



DECEMBER 2015

Selectmen's Office Property Tax Update

Property Taxes Due December 11

The 2015 property tax rate has been set at \$28.35 per \$1,000. You will have received your tax bill by the time you read this. Taxes are due on or before December 11. We ask everyone to pay on time since the funds are needed for our bills that come due in December – the largest being the Cheshire County tax payment due from Richmond in the amount of \$324,224.00. Under state law, delinquent taxes are subject to interest and penalties – the interest charge begins at 12% and increases to 18% shortly thereafter when the lien process starts.

More about Taxes

Our tax rate is a function of several variables: total expenditures, non-tax revenues, and the assessed value of the town being the most significant. It is expressed as an amount per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Expenditures include the town's portion of the school tax, the town's portion of the county tax, and the town appropriations for the year that are approved at the March Town Meeting. The largest expenditure is always the town's portion of the school budget.

The assessed valuation of the town is significant because it produces the tax base from which the expenditures are paid. A larger tax base means a lower tax rate. Higher market values for properties raise the assessed valuation of the town, which lowers the tax rate. Factors such as current use property assessments, and tax exemptions and credits, reduce the town's total assessed valuation and therefore increase the tax rate.

The tax year starts on April 1, which is the date on which property value is assigned for purposes of determining the tax bill for that year. Richmond bills taxes semiannually, typically in July and December. The first tax bill is an estimate calculated as one half of the prior year's tax rate, since the current year's tax rate is not determined until later in the year, usually in November. The second tax bill is calculated using the actual current tax rate, minus the amount of the first bill.

For example, the 2015 tax bill we received this month

was calculated using assessed values as of April 1, 2015, the 2015 tax rate that was set in November 2015, school and county taxes set and communicated to the town this November, and town appropriations approved in March 2015, reduced by the amount of the July 2015 tax bill.

2015 Tax Rate

The 2015 tax rate is an increase of \$2.40 over last year's rate of \$25.95, the largest portion of which is due to an increase in our school tax rate from \$13.24 to \$15.11. School taxes are always the largest component of our total tax bill. The increase in the school tax is explained in another article in this issue of *The Rooster* from Neil Moriority, Richmond's representative on the Monadnock Regional School District Budget Committee. In short, our town's proportion of total school enrollment by number of students increased this year due primarily to declining enrollment by numbers of students in other towns. In addition, state aid to schools decreased from last year. County taxes also increased from \$3.24 in 2014 to \$3.43 in 2015.

2015 Town Taxes

The 7.7% increase in the town taxes from \$6.98 to \$7.52 reflects the appropriations approved in March. In addition to the usual operating and capital expenditures that we see on the town warrant, there were several non-recurring large appropriations approved at the 2015 town meeting, such as the court-ordered Fay Martin Road upgrade, the purchase of the property adjacent to the Vet's Hall, and the town's matching funds for the Four Corners Store clean-up grants.

The road upgrade is now finished and, as reported in last month's *Rooster*, it is a beautiful job and will save on road (and car) maintenance costs in the future. Our road agent Mark Beal, with the help of John Holman, has been resourceful in finding savings in labor and material. The cost is dramatically lower than the engineers' estimates.

The purchase of the property next to the town hall is also complete and the house is up for sale on a smaller subdivided parcel. The town borrowed \$114,900 for the

purchase. We will repay one fourth of the loan next month and the revenues from the future sale of the house will more than cover the remainder of the loan. We will keep the rest of the acreage next to the Vet's Hall for future expansion, since all of our other suitable town-owned properties are on parcels that are too small for this purpose.

The approved appropriation for \$64,000 to be placed into a Matching Grant Fund – Expendable Trust Fund was another significant 2015 expense. We used \$20,000 of this amount for the 20% town match required to receive a grant of \$100,000 from the Capital Region Development Council to remove the hazardous materials from the Four Corners Store, a project that is progressing well and should be completed next month. Together with all the other state and federal grants obtained to clean up the ground pollutants, to research, and to create a business plan for the store's return, we will, by next year, have a clean site suitable for sale to a future owner of a corner store, free of the pollutants and hazardous waste that would have otherwise made it impossible to market successfully. We thank Southwest Regional Planning, the Brownfields Program and the Richmond Community Development Association for their work in making this possible.

We have also put aside \$44,000 in this expendable trust fund towards the partial funding of the 20% town match required for the Transportation Alternatives Grant of \$670,000, as was approved at town meeting. This grant would pay for the construction of recreational pathways connecting municipal buildings. The application is due in 2017. The town applied for the grant in 2014 and we were advised that we would have been awarded the grant had the grant funding source not been depleted. We were advised to apply again in 2017. As worded on the 2015 warrant, the appropriation lapses and the funds are returned to the town's general fund in 2017 if the town is not awarded the grant.

Town Clerk's Office

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

Dec. 24, Thu

CLOSED for Christmas Eve

Dec. 31, Thu

OPEN 9 am to noon

At the Secretary of State's Office

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

Big things can happen from one idea, from someone who might be long forgotten, though the effects continue to this day.



In 1913, House Bill 430 was presented by Stephen A. Bullock, Democratic Representative from Richmond. The bill was passed into law in May of that year. The intent of this bill was "to provide for the Election of Delegates to National Conventions by Direct Vote of the People." As a result of the passage of this bill, New Hampshire held its first presidential primary election on March 14, 1916. And thirty-six years later, in 1952, the voters began to choose by direct vote, rather than through delegates, the candidates for president.

Soon New Hampshire voters will once again go to their polling places and cast their ballots for the candidate of their choice. We each have a say. We each have a vote. October 29, 2015 was a spectacular day. The foliage was

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brilliant in its last breath. Clouds raced across a blue sky. Later that morning, Bill Gardner, NH Secretary of State, held a press conference in Room 204 of the Capital Building, in recognition of the 100th year anniversary of the NH Presidential Primary. In that small room crowded with people who spilled into the hallway, at center stage there stood the very desk used by Rep. Stephen A. Bullock and other memorabilia. Also on loan, and placed beside this desk, were three original ballot boxes that were distributed by the Secretary of State's office back in 1891/1892. One of these boxes should look familiar to you. It is the very box that the Town of Richmond has used in its elections since 1892.

From November 4 and November 20, everyone who wishes to be on the ballot for the upcoming NH Presidential Primary will go to Room 204. If qualified, they will pay the required \$1000 fee and complete the paperwork to file for candidacy for President of the United States. And they will do all this on the desk that was once used by Rep. Stephen A. Bullock.

Things and Thoughts from the District

Neil Moriarty

Richmond's Portion of School Tax Increases

Richmond's portion of the average number of students (ADM or Average Daily Membership) increased by almost a full percentage point (from 8% to 8.9%). To put this in perspective, it is not a matter of more students from Richmond, but sharp declines in the number of students from Fitzwilliam and Troy. Swanzeys's portion of the district also increased by 1.2%.

Joint Budget Review for Fiscal Year (FY)-2017

For the first time in several years the Saturday Morning Joint School Board and Budget Committee Budget Review meeting was held on October 31, 2015. For even more years the School Board had a quorum at this meeting. This meeting opens the discussion on items that the school administration puts forth for consideration for FY 2016 – 2017. I am not getting much support but I would like the district to consider splitting the annual \$1.1. mil-

lion Building Warrant into two warrants spread over two years. The current building warrant is a prime example of the problem. We ask for money in March of 2015 that we will not spend until summer of 2016. Allowing for engineering, planning, and key materials purchase in year one, or about 40%; and 60% for labor and minor materials in year two. This will not reduce cost, but we will ask for tax money when it is needed.

Without Knowing the Cost – the School Board voted to add a Resource Officer in FY 2016-2017. The budget committee (without ME!!!) voted to support the idea. For those not familiar, a School Resource Officer (SRO) is a Police officer from the Town of Swanzeys; a School Security Officer (SSO) does not have to be a police officer and works for the district; furthermore, s/he (SSO) does not have the arrest capability, nor can s/he carry a weapon on school property. Please see separate article on School Security Officer Vs. School Resource Security officer.

Richmond's Bridget Van Valzah wins Coloring Contest at Market Basket. Bridget won a \$50.00 gift certificate, first place prize at Toys R Us. Bridget is a sixth grader at Cutler. Good job Bridget!

The Deliberative Session will be in February 2016 – let's see if more than six (March 2015 attendance) Richmond Residents would like a say in 70% of their Property Taxes.

Thanks for reading my article – if you have thoughts, ideas, or questions, contact me at 239-4031 or 782 Old Homestead Hwy., Richmond, or cmoriarty@ne.rr.com; Jim Carnie will also help with district items at 239-4948. I even got a couple of calls in November – glad to help.

School Security Officer (SSO)* Vs. School Resource Officer (SRO)*


Neil Moriarty

*An SSO has no arrest powers, can not carry a weapon on school property, and reports to our Administration/ School Board. An SRO is a police officer working for the town of Swanzeys.

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"YOUR NEW HAMPSHIRE LAND EXPERTS"

Having just recently hired Mr. Frank J Tarries (retired New York cop/detective) as Monadnock Regional School District's School Security Officer (SSO), there are school board members talking up a Swanzeey Police Officer as our Monadnock's School Resource officer (SRO). You can't make this stuff up – on their last vote on this topic, without knowing any cost data or particulars, our school board would have both a SSO and a School Resource Officer (SRO). It seems that every time we have a shooting at a school somewhere in our USA this happens.

Few will remember, and many would like us all to forget so they can get their way, that Monadnock has already had a gun in the school (middle/high school) incident. The incident was handled by the true hero here, our principal at the time, Daniel Stockwell. The would be SHOOTER entered a classroom threatening students with a rifle. Mr. Stockwell confronted the individual by himself and took charge of the situation. The would be SHOOTER surrendered – no shots were fired – no one was injured – no SSO or SRO existed at the time. Odds have little to do with this, but the chances are slim that we will have another gun incident at Monadnock Regional School District.

Yes, it is very tragic when children of any age are killed or hurt in one of these school attacks, ranging from Columbine (13 deaths) to Newtown (26 deaths, 20 children), or all the others before and after. However, the true fact is that a School Resource Officer has never stopped one of these attacks of a child from being killed. This goes all the way back to the 13 teens killed at Columbine CO incident sixteen years ago. Did you know that Columbine had a School Resource officer (they did)?

At Monadnock, we can not expect more from a Swanzeey cop than a New York cop. Do we want another gun on school property? Yes, if the SHOOTER shoots someone right in front of the Resource Officer, the Officer MIGHT be able to keep the number of deaths down. What if the SHOOTER decides to shoot the Resource Officer first – what will be prevented then?

Our Security Officer Mr. Tarries, an employee of our district, has both experience in the school security func-

tion from past duties on Long Island NY, and as a New York City patrolman/detective. He has more training than any Swanzeey officer can hope to obtain. Given a SRO, s/he will be a employee of Swanzeey (not Monadnock) and will be selected by Swanzeey Selectmen not our Administration/School Board. Chances are slim that the Swanzeey officer will have any related experience and/or training. At *The Rooster* submission deadline, Swanzeey had not released the cost to Monadnock; however, the cost to the district was \$87,000 annually several years ago.

We have added another assistant principal that has years of experience at Monadnock – few would believe that Ms. Lisa Spencer will not improve the situation at the middle/high school. We have a SSO that has great credentials, and is doing the job (ask administration). Let's let them do their job.

Honor Roll Students

Neil Moriarty

Congratulations to Richmond's Monadnock Honor Roll Students. The first quarter of 2015 – 2016 honor has been set. Lest you forget, only the middle/high school use the four quarter reporting. The elementary schools use a three quarter reporting system.

If your child's name should be here, you need to release the name from "Do Not Report List."

Name	Grade	Honor
Melody Ayotte	8	Honors
Hayden Budlike	7	Honors
Olivia Budzik -	9	Honors
Dylan Cashman	7	High honors
Samuel Douglas	11	Honors
Daniel Heise	10	Honors
Ethan Hughes	11	Honors
Annika Jayne	7	High honors
Tarali Kelly	11	Honors
Isabelle Leblanc	7	Honors
Autumn Love	9	Honors
Whitney Maynard	8	High honors

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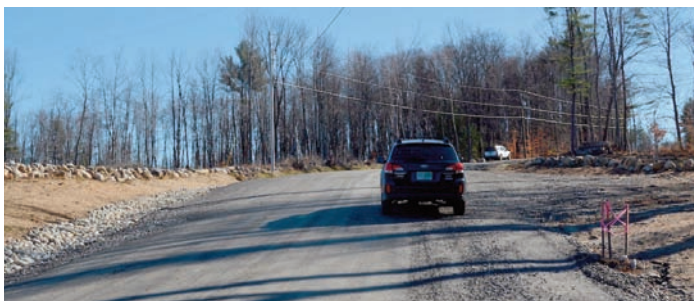
Richmond, NH

Johnathan Monson	11	High Honors
Andrew Pearsall	7	Honors
Madison Pearsall	10	Honors
Aurora Perry	7	Honors
Cassidy Purrington	8	High Honors
Breanne Swanson	10	Honors
Delaney Swanson	7	High Honors
Alicia Thayer	10	High Honors
Ashlyn Tomer	11	High Honors
Anthony Tomer Jr.	7	High Honors

Fay Martin Road

John Boccalini

The final touches were put on Fay Martin Road and it boasts to have the best 0.6 miles of road of all of the Town roads. This brings an end to the court ordered conditions placed on the town resulting from the law suit brought to the town by the Saint Benedict Center.



Cemetery Happenings in Richmond

Bill Coll

The Town of Richmond, NH has six (6) public cemeteries under its jurisdiction.

- Aldrich (left hand side of Rte.32 North just before the Swanzey town line)
- Barrus (on Barrus Road off of Whipple Hill Road)
- Benson (on Benson Road off Fish Hatchery Road)
- Middletown (next to Town Hall)
- South Cemetery consisting of Old and New section (being located on Rte. 32 South of 4 Corners)
- Earl R. Howard (being adjacent and behind the South Cemeteries)
- The Middletown, South and Earl Howard cemeteries receive regular maintenance during the April – Oct period. The Aldrich and Benson cemeteries receive maintenance, once per year and are closed to burials.

The Barrus Cemetery is also closed to burials but had not been properly maintained for a very long time. That has now been rectified. A major maintenance effort has recently been completed and it is a remarkable transformation. Under the supervision of the Cemetery Sexton, Mark Beal, contractor John Holman and a capable crew, the task was completed rapidly and on budget.



THE RICHMOND TRAMP HOUSE...REVISITED

The Richmond Heritage Commission

On **Saturday, November 28, 2015**, the newly restored Richmond Tramp House had its grand opening celebration. Built in 1914, it played a significant part in Richmond's cultural history a century ago when towns throughout New England erected one room hostels to house vagrants. Most tramp houses have since disappeared and only a small handful remain in the State of New Hampshire. Ours had fallen into serious decay, sitting in an overgrown parcel of town-owned wetland. Indeed, many residents were unaware of its existence or historic importance.

*Richmond
did it!*

dilapidated
restore the

condition, much of the building could be saved. Our intention was to tramp house exactly as it was built, adhering strictly to the Secretary of

Interior's standards for restoring historic buildings. This project is now completed, creating a mini-museum furnished to the period in its own vest pocket park. Integrated in appearance with a similar park in front of the Richmond Public Library, this small section of Richmond now comprises an attractive history center approaching the Four Corners. We will install historic signage explaining its importance next spring. ***Ours proudly becomes one of only four tramp houses in the State of New Hampshire (the others are in Weare, Grafton and Epsom) that have been, or are in the process of being restored.***



A new exhibit designed by the Heritage Commission was installed on the Richmond Public Library's "History Wall" on Saturday, November 28th. Entitled

"THE RICHMOND TRAMP HOUSE: a Town Comes Together to Preserve its History,"

it chronicles in photos and text this rewarding project, crediting the hundreds of people whose generosity and volunteerism made it possible. **Stop by the Library in the coming months to view the exhibit...and share with your children this important lesson in Richmond's cultural history.**

The pictures included with this article show the before and after. In subsequent years, Barrus will be included in the once per year maintenance schedule to maintain what has been accomplished.

The Benson Cemetery has also recently had some work done on the grave markers that had been broken over the years and on others that needed to be straightened, before they too, would succumb to the same fate. Cliff Struthers of Winchester, NH and his assistant were responsible for the refurbishment.

There are currently lots available for purchase only in the Earl R. Howard Cemetery, Sections I, II and III for Richmond residents and those with close ties to Richmond, with Section III being for green burials exclusively.

Contact any of your Cemetery Trustees for more information. Paul Morris (2018), Roger Perry (2017), Bill Coll (2016) and Mark Beal (Sexton) Trustees & Sexton

Early Literacy at the Library

Elaine Moriarty

Please join us Wednesday mornings at 10 am.

Dec. 2, Gingerbread

Dec. 9, The Mitten

Dec. 16, Littlest Bells

Dec. 23, Christmas Around the World

Dec. 30, Winter's Here

Stories, Fingerplays, Crafts, and Snacks

Library News

Trustees

The Trustees of the Richmond Library are delighted to announce the appointment of Paul Dobbs of Ashuelot as our new librarian. Paul, who until his retirement in November directed the library at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, will begin work in mid-December. Before 2001, he was the director of the archives, special collections and records management at MassArt. He earned his B.A. at Boston University and an M.A. from the University of Massachusetts Boston. We are thrilled to have someone of his qualifications take over, and we

would also like to take this opportunity to thank Susan Wyatt and Trish Newton, who have valiantly kept the library open and running in the interim.

Jan Weekes, Chair

Peter Mulhall, Treasurer

Jonathan Bloom, Secretary



Pipeline Wetlands Mitigation

John Bocalini

Conservation Commission/KM Mitigation Meeting
According to a Kinder Morgan (KM) representative, the purpose of the meeting wasn't meant to be a town presentation, but solely to discuss wetland mitigation. While they are working to avoid impacting wetlands there are

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and will be unavoidable permanent impacts on them. It is because of those impacts that a wetland mitigation plan will be developed and filed to the State for approval.

KM would like to work with the town to include local projects that would be of benefit to the town, as well as fit within the scope of the impacts resulting from the pipeline construction. Projects can include upland preservation projects, wetland restoration projects, and culvert replacement projects. Project costs should be commensurate with the dollars amount of only permanent wetland impacts along the pipeline path.

KM will prepare the mitigation plan, which would hopefully include a project that will benefit the town and one that will match the criteria set by the State. They will submit the plan to the State for review and for approval.

If the project is not approved by the State, there is alternative compensation that the town can apply for through the Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) fund. There is a formula (see attached) that the State provides to determine the amount of compensation that the permanent impact will have on the wetlands along the construction route of the pipeline. The formula is based on a combination of things: the acreage of impact, the type of impact, land value assigned to the town and certain administrative and construction costs.

KM estimates the permanent impact for Richmond to be a little less than an acre of land and the compensation amount to be approximately \$165,000.00. The estimate is based on public records and aerial data that KM has

collected. The reason for only an approximate number is because of the limited ability to perform ground surveys resulting from affected land owners denial of access to their property. Upon federal approval for construction of a pipeline, KM will be able to invoke eminent domain to seize property and do ground surveys for a more precise figure.

A town project does not have to be in the impacted area, but the closer the better. The State is looking for a hydrologic connection. It could be on the water shed. The State looks favorably to areas adjacent to conservation lands and for projects to be concluded within a reasonable schedule. The State will look for a design or proposal that has been vetted enough that the chances of success are high.

KM can give the town guidance, but the town will need to generate a project, a design, and the costs involved. KM will need all this information within 30 days

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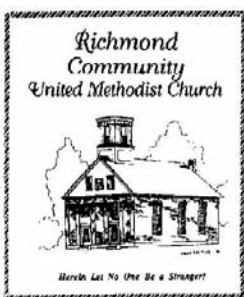
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so they can get the information to the State.

If the town decides not to do a project, the monies commensurate with the impact would go into the ARM fund and the town can apply for a project at a future date if the funds are still available.

A new path has been mapped. KM determines the path and impacts can still be changed.

More Pipeline News

John Boccalini

The following requires careful reading. But Richmond residents should know how the town and southern New Hampshire area are responding to the threat of a fracked gas NED pipeline through our communities.

NH Municipal Pipeline Coalition (NHMPC)

Richmond is part of a 15 town municipal coalition which originated in Jan. 2015. Its mission was to gather knowledge and information and work collaboratively on behalf of municipalities and the public on issues concerning the proposed Northeast Energy Direct (NED) Pipeline and its effect on our communities.

We have met with all of our federal senators and representatives and Governor to discuss their views and encourage their active participation in reviewing the project

and our reasons for opposing the pipeline.

We have also met with NH State Representatives to discuss proposed legislation regarding the pipeline and have met with industry experts including Spectra Energy, Portland Natural Gas Transmission Systems, Liberty Utilities and Kinder Morgan to gather information and understand their expressed need for additional gas and/or alternatives to NED.

We have met with Eric Tomasi, FERC Project Manager, prior to scoping meetings to discuss the FERC process and how our communities can best be represented. We are maintaining ongoing dialog with FERC, our congressional delegation and NH state officials and other organizations on issues regarding NED. We have participated in a two part business segment on WMUR to discuss reasons for our opposition to the NED Pipeline. And we have coordinated member municipality messaging at FERC Scoping Meetings held at three Southern NH locations as well, and are involved in outreach to other coalitions.

The NHMPC of which we are an active member has interviewed and selected legal counsel to represent our communities with the NH PUC, NH SEC, FERC and others during the pipeline review and approval process.

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We are now working toward a "Super Coalition" to include municipalities in MA, NH and NY. NHMPC is currently working on:

- Communications to support Representative Kuster's call for FERC to combine the many alternative proposals for additional natural gas pipeline capacity in New England into one consolidated review.
- Communications to address the documented health issues associated with Compressor Stations as substantiated in a study of Minisink, NY.
- Review and participation in the NH PUC and SEC process.
- Review of the much anticipated report from Maura Healey, MA Attorney General, on the region's electricity needs and natural gas capacity.

Power System Reliability in New England

In mid-November the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Attorney General's office released and submitted an eighty-nine page report of a recently completed study of New England electric reliability options to FERC. Entitled "*Power System Reliability in New England: Meeting Electric Resource Needs in an Era of Growing Dependence on Natural Gas*," it was prepared by Analysis Group, Inc. (referred to as the "Study"). "The Study evaluates options to address regional electricity reliability in New England, including natural gas capacity needs, through 2030." It further stated that "This submission is offered pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, as part of the pre-

filing process for the Northeast Energy Direct interstate gas pipeline project ("NED Project").

This report "presents a review of winter electric resource needs in New England and compares the potential ways to meet those needs, considering both ratepayer cost and regional carbon emissions. This is an independent report by Analysis Group, Inc. (AGI) on behalf of the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General (AGO), with funding from the Barr Foundation...AGI provides economic, financial, and business strategy consulting to leading law firms, corporations, and government agencies."

See Study at:

http://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/file_list.asp?accession_num=20151118-5058

The report states its study purpose "The Massachusetts Attorney General's Office retained AGI to conduct an independent assessment of the region's power system out to 2030 to determine the following:

1. Could the region experience power system "deficiencies" – periods during peak winter demand when the electric system may not be able to meet peak electric demand?
2. If any such deficiencies are identified, what is the full suite of practical options for maintaining power system reliability – particularly during winter months – including but not limited to electric ratepayer funding for natural gas infrastructure?

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3. What would be the relative costs to electric ratepayers associated with these options – both to implement the options and as a result of how they affect wholesale electric prices?
4. To what extent do various options help achieve or impede New England states' obligations and goals with respect to GHG emission reductions?
5. What other factors not captured in the quantitative analysis are relevant for consideration?"

In its letter to FERC the Attorney General summarized the study's conclusions. Here are pertinent excerpts from that letter:

"First, the Study finds that, under status quo conditions and using very conservative assumptions, the reliability of New England's power system can and will be maintained over time without new interstate natural gas pipeline capacity, including at the time of winter peak demand." "The Study finds that under existing market conditions, we can expect no electric sector reliability deficiency through 2030, and that no additional pipeline gas capacity is needed to meet electric reliability needs."

"Second, the Study goes beyond conservative reliability planning assumptions and assesses a "stressed system" case in which New England becomes even more reliant on natural gas-fired power than anticipated, and experiences a short-term disruption in other fuels" ... "In the "stressed system" case, the Study finds a maximum reliability deficiency of roughly 2,400 MW by 2030, with deficiencies in no more than 26 hours over 9 winter days."

"Third, the Study assesses "solution sets" to meet the reliability need identified in the "stressed system" case by comparing their respective ratepayer costs and effects on regional greenhouse gas [GHG] emissions.... Based on modeling of New England's electric prices and through 2030, the Study finds with respect to:

1. Market-driven solutions:
 - a. electricity markets would likely meet any deficiency need through the addition of dual-fuel capability at existing facilities, and/or by contracting for LNG;

- b. however, market-based solutions fail to offer outcomes consistent with the climate change programs and goals of the New England states and would not necessarily achieve the states' mass-based GHG emission goals under EPA's Clean Power Plan (CPP goals).

2. Electric ratepayer investment in new interstate natural gas pipeline capacity:

- a. the construction of additional gas capacity could address the identified stressed system deficiency, provided such capacity was fully reserved for delivery to electricity generators under coincident winter peak conditions for heating and electricity generation;

- b. investment in new gas capacity would generate significant wholesale electricity price benefits but would also require up-front ratepayer commitments; and

- c. investment in new interstate natural gas pipeline capacity fails to offer outcomes consistent with the climate change programs and goals of the New England states or with the states' CPP goals.

3. Renewable/distributed investments:

"Tennessee Gas intends to finance most of the NED Project's capacity [up to 0.8 Bcf/day] with long-term contracts with electric utilities paid for by electric ratepayers to serve natural gas fired electric generators." ... "In light of market conditions that will promote alternatives to new pipelines, the Study demonstrates that, under the status quo, there is no electric reliability deficiency that would justify electric ratepayer investment in the NED Project."

"Furthermore, the Study shows that electric ratepayer-funded gas pipeline investments like the proposed NED Project are more costly to ratepayers than comparable investments in cleaner alternatives, including energy efficiency, demand response, and firm low-carbon imports over existing transmission lines (when paired with energy efficiency)."

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company

On Friday Nov 20 at 4:30 pm a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity was submitted to FERC by the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C., et al.



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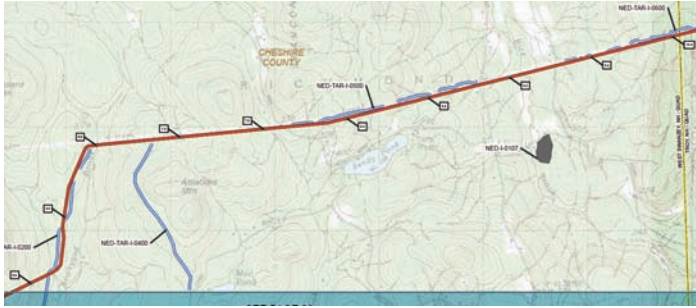


Naomi McWhirk

39 CENTRAL SQUARE, SUITE 205 • KEENE, NH 03431
603 357-3003 • 603-831-0066 (C)

See Study at:

http://elibrary.FERC.gov/idmws/file_list.asp?accession_num=20151120-5227



Press Release

Contact Roberta L. Royce, Executive Director

The Winchester Learning Center

Harold Bigelow, longtime chair of the Winchester Learning Center Board of Directors, has retired from the chairmanship. As chairman, Mr. Bigelow was instrumental in supporting, leading and implementing the building of the new Winchester Learning Center on Keene Road in Winchester. The new building has allowed the center to expand its programs and capacity.

Bigelow's leadership, quiet confidence and practical abilities have brought the Winchester Learning Center to the strongest place in its history. He will continue as Board Director. John Smith of Hinsdale will succeed him as chair.

The Winchester Learning Center is a Monadnock United Way Agency.

Richmond Christmas Party

Richmond Public Library and the
Parks and Recreation Commission

The Richmond Christmas party will be December 11th at 6:30 pm. Join us for a night of fun at the Library. We will be showing Dr. Suess' *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* featuring Jim Carey. There will be snacks and a craft. Dress festively for a chance to win a prize! Hope to see you there!

RCUMC News


Pastor Arnie Johnson

"Merry Christmas" from the Richmond Community United Methodist Church family to yours! Yes, I know that greeting is a bit early in the month of December, but we may not be able to see all of you before the 25th to give you personal greetings. We pray that all will have a very thankful, safe, and joyous Christmas holiday time.

November has been a wonderful month with another successful Holiday Fair on the 14th at the Veteran's Hall. All the display tables were filled and many great crafts were displayed and sold. It was once again a great place to pick up those super early-bird Christmas presents at prices cheaper than all the box stores on Black Friday. And, did I mention the great food for lunch? It was fantastic! If you missed the Fair and the food, we hope you can make it next year. We thank all who came to participate (vendors and buyers) in our Holiday Fair!

Entering December, we at RCUMC would like to extend a personal invitation to all in Richmond and beyond to attend our Christmas Eve service on the evening of the 24th at 7pm and listen as scriptures of the Christ Child's birth are read and hymns of adoration are sung. It is a very moving service which culminates with the lighting of the candles around the sanctuary as we all sing "Silent Night." This is YOUR community church, and we invite all to fellowship and worship as we celebrate the eve of Jesus Christ's birth. As the last few words of that beautiful hymn say, "Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

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The Church is located at 11 Fitzwilliam Road (Route 119), just east of the junction of Routes 32 and 119. All are also welcome to worship with us every Sunday (weather permitting) at 9am. Sunday School is provided for the younger folk. And, if any would like to communicate with us, the phone number is 603-239-7369 or via email at richmondcommunitymc@gmail.com.

November Update

Jim McConnell - State Representative
Cheshire 12 - Richmond & Swanzey

Until the Governor called for a Special Session to address the Opioid Epidemic, November was expected to be a relatively uneventful month in Concord. I'm not certain, given the difficulty in finding a solution to even a single aspect of the problem, that a Special Session in lieu of extensive hearings and expert testimony will be productive.

All of my Legislative Service Requests were successfully filed by the end of October deadline and will receive bill numbers and be assigned to committees for consideration beginning in January.

The Maplewood Sub-Committee has been advised that the report detailing the cost of our various options to either repair or replace the Maplewood Nursing Home is now not expected to be completed until late January. The Sub-Committee is not expected to meet again until the report is completed. The town hall-style meetings will follow the report's release. While I supported the motion to conduct the study, I did so to understand the costs

involved in each of the options the Sub-Committee has discussed over the past year. To that end, the motion was prepared by two attorneys on the Sub-Committee and quite detailed. Unfortunately, it appears the contract the County signed fails to accomplish that purpose. If so, I suspect it will represent a missed opportunity and a less than fully useful expenditure of approximately \$100,000.

I can be reached at 903-3878, which is my cell phone. I have decided it is much more efficient to use my cell phone as I'm frequently away from my desk and I'd rather take a call than return one. Please use my personal email as my legislative email is inundated from both out of state interest groups and individuals and I'd like to make sure that you, my constituents, can reach me when you want to and not get lost in the shuffle. My personal email is mcc@mindspring.com.

Out and About

John Boccacini

AREA MUSIC Calendar – ONLINE

Wed. Dec. 2, 7:30 pm – Keene State College Orchestra. Keene State College Redfern Arts Center, Alumni Recital Hall, Wyman Way. \$10/adults; \$5/seniors, students.

Wed. Dec. 2, 10 am – The Math Maniac Show. Colonial Theater. \$8 recommended for grades 3 – 5

Sat. Dec. 5, 3 pm – Keene State College Singers. Keene State College Redfern Arts Center, Alumni Recital Hall, Wyman Way. \$10/adults; \$5/seniors, students.

Sat. Dec. 5, 7:30 pm Animaterra Winter Concert. Unitarian Universalist Church, 69 Washington St., Keene. \$12 seniors \$8. Donations.

Sat. Dec. 5, 8 pm – The Weight. Colonial Theater. \$24-38

Sun. Dec. 6, 3 pm – Hollywood Holidays Greater Keene Pops Choir. Colonial Theater. \$12 adv, \$15 door.



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Sun. Dec. 6, 4 pm – Animaterra Winter Concert. Union Congregational Church, 33 Concord St. Peterborough. \$12 seniors \$8. Donations.

Wed. Dec. 9, 7:30 pm – Keene State College Jazz Ensemble. Keene State College Redfern Arts Center, Alumni Recital Hall, Wyman Way. \$10/adults; \$5/seniors, students.

Thur. Dec. 10, 7:30 pm – Percussion Ensemble. Keene State College Redfern Arts Center, Alumni Recital Hall, Wyman Way. \$10/adults; \$5/seniors, students.

Fri. Dec. 11, 6:30 pm – RICHMOND CHRISTMAS PARTY. Richmond Public Library and a craft. Dress Festively. Win a prize! Christmas movie.

Fri. Dec. 11, 7:30 pm – Keene State College Choir Concert. Keene State College Redfern Arts Center, Alumni Recital Hall, Wyman Way. \$10/adults; \$5/seniors, students.

Fri. Dec. 11, Tax Bills Due

Sat. Dec. 12, 11 am – 4 pm – 11th Annual Currier and Ives Cookie Tour. Kick off the holiday season by participating in the 11th Annual Currier & Ives Cookie tour. currierandivescookie.tour.com

Troy, Fitzwilliam, Rindge, Peterborough, Jaffrey
Sat. Dec. 12, 8 pm – A Celtic Christmas, Cherish the Ladies. Colonial Theater. \$ 21-\$35

Sun. Dec. 13, 3 pm – Special Screening of *Downton Abbey*. Episode 1 of the final season before its broadcast premiere on Jan. 3, Colonial Theater. Free

Mon Dec. 14, 6 pm – Live in HD: The Magic Flute. Colonial Theater. \$25 adult / \$22 Met or Colonial Theatre Member / \$15 student

Sat. Dec. 19, 11 am – 4 pm Christmas on the Farm. Join us for a Christmas on the Farm! The Inn at East Hill Farm, 460 Monadnock St., Troy. www.east-hill-farm.com
Phone: 603-242-6495

Sat. Dec. 19, 2 pm and 5 pm – The Nutcracker. New York Theatre Ballet. Colonial Theater. \$29.

Wed. Dec. 30, 4 pm and 7:30 pm – Recycled Percussion. Colonial Theater. \$29.50

Fitzwilliam Inn

Fall Hours: Open Wednesday – Saturday at 4pm.

Wednesday is Pub Menu and Open Mic night.

Open Sundays for Brunch 10:30am – 2pm.

December 4: Closed for Private Party

December 5: Ben Cosgrove Virtuoso Piano. 7-10 pm.

No cover

December 12: Banish Misfortune Irish Traditional Music 6-9pm. \$7 Cover

December 19: Legacy Acoustic Light Rock 8:30-11pm.

No cover

Christmas Day: Closed

December 31: New Years Eve Party. 8-12

Sunflowers Restaurant, 21B Main St. Jaffrey

Music at Brunch (B) – Sunday 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Dinner (D) – Friday beginning at 6 P.M.

Fri. Dec. 4, (D) – Walden Whitham, harp, guitar, flute, vocals

Sun. Dec. 6, (B) – Judy Blake and Ken Hamshaw, vocals, guitar

Fri. Dec. 11, (D) – Diane Ammons, piano, vocals

Sun. Dec. 13, (B) – Lefty Blue, guitar, vocals

Fri. Dec. 18, (D) – Mike Wakefield, sax

Sun. Dec. 20, (B) – Walden Whitham, guitar, harp, flute, vocals

Fri. Dec. 25, (D) – CLOSED – MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Sun. Dec. 27, (B) – Mike Wakefield, sax

Thurs. Dec. 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE. Rick and the Red-head, guitar, piano, and vocals

No cover charge ~ Tips appreciated ~ Reservations recommended!

Ongoing:

Sun. Noon – 2 pm. Music with brunch. Waterhouse Restaurant, Depot Square, P'borough

Mon. 8 pm. Contra Dancing. Nelson Town Hall, Variety of callers and musicians. Donation: \$3. Nelson

Tues 7:30 Celtic Music. Harlow's Pub, P'borough

Wed. 7 – 9 pm. Open-Mic Night At The Fitzwilliam Inn.

Wed. 3 – 6 pm. Farmers Market, P'borough Community Group, 25 Elm St. P'borough.

Wed. 9:30 pm. Open Mic Night. Harlow's Pub, P'borough

Thurs. 8 pm. Bluegrass Jam Harlow's Pub, P'borough

New Dance Sounds Need? Joseph C. Smith to the Rescue!

Frank Behrens

As the invaluable program notes for the Archeophone release, "Songs of the Night," tell us, the first decade of the last century saw a change in dance music. Gone were



the “innocent” dances of the late 19th century and in their place were the animal steps (fox trot, turkey trot, bear, the one- and two-step, and so on, of the new generation of pleasure seekers.

But this meant that new kinds of bands were needed

to play these new sounds. Big brass bands and smaller banjo ensembles lacked the intimacy needed for dance floors – and for recordings. So it was the Victor Talking Machine Company that found at the Plaza Hotel Joseph C. Smith and his ensemble as a possible solution. He was. And the history of dance music took a double turn: a new kind of music and a new kind of band to play it.

The important things to note is that people could dance to these new recordings at home or venues other than dance halls. And we know with the advantage of hindsight that the jukebox was not far in the future!

With their usual diligence, the Archeophone people have gathered 47 of Smith’s recordings onto two CDs. They are taken from discs made from 1916 to 1925 and the sound is extraordinarily good. Among the familiar titles (well, familiar to those who remember or still play the music of those times) are “Poor butterfly,” “Missouri waltz,” “Smiles,” “Love nest” (theme music for the Burns and Allen shows), “Alice blue gown,” “Three o’clock in the morning,” “Sweetheart of Sigma Chi,” and “It ain’t gonna rain no mo!”

Some of the lesser known songs are “Songs of the night,” “Money blues,” “Rose room,” “That naughty waltz,” and “Driftwood.” The Archeophone website has the entire list of this set’s contents. Several have vocalists to add to the interest.

The 32-page booklet, as is usual with Archeophone products, gives copious notes about the times, the band, and each selection, along with plenty of photographs.

For those of us who remember the change in the big bands in the 1940s, it is sad to think how much of the

swing of that era was played not to accompany the dancers (who could dance to the frenzied beat of that music?) but to show off before the crowds who went up to the podium merely to listen. I wonder what Smith would have thought.

Oh, yes. This set is a Grabbit for those who like the music and/or are interested in the history of popular music.

Quotable Quote

Terri O’Rorke

“He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree.” – Roy L. Smith, American clergyman

West from Richmond

jctandy

Neither the wind joined by a sliver of smoke
breathing along a miracle of broken rocks and forests
nor the promiscuous waters spent into two rivers
washing through the ancient Warwick Fault
as waters like great ears listening
hear new threats to their lands.

Voices voices voices from near ledges and far hills
now stunned in silent unbelieving
understand the water’s knowing
as humans too slowly slowly begin to understand
their lives now are altered forever.

The Four Corners Store – Going, Going Gone



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The Richmond Rooster

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Town Business Hours

105 Old Homestead Highway, Richmond NH 03470

Board of Selectmen:

Chris Daugherty, Carol Jameson, Kathy McWhirk

Mon. 9 AM – 7 PM (Selectmen meet at 5:30 – 7 for business

7 PM – ? for public concerns) Wed. 9 AM – 5 PM

Thurs. 9 AM – 12 NOON (unless otherwise posted)

Town Administrator: Heidi Wood

Assistant Town Administrator: Susan Harrington

Town Clerk: Annette Tokunaga

Deputy Town Clerk: Jennifer S. Thompson

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: Kerry A. Boscarino

Mon. 6 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 9 AM – 12 NOON

Tues. 2 PM – 5 PM in the week taxes are due

Planning Board:

Meetings held at Veterans Hall.

4th Tues. of the month – 7:30 PM

and 2nd Tues. if needed

Transfer Station and Recycling Facility: 239-8136

Tues. 8 AM – 4 PM, Thurs. 8 AM – 7 PM

Sat. 8 AM – 5 PM

Town Library: 239-6164. Paul Dobbs, Librarian

Tues. 3 PM – 7 PM, Wed. 9 AM – 12 NOON

Thurs. 3 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>