



The Something to Crow About **RICHMOND ROOSTER** September 2017

Notes from the Selectmen

Town Revaluation of Property

The Town of Richmond is completing its town-wide revaluation of all properties. As required by New Hampshire law, we conduct a revaluation every five years. Our contract assessing firm, Avitar, sent a letter to each taxpayer with the new assessed value of their property, with instructions on how to contest their assessment. Approximately 35 owners contested the new assessed value and Avitar held informal hearings for those properties with the owners. The new assessments will be final and will be used in calculating the 2017 tax rate reflected in the second issue tax bill sent out around December 2017.

Veteran's Tax Credit

Speaking of tax bills – the Veteran's Tax Credit increased this year, from \$100 to \$200, as approved at Town Meeting in March. Veterans will see the increase in their second tax bill this year around December with a credit of \$150. The first bill reflected the usual \$50 credit. Starting in 2018, the credit will be apportioned evenly with \$100 applied in each bill.

State Grants for Town Highway Projects

Every year the State gives local municipalities aid for local highway and bridge maintenance in the form of a Highway Block Grant. This year Richmond received \$55,168 in Highway Block Grant funds – a decrease of approximately \$1,400 from last year.

But the State legislature in July of this year made a special additional appropriation to towns for local highway and bridge aid, in the amount of approximately \$30 million. Richmond received \$48,366 – in addition to the usual annual Highway Block Grant aid. This additional amount is to be used for new highway projects – ones that were not already budgeted and approved. The town is required to hold a public hearing in order to accept and expend the unanticipated revenue (RSA 31:95-b). The Selectmen held the hearing on August 21.

The funds were apportioned to the towns relative to the State distribution of highway aid and red listed bridges. The amount of aid given to each town is available on the NH DOT website, <http://www.nh.gov/>.

Sale of Town-owned Tax Deeded Property

The Selectmen are considering selling lots of town-owned properties we received by tax deed more than three years ago. Last year, we sold two such parcels by sealed bids; the Town netted approximately \$52,000 from the sales. We will use the sealed bid process again and advertise the sale once our plans are final. The ad will be in local newspapers and on our website, and we will ask *The Rooster* to do an email blast with the information. Under these market conditions, we generally set a minimum bid at about 50% of the assessed value.

Town Beach Sign

Parks and Rec Commission did a survey and discovered that some residents do not know about our town beach, or do not know where it is located. In response to this and from other requests Parks and Rec had received, we put up a sign on Route 119, marking the road to the Town beach and stating that permits are required – information that is useful to residents who would not otherwise know it. We then received a few complaints from other residents who felt that the sign might be attracting non-residents to our beach and requesting that we remove the sign. Before we could address these newer requests, someone removed the sign. Our police are investigating the theft. Please let the Richmond police know if you have any information.

Parking Changes for Amidon Field and the Pavilion – No Parking Around the Firehouse

For the time being, parking for Amidon Field and the Pavilion will be at Four Corners. For safety reasons, parking is not allowed around the firehouse, except for the marked spaces reserved in front of the library. It is an easy walk from 4 Corners to the park or the library.

There is also parking for a few cars directly across the street from the library at the Tramp House.

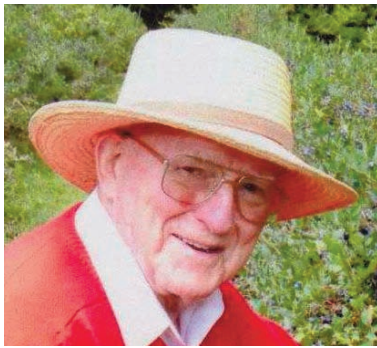
As always, we invite you to attend our meetings at Town Hall on Monday nights, starting at 5:30, or to call or email with any comments or concerns.

George R. Blais

George R. Blais, 81, a longtime resident of Keene, died on Sunday, Aug. 13, 2017. He passed peacefully in the comfort of his home with the love of his family at his side.

Services are incomplete and will be announced later by Cheshire Family Funeral Home and Crematories of Swanzey.

E. Allen Holbrook



The final wishes of Elmer Allen Holbrook, Jr. were answered when he went to be with the Lord on his wife Nancy's birthday, passing away on August 13, 2017 at the age of 98 in his ancestral home built

in 1780 in Richmond, NH.

Elmer, also known to his family and friends as Allen, came into the world on June 9, 1919 in Washington, DC, to his parents, Edith Laura (Brookfield) and Elmer Allen Holbrook, Sr.

Allen's beloved family farm was leased from Allen's father by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to establish a trout raising hatchery. Thus the name of the road became known as the Fish Hatchery Road. The State abandoned the successful operation in 1983 when they secured the larger federal hatchery in Berlin, NH as a replacement.

Over the years his family spent their summer months at the farm in Richmond. In Allen's earlier years, while summering in Richmond, he attended Camp Wiyaka for 11 years.

Allen graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering. While in college, he tried out with the Pittsburgh Pirates MLB team as a shortstop. However, a knee injury prevented him from actually signing with the Pirates.

Following graduation, he immediately went to work for ten years with the United States Steel Corp in

Youngstown, Ohio becoming a maintenance foreman. He then spent five years with Pittsburgh Screw and Bolt as a plant superintendent.

Moving to Oakland, California, Allen worked for 26 years with Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation. Over this time he built up operations in Argentina and Australia. In his later years Allen became the Corporate Vice-President, and also President of International Operations.

Allen played most sports in school and kept pace with all of the sport teams wherever he lived. Keeping his mind active, Allen read two newspapers a day and a book a month. He also kept the telephone company busy with his many phone calls statewide and to many foreign locations, as he preferred to hear a friendly voice rather than rely on the computer and email. He also enjoyed patronizing casinos across the country in his later years.

With the passing of his high school sweetheart and wife of 67 years, Nancy May (Robling) Holbrook in 2008, Allen made a permanent home on the farm in Richmond.

He will be greatly missed by many friends around the world including his many nieces, nephews, cousins, and god-children; and his two special friends who kept in constant contact with him so he could live full-time at his home, Linda Christo and Jean Schneider; and especially by his younger sister Ruth Graeff of Peterborough, NH.

Allen will be laid to rest beside his beloved wife Nancy in the Allegheny County Memorial Park, Allison Park, Pennsylvania on Monday, August 21, 2017 at 11:00 AM.

A memorial service will be held in the Richmond Community United Methodist Church at a date and time to be announced.

For those who wish, donations may be made in Mr. Holbrook's memory to Home Healthcare Hospice and Community Services, PO Box 564, Keene, NH 03431-0564, or the Richmond Community United Methodist Church, 11 Fitzwilliam Road, Richmond, NH 03470. The Foley Funeral Home of Keene, NH is assisting the family with the arrangements.

To offer online condolences to the family or to share special memories, please visit the link at:

<http://www.foleyfuneralhome.com>.

From the Town Clerk's Office

Annette Tokunaga

September 4, Monday CLOSED for Labor Day
September 7, Thursday CLOSED for Annual Conference
September 30 Transfer Stickers Expire –
2017-2018 Stickers now available at the Town Clerk's Office and at the Town of Winchester Transfer Station

Library News

Wendy O'Brien

September Calendar:

Sat. Sept. 2, 10:30 -11:30 AM Community Coffee Hour, TBA Knitting Circle

Wed. Sept. 6, 10:00 AM Storytime: Squirrels and Acorns

Sat. Sept. 9, TBA Knitting Circle

Wed. Sept. 13, 10:00 AM Storytime: Apples

Sat. Sept. 16, TBA Knitting Circle

Wed. Sept. 20, 10:00 AM Storytime: Harvest;
7:00 PM Poor Houses and Town Farms Lecture (Vets Hall)

Sat. Sept. 23, TBA Knitting Circle

Wed. Sept. 27, 10:00 AM Storytime: Leaves

Sat. Sept. 30, TBA Knitting Circle

Poor House and Town Farms Lecture

The Richmond Public Library has received a grant from New Hampshire Humanities to present, "Poor Houses and Town Farms: The Hard Road for Paupers," on September 20 at 7:00 PM at the Veterans Hall. A display focusing on the recently renovated "Tramp House" by the Richmond Heritage Commission will also be available for viewing. This program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided.

From its earliest settlements, New Hampshire struggled with the treatment of its poor. The early northeastern colonies followed the lead of England's *1601 Poor Law*, which imposed compulsory taxes for maintenance of the poor but made no distinction between the "vagrant, vicious poor" and the helpless, and honest poor. This confusion persisted for generations and led directly to establishment, in most of the State's towns, of alms houses, poor farms, and later, county institutions which would collectively come to form a dark chapter in New Hampshire history. Steve Taylor will examine how paupers were treated in these facilities and how reformers eventually succeeded in closing them down.

Community Coffee Hour

Join us for coffee and tea hosted by Elaine Moriarty and friends on Saturday, September 2 at 10:30 AM. Come meet your neighbors and enjoy great conversation!

Summer Reading Program Success!

We are pleased to report that kids throughout Richmond read 7,485 minutes during the summer for our "Build a Better World!" program. We hope that everyone had fun and that we helped to keep reading skills sharp for the start of school this fall. Thanks go to the volunteers who helped with making this program such a success: Elaine Moriarty, Trish Newton, the Parks and Recreation Department, the Police, Fire, and Highway Departments, and all the wonderful parents who stepped in to help.

Used Book Sale and Raffle

At the time of writing, we are eagerly awaiting our Book Sale and Raffle on Sunday, August 27th. We want to take a moment to thank the donors to our raffle: Toadstool Bookshop, Hannaford Supermarkets, Works Bakery and Café, Dixie Gurian, Carol Jameson, Elaine Moriarty, Peter Mulhall, Bonnie McCarthy, and Kathleen Whitham. Thanks also to the volunteers who will assist at the sale: Sandee Auvil, Pam Lavoie, Susan Marsden, Bonnie McCarthy, Jerry Mills, Peter Mulhall, and Noah Raymond. Thank you so very much!

Stolen Signs

Richmond Police Department

Sometime last weekend, the sign for the Town Beach was removed from the post at the beginning of Pond Woods Road. The sign was put on with nuts and bolts that were removed. If anyone knows who has the sign or saw anyone, please call 603-239-6007, ext 30.

15 Winchester Road Richmond,
NH 03470 603-239-6007

police@richmond.nh.gov

August 2017 Update

Jim McConnell - State Representative
Cheshire 12 – Richmond and Swanzey

There being no legislative business in August, there is little to report. In September, Legislative Service Requests (LSRs) will be submitted which the legislature's drafting attorneys will use to prepare the bills we consider in January.

The Legislative Service Requests which I submit this year will be predominantly environmental with a focus on drinking water. As many are still being researched, I will refrain from discussing them until I've made a final decision on which ones will be submitted.

Over the past few weeks, I've had two articles appear on national web sites. One on the situation in the Middle East – <http://ronpaulinstitute.org/archives/featured-articles/2017/july/05/time-to-end-our-14-year-middle-east-misadventure>; and the other promoting the *Real Reform Amendment* – my effort to add a 28th Amendment to the US Constitution changing the country's campaign finance laws http://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/want-to-drain-the-swamp-start-with-the-lobbyists/?mc_cid=3eaca49f43&mc_eid=64e4be3f13. *The Keene Sentinel* reprinted the article on the *Real Reform Amendment* on July 31st. It has also run on at least one other national website.

I can be reached at 903-3878, which is my cell phone. 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 mcc@mindspring.com as my legislative email is inundated from both out-of-State interest groups and individuals. I'd like to make sure that you, my constituents, can reach me when you want to and not get lost in the shuffle.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Karen Daugherty

Summer is on its way out. Cooler air is coming in and kids are back at school. There has been a lot going on in town recently. The sink holes in a portion of the field



at Amidon Park have been repaired. There was some buried treasure found amongst the rubble. An old car chassis was discovered and taken out! All of the stumps and car chassis have been removed, dirt has been



packed in, and it has been seeded for new grass growth. It certainly looks great! We are pleased to have a safe place for our town residents to congregate, celebrate, and play. Thank you Mark Beal, John Holman, and their teams for their efforts in this project.

Thank you Camp Takodah and staff for once again providing FREE Red Cross swimming lessons to town residents five years of age and older. Lessons started July 31st and ran through to August 18th every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. There were several families who signed up, including my own. Some participants learned to be more comfortable in the water, others learned to bob and go under the water, while still others perfected techniques for different strokes. Thank you for helping our town to grow into more skillful swimmers!

Beach: It was so nice to enjoy our town beach this summer. I hope everyone in town took advantage of all it has to offer: neighbors, friends, beautiful water to swim and play in, use of picnic tables for lunch, dinner, or even a sunrise breakfast. The seasonal beach equipment will be available for use at least through Labor Day. As summer draws to a close when the weather gets cooler, the buoys will be taken out and the port-a-potty removed until next year.

Events: At the library Summer Reading Wrap-up, Richmond Parks and Recreation handed out back-to-school items to kids for the school year. Lawn games



were set up for everyone to enjoy along with activities and goodies from the library. We have more events to come. Mark your calendars for these upcoming Richmond events! Please join us on:

Saturday, September 16 at Amidon Park for our second annual Fall Harvest Pot-Luck from 1-4 PM. Dinner will be served at 1:30. There will be food, games, prizes, and more. We will provide the main dish and drinks. Bring a dish to share!

Saturday, January 27 at 10 AM-12 PM at Amidon Park for our Winter Event. Come snow or shine! Warm yourselves near the fire pit with hot chocolate and s'mores. Build a snowman, or have a snowball fight. We will have food and games.

Saturday, February 10 at 1 PM at Camp Takodah for a family movie, snacks and a craft.

Saturday, March 17 at 10 AM sharp at Amidon Park Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Come on out to enjoy donuts and hot chocolate. Bring your own basket for the Egg Hunt, or we will provide bags.

Please refer to the Parks and Recreation webpage listed on the town website for past and upcoming events. If you can't make the events because of the date or time, but are interested in another similar event, e-mail us at richmond.recreation.commission@gmail.com so that we can continue to plan events that Richmond residents are interested in. Thank you!

Richmond Community United Methodist Church

Pastor Arnie Johnson

We are sad for the loss of two wonderful men of Richmond and of this church on August 13, 2017, George Blais and Allen Holbrook. Both had been experiencing declining health. But we are with joy as we acknowledge that they go on to a better life with their loved ones who have already made the move to heaven. We pray that they find their final joy and are no longer in pain. George and Helena celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on August 10 with their family in attendance. Allen died on his wife's birthday. At the writing of this article, final arrangements have not been made yet for George Blais, but Allen Holbrook will be transported to Pennsylvania to be laid to rest next to his loving wife of many years. We will celebrate their lives with Special Memorial Services as time permits. May we all remember these fine gentlemen with love and joy and pray for peace for their families.

Weiner Wednesdays in August were once again a big hit with the Richmond community and beyond! We thank all for their attendance at this great event. We enjoy doing it, and we hope that all who came by and ate these wonderful hot dogs with all the trimmings were feeling good as well! Thank you!

The RCUMC Annual Yard Sale on August 26 was a smashing success! We thank all who donated their goods to this happening, and also thank those who stopped by to look at the goods and purchase same. May you enjoy your treasures for many years to come.

Don't forget that The Kempters will be performing at the church October 23 at 7 PM. They are a spirit-filled talented family who travel the US spreading their joy of the Lord through word and song. To hear some of their music, search the Internet for wonderful samples of their musical ministry. Join us at this wonderful event!

Join us every Sunday at 9 AM to worship the Lord. Even though we are of a particular denomination, we encourage all of any religious persuasion to come and

worship with us. We minister to all who love Jesus or those who are still searching. You will find our friendly Old Brick Church at 11 Fitzwilliam Road (Route 119) in Richmond, NH just east of the Four Corners (junction of Routes 32 & 119). Come and be blessed!

Get Your Bikes Out. Ride for the Animals!

Wheels4Paws - A 100-mile charity motorcycle ride to benefit the animals of Monadnock Humane Society

Monadnock Humane Society

MHS is pleased to announce for the third year a charity motorcycle ride – Wheels4Paws (W4P) held on Saturday, September 16. Motorcyclists will gather on the grounds of MHS in Swanzey to ride together on a 100-mile pre-determined route through beautiful, scenic paved roads of NH, led by seasoned bikers. There will be two stops along the route (one will allow for refueling). The group will return to MHS where they will be treated to a delicious barbecue by JimEddie's, music

will be available to riders. Those who raise \$100 or more will receive a free tee shirt.

Participants are asked to fundraise in advance rather than pay a registration fee. All proceeds will go to the care of the homeless animals (Rider Sponsor Forms and a map of the route are available on the MHS website: www.monadnockhumanesociety.org). To create an on-line fundraising page or sponsor a rider online, visit <https://www.firstgiving.com/monadnockhumane/2017-wheels-4-paws-motorcycle-ride>.

Max Mitchell, W4P committee member, avid biker, and animal lover came to MHS several years ago with the idea to do a charity motorcycle ride for the animals. He knew that bikers really love to support good causes – especially for animals. Mitchell has led the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce “Poker Run” motorcycle event for ten years, and wanted to offer his leadership experience to help MHS start their own event. With a strong committee and support from everyone in the community, Mitchell helped MHS raise over \$7,500 at last year's event.

“I can see this event growing every year. The 75+ bikers that participated in last year's event had a great time riding together.” Mitchell added that it was great to have the event at MHS because the MHS staff brought out many of the adoptable dogs for everyone to meet. “It was gratifying for the riders to see the animals they were helping.”

Mike Faulkner, MHS Board member and W4P committee member, said he's looking forward to the event again this year. “I wanted to play an active role in planning this year's event not only because I enjoyed participating as a rider last year, but because it's important for us to reach this audience. They are passionate about helping homeless animals.”

If you love animals, then join the many other bikers who do, and come show your support at the Third Annual Wheels 4 Paws Charity Motorcycle Ride to benefit the homeless animals of Monadnock Humane Society!

Get Your Bike Out and Ride for the Animals!

Third Annual

Wheels4Paws

Sept. 16
2017



CHARITY RIDE FOR THE ANIMALS OF MHS!

Registration: 10 – 11:00 am,
Kickstands up: 11:30 pm
After Party: 3-5 pm
BBQ – MUSIC
50/50 RAFFLE – T-SHIRT
BROWN BAG RAFFLE

No registration fee – we ask that riders raise money for MHS. Sponsor forms and route map are available on our website.

Visit our website for more information event details and ride requirements.
603.352.9011, X115

100 mile ride on scenic, paved NH roads!
Starts and ends @ Monadnock Humane Society,
In Swanzey
www.monadnockhumanesociety.org



with a deejay, a 50/50 Raffle, and a fantastic Brown Bag Raffle with items donated by local businesses. This year's commemorative W4P tee shirts were designed by MHS employee Kandia Kovacs. The tees are donated by the event's lead sponsor The Mountain, and

EVENT DETAILS:

- Ride begins and ends at Monadnock Humane Society, 101 West Swanzey Road, Swanzey, NH
- Rain or shine
- Registration opens at 10:00 AM
- Kickstands up at 11:30 AM
- After Party 2:30 – 5:00 PM

Don't ride? No problem! Consider cheering the riders



on as they embark on their journey at 11:30 AM. And of course – we hope you'll support MHS by sponsoring one of the riders. Your donation is 100% tax deductible.

Questions regarding the route or participating – contact Carol Laughner at 603.352.9011, ext. 115, or caroll@humanecommunity.org. For more information on the event, and for ride requirements, please visit: www.monadnockhumanesociety.org.

Businesses: If you're interested in sponsoring this event with a cash sponsorship or donating a raffle item, contact Carol Laughner at 603.352.9011, ext. 115 or caroll@humanecommunity.org. Gifts can be matched by your company – inquire with your company rep for more details. We always need financial help to cover costs for the event, and we appreciate any items you can to donate to the Brown Bag Raffle!



MHS is a private, 501(c)3 non-profit humane organization with a mission to foster a compassionate community by promoting and providing for the well-being of animals. MHS receives no state or federal funding, and relies solely on the generosity of our community. MHS serves 44 towns and cities in the Monadnock Region.

Firewood for Sale

Neil Moriarty

We have several well-seasoned firewood cords – more than we can use. Come look, pick a pile(s), and make an offer. You must take the entire pile and carry away. 782 Old Homestead Hwy, Richmond, 603 239 4031.

Fitzwilliam Inn News

Chelly Tighe

Saturday, September 2: The Green Sisters. Americana, Celtic, folk, standards. 7:30-10 PM, \$5 cover

Sunday, September 3: Last Summer Sunday with Jim McRae. Folk, Americana, standards. 3:30-6 PM, no cover

Friday, September 8: Sugarbush Road. Light rock, Originals. 6:30-9 PM, No cover

Saturday, September 9: The Definite Maybes Rockin' Blues. 8-10:30 PM, \$5 cover

Saturday, September 16: The Coteries. Folk/rock, Americana. 7:30-10 PM, no cover

Saturday, September 30: The Opined Few. Folk. 7:30-10:00 PM, no cover

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Growing up at the 4-Corners in Richmond, that our parents owned, gave us the life long pleasure of knowing what a small town is all about. We have very fond memories of riding our bikes up and down Rte. 32 & 119, summers at the town beach, skating on the water hole, checking a book out at our little library and looking forward to the annual BBQ. It's a joy to share those special memories when we market your home and welcome someone new to town. Fred Blais, Broker & Ruth Blais Thompson, Licensed Agent



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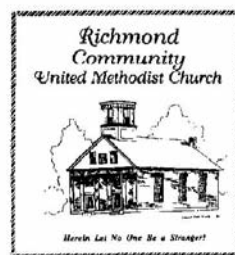
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M-SAT 9-9,
Sun 11-5

Welcome to the Richmond Community Church



Pastor Arnold Johnson

Sunday Worship Services
9:00 a.m.

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The RICHMOND ROOSTER

180 Fay Martin Road, Richmond, NH 03470



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Deadline is the 15th of each month.

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Rooster Online: <http://therichmondrooster.org>

The Richmond Rooster is a nonprofit, voluntary corporation formed under New Hampshire law, RSA 292.

Town Business Hours

105 Old Homestead Highway, Richmond NH 03470

Board of Selectmen:

Chris Daugherty, Carol Jameson, William Daniels

There are no longer morning hours (9-12) on Mondays.

Mon. 3 – 7 PM, 5:30 – 7 PM for business

7 PM – ? for public concerns)

Tues. 9-12 (Selectmen meet first Tuesday ONLY)

Wed. 9 AM – 1 PM, Thurs. 9 AM – 1 PM (unless posted)

Town Administrator: Heidi Wood

Assistant Town Administrator: Susan Harrington

Town Clerk: Annette Tokunaga

Deputy Town Clerk:

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.

1st Tues. of the month – 7:30 PM

and 3rd 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: Wendy O'Brien, Librarian, 239-6164.

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, 392-2027

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>