? If so, how many?

BD - No

CJ - I have been attending the BOS meetings for the last three months. I've also attended meetings of the Planning Board, the Building Committee, and Emergency Services.

SG - As an elected member of the Select Board, I have attended nearly all the weekly meetings, and all public hearings, joint meetings, budget hearings and town meetings. in the past three years.

WV - I keep up with what is going on in town in various ways. I am an alternate on the Planning Board and volunteered for the Capital Improvement Plan committee. I am very familiar

with what is going on in town, and I have only been out of office for 2 years.

3. What changes would you like to see in our municipal government, and what goals would you hope to achieve?

BD - I would like to see more involvement in three major areas – fire, police and highway.

CJ - It would be great if we can find additional sources of revenue, other than property taxes, to fund town projects. I am researching grant writing and grant opportunities. We could also set up an organized way to channel local resources to help people in town who are particularly hard hit financially, from something as simple as setting up a Christmas fund coat and gift drive, or something as elaborate as setting up a 501-c-3 organization to solicit donations (including grants and in-kind labor and services) and channel them to residents needing help. If there is an interest, I can help with the legal work in setting up the non-profit vehicle and researching what other towns have done to make it happen.

SG - Richmond has policies in place now to guide the Selectmen and staff but issues still arise. The professional, legal, statutory aspects of governance in this office need to be maintained so that a high quality of service is given to each and every person visiting the Selectmen's office. My goal is that every official, every employee and volunteer has the support needed to get relevant training to attain that service.

WV - I would like to see the town continue to be fiscally

responsible, plan for the future and not spend money we do not have.

4. How do you envision Richmond in 3 – 5 years?

BD - I would like to see a 20-year plan for our town roadways. I would also like to see clean/green industries or businesses to help with the tax base.

CJ - I see Richmond coming together more and more as a community. Our town events bring us together as neighbors; the garden tour and harvest pot-luck dinner, bringing the AIDS quilt to town and the morning coffee hour. I support these events and will look for new ones.

SG - I can envision Richmond remaining the small historic town we love, the business community continuing to flourish with our many home occupations, home businesses and cottage industries. I can see new community playgrounds and walking trails that link municipal offices creating a virtual village green, and a community taking pride in their surroundings and caring about its neighbors, supporting each other and respecting our differences.

WV - I would like to see the town return to what it used to be with everyone working together to build a better Richmond.

5. What kind of background beliefs and life experiences will you bring with you to the position, and how do you feel they will help you as a Selectman?

BD - I have had my own businesses including a road construction business doing work for the City of Keene for a short time. I have had 15 years in law enforcement and about 12 years as a part-time fireman.

CJ - I was a lawyer, licensed in NY State, for 25 years, first in a law firm and then as an officer in a large corporation. I worked in advertising for 10 years before going to law school. My legal training enables me to understand and interpret statutes and other sources of legal responsibilities, and to approach issues fairly and objectively. My work experience has taught me to work with others, as a team, in tackling large projects. And raising a family while pursuing a career has taught me that working hard on matters that have meaning to me is fun and rewarding.

SG - I am a Democrat, with progressive views. I am a fiscal conservative with an understanding that education and social programs are necessities that nurture civilization. I try to treat everyone as I would want to be treated. I try to investigate all sides of any issue and select the pieces that work for me. I recognize that perspective matters. I believe everyone should exercise their right to vote and should be an advocate for their positions. I believe no one has the right to tell anyone else how to live their life, and we have a civic responsibility to care about health and safety and welfare of all. I believe we all have to obey the rules – and work to change them if we don't like them.

WV - I have lived in Richmond for over 24 years, and I have run my own business for 18 years. I am familiar with town politics, budgeting, how to deal with people fairly, and working long hours to complete tasks.

6. How much time will you be committing to the BOS position if you're elected?

BD - I am willing to commit to whatever is needed to get the job done.

CJ - I am retired, so I can commit as much time as it takes. There is a lot to do and a lot to learn in order to get it done correctly.

SG - The Selectman position requires as much time as you can give because there is always one more thing to do. The issues we consider are unpredictably varied. It's necessary to know or look up the enabling statutes or applicable regulations and policies or conduct extensive research before taking action. I have made time to do all this in the past and will do so in the future.

WV - Having been in the position, I understand that the time spent working for the town is more than one night a week when the office is open to the public. Being a business owner, I am able to arrange my time to work on town issues.

7. What do you feel are the 3 most critical issues facing Richmond today?

BD - School taxes – Property Taxes – Town equipment

CJ - Keeping taxes down while funding town services. Federal and state governments are cutting services and funding; jobs are scarce; and paying property taxes is becoming harder for those who are hard hit by the economy. In Richmond buildings need extensive repairs and maintenance. We may see increased costs in our welfare expenses as these are costs for services mandated by NH statute. Yet we can't tax ourselves out of hearth and home. We will have to continue to operate as leanly and efficiently as possible, and to anticipate the big ticket items and reserve for them over time. I am hoping that grants and volunteer services can help. Another issue is the status of businesses in town that may be classified as junkyards under NH statutes. Most important is the need for open, fair, effective, responsive and accountable town government.

SG - Shrinking tax base; Increasing costs to maintain infrastructure; A community in need of cohesive focus.

WV - There are many, but most important is the economy. This economic downturn is adversely affecting everyone. It shows in the amount of property taxes that are not being collected. We truly have to live within our means until the economy turns around. This means at the same time finding ways to accommodate the town infrastructure. And the third issue is keeping Richmond as a rural environment with low taxes to encourage young families to settle here.

ITS YOUR TOWN - VOTE

Town Elections 3/12/2013 - 11a.m. - 7 p.m. Vets Hall

Town Meeting 3/16/2013 - 9 a.m. Vets Hall

8. Our Town officers have been subjected to criticism from as well as to lawsuits filed by a small group of highly vocal residents. How will you deal with these individuals?

BD - I would treat everyone fairly. If something is illegal or outside the guidelines of town ordinances, I would respond (within the guidelines of the law) to try to bring about changes.

CJ - We can do our best to run our town government in an open, fair, and objective manner, mindful and educated about our legal responsibilities. But we can still be sued and we have to remember that the individual or organization that is suing is exercising their legal right, even when we are the target of the lawsuit.

SG - With respect and fairness, I recognize that anyone can sue anyone at any time. However, it is frustrating that lawsuits seem to be the preferred substitute to trying to work things out through discussion, listening, negotiation and compromise. If a mistake has been made, it should be corrected. It's cheaper to talk about it before going to court.

WV - When elected to office, one should expect criticism; lawsuits are part of the territory. When doing town business all citizens need to be treated fairly and with respect.

9. Do you have any conflict of interest with any organization or individual that will prevent you from making any decisions? If "Yes," what are they?

BD - No

CJ - No

SG - No

WV - No.

10. Do you have any ideas how to encourage young families to settle and stay in Richmond?

BD - Strive to lower the tax base to attract young families to settle in Richmond.

CJ - Generally work, schools and family dictate where people live, which is not under the control of the Selectmen. That being said, I do feel that bringing the community together will be a positive factor. If we can harness the incredible energy of our volunteers, maybe we can develop more family-friendly resources like our library and town beach, maybe build a park on town owned land, using a combination of grants, volunteer labor, and donations. We can also ask families with small children for ideas.

SG - Good schools, among other things, bring in young families but Richmond does not have a public school. However, we do have families, with young children, and we need to encourage them to become more involved in the town. Time is an issue for families with young children, so volunteer positions must be tailored to fit their needs. We've got a great town beach and a fabulous library, and a recreation department with fun ideas and events. All this must be supported. However, we do not have the amenities that make life possible or easy for any family, Some areas still lack availability of high speed internet, and we are a

distance away from nearby health care facilities, schools, grocery stores, drug stores, restaurants, and gas stations.

WV - Keeping Richmond as a rural environment with low taxes is the best way to encourage young families to settle here. That is why we settled here.

11. Do you personally have any hostility toward any of the present Town Officers?

BD - No

CJ - No

SG - No.

WV - No, as a town official those feelings are left outside

12. Can you list 3 important issues which all towns share and need to address in order to move forward in a positive way?

BD - Department budgets – Frivolous lawsuits – Cost of doing business for the town.

CJ - The economy is placing a strain on towns. The federal and state government are cutting services and funding and property taxes are becoming harder to pay. Another issue for towns comes from lawsuits, since towns covered by insurance are particularly susceptible to a suit. Lawsuits can intimidate people from undertaking responsibilities that might get them sued even when the cost is ultimately covered by insurance. Lastly, small towns in rural New Hampshire face particular problems, due to our smaller population, rugged terrain, and lack of major employers and highly-valued properties. We have difficulty with issues such as providing internet to all residents who want it. We must work together as a town and with other towns to craft solutions.

SG - Funding for running town government, including highways, infrastructure, and personnel; sound policies and procedures that guide all aspects of governance and municipal responsibilities; clear zoning regulations based on excellent planning and detailed enforcement mechanisms.

WV - Keep taxes down - Maintain infrastructure - Plan for the future.

13. What will you do to try to improve the situation of houses and outbuildings in obvious stages of decay, as well as yards filled with debris and abandoned vehicles that contribute to lowered property values?

BD - Review town ordinances to see what applies and approach each situation accordingly.

CJ - We have a zoning ordinance that addresses structures destroyed by fire or other means. A NH statute has regulations to remedy the hazardous conditions. With respect to junkyards, our current zoning ordinance doesn't allow junkyards-- an approach which isn't working and is probably inconsistent with NH statutes. The town will have to come to grips on a way to handle this. Junkyard businesses exist. They fill a need for the community and for the people who make a living through them, but they create problems if they leech pollutants, create a fire or other hazard, or if they

are unscreened so as to be unsightly and lowering property values for the neighborhood. The most common approach seems to be to license junkyards and thereby regulate the features that create legitimate problems for the town. I am happy to look into it and help formulate an approach that works for our town..

SG - Private property is private property. This can be handled when a complaint is made with nuisance regulation, citation and fines for legal violation, but would prefer it if neighbors respected neighbors. Fencing and other forms of keeping private collections from public view are available and should be employed. I think that if these are 'recycling' businesses they should be licensed, particularly those involving motor vehicles or equipment that may contaminate the ground water. Junkyards are not allowed in town and yet town has many thriving junkyard type businesses. This is the one thing I had hoped, and still hope, to tackle. I say to them all – build fences – they make good neighbors.

WV - As much as I would like to clean up such sites, it is just not that easy. Also, in order to act the BOS needs to have a person or group of people file a complaint in order to pursue these issues. It is not up to the BOS to drive around town looking for such sites.

14. Can you list positive things about our town which you would nourish if elected to the Select Board?

BD - The establishment of town ordinances -the Planning Board; town social activities; events like the firemen's BBQ

CJ - There is so much I love and value in this town, which I would nourish, many of which are referenced in my responses to the other tougher questions.

SG - The fierce independence of Richmond residents combined with their strong sense of responsibility for their neighbor must be supported, and being treated fairly is a very important aspect of that support. Most people recognize that being treated fairly doesn't always mean getting what you want. Richmond is a lovely town with so many ways to enjoy our recreational resources, and I'd like to see these resources made more accessible to residents and the non-resident public. Richmond is a historic town, and I'd like to see a renewed commitment to conservation of that history in

its many forms.

WV - There are too many positives to list here, but I would continue to nourish the rural character, the open style of government, and friendly nature of our town

15. Do you see yourself as a team player as both a member of the select board and with other boards in town?

BD -Yes – my tenure in law enforcement taught me the value of being a team player.

CJ - Yes, there is no other way to get things done.

SG - Yes. Each board has its own portfolio, which overlaps in many ways with other board portfolios. We are one town and where possible should work together to insure the town is the best that it can be. Disagreements occur, but they can be worked out with fairness and the town's best interests as the guide.

WV -Yes, although I may not agree with everything that is discussed, there is always common ground to be found and a solution to all issues. And as a town official or anything else I do, I am always a team player. We are all part of the same team.

16. What is there about Richmond that makes you proud to live here?

BD -Location and size of the town – people –everyone seems to know everyone and that can be a positive factor in a small town.

CJ - We moved here for the natural beauty, the slower more reasonable pace of life, and the less materialistic values more common to life in a small town. We are so happy to be here for all these reasons still, and above all for the people we have met - their strength and resilience; their sense of community and how they help their neighbors; their volunteerism; their wit and wisdom. It is truly a remarkable place.

SG - That we keep trying – that we love the town, no matter how frustrated we are, that more people seem to be interested in serving the town.

WV -I always wanted to live out in the woods with plenty of land. I have been here over 24 years and Richmond is still as rural as it was then. It's a nice town filled with great people, and plenty of room to explore and enjoy.

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