



The **Something to Crow About** RICHMOND ROOSTER

April 2019

ELECTIONS RESULTS

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

The first session of the Town Meeting, the Town Election, and the Monadnock Regional School District Election were held on March 12, 2019. Voter turnout was higher than in recent years at 39%, or 318 voting out of 814 registered voters. This may have been attributable at least in part to several factors. The weather which was voter-friendly, unlike the previous two years.

On the Town ballot there were two contested races, one for selectman for a 3-year term and the other for selectman for a 2-year term. On the school ballot there were two questions of particular interest. One proposed rescinding the powers of the school budget committee. The other proposed changing the funding formula that impacts taxation from 75/25 to 50/50.

Selectman, 3-yr term: Douglas Bersaw – 156 votes
Selectmen, 2-yr term: Andrew Wallace – 173 votes
Planning Board, 3-yr term: Jason Macdonald – 50 votes
Planning Board, 3-yr term: Douglas Smith – 62 votes
Cemetery Trust, 3-yr term: William Coll Jr – 252 votes
Library Trustee, 3-yr term: Douglas Bartlett – 241 votes
Library Trustee, 2-yr term: John Lewis – 58 votes
Trustee Trust Funds, 3-yr term: Carol Jameson – 67 votes

District-wide, the Article to rescind the school budget committee's power was defeated, 1529 to 1070. Within the town of Richmond, this Article was defeated, 204 to 83. For the Article that proposed changing the funding formula, it passed with a district-wide tally of 1717 to 1330. Richmond voters voted against changing the formula, 212 to 89.

The March 16 business session of the Town Meeting dawned overcast and in the thirties. Of the 814 registered voters, about 140 attended. By the end of the meeting, all articles passed as presented on the warrant.

Article Five, funding for the Police, drew considerable attention. With this article, the Selectmen have stated that the requested amount is based upon their intention to dissolve the Richmond Police Department mid-year 2019 and contract with the Cheshire County

Sheriff's Department for the remainder of the year. Voters spoke to this article with opinions, questions, and concerns, with the Selectmen responding when appropriate over a 45-minute span. This was followed by a secret ballot vote that resulted in 114 voters voting Yes and 21 voters voting No to Article Five.

Articles preceding and following Article Five garnered little-to-no discussion. Article Eleven, which requested funding to the Road Reconstruction and Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, was one exception. Several residents spoke about the muddy and, in some places, impassable road conditions of the last 24 hours.

The Saturday meeting adjourned two hours after being called to order. Moderator Walden Whitham thanked everyone for attending and for contributing to a respectful meeting.

Dog Licenses

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

Have you recently added a dog to your family? If yes, you need to license it with the Town. Please bring the rabies certificate and any documentation verifying that your dog has been spayed or neutered to the Town Clerk's office.

If you licensed your dog last year, that license expires on April 30. You can either come to the Town Clerk's office to license your dog or you can license it online, provided the rabies vaccination is current.

Please license your dog(s) today to avoid incurring late penalties and civil forfeiture fees.

If you have any questions, please call 239-6202.

Farewell To Katie Delaney

Annette Tokunaga

Katie Delaney was Richmond's deputy town clerk for nearly a year. Her last day was February 27th. The year seemed to pass much too quickly.

Katie and her husband Lewis Whittum are moving to Keene. As she will no longer be a resident or a registered voter in Richmond, she is no longer qualified to

be deputy town clerk. It was with much sadness that I said good-bye to Katie on that last day of work. And yet, I also wish her and Lewis the very best in the newest chapter in their lives. May your new home keep you warm and embrace many loving memories as of yet unimagined. May your lives be filled with joy and well-being.

Library News

Wendy O'Brien

Every Saturday, 10:30, Knitting Circle

Every Wednesday, 10:00, Story Hour

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tues. April 2, 6:00 PM, Richmond Artists' Showcase Reception

Sat. April 6, 10:30 – 11:30 AM, Community Coffee Hour

Tues. April 9, 6:00 PM, Book Club: *The Man Who Ate the 747*

Thurs. April 11, 5:00 PM, Teen Pizza Night

Wed. April 24, 10:00 AM, School Vacation Earth Day Party

New Titles

Dear Mrs. Bird, A. J. Pearce

The Huntress, Kate Quinn

Never Tell, Lisa Gardner

There There, Tommy Orange

Richmond Artists' Showcase



Watercolor by Jeani Tandy

During April we are pleased to feature the works of nine Richmond artists at the RPL Cay Dilello, Douglass Bartlett, Jeani Eismont, Rosti Eismont, Jean Tandy, Ronna Rajaniemi, Becky Haskins, Walden Whitham, and Susan Opal Wyatt. Reception on Tuesday, April 2, at 6:00 PM to meet the artists and view their works.

Book Club

Our April meeting will be on Tuesday, April 9 at 6:00 PM and we will be reading *The Man Who Ate the 747* by Ben Sherwood. "Richly romantic, whimsical, and uplifting, *The Man Who Ate the 747* is a flight of fancy from start to finish. It stretches imagination, bends physics and biology, but believe it just a little and you may find yourself reaching for your own records, the kind that really count. Written with tenderness, originality, and insight, filled with old-fashioned warmth and newfangled humor, it is an extraordinary novel, a found treasure that marks the emergence of a major storytelling tale," GoodReads. Books are still available at the Library-come join us!

In order to have enough materials for everyone, pre-registration is requested. You are welcome to sign up in the Library, call us at 239-6164, or drop us an email at library@richmondnh.us to register.

School Vacation Earth Day Party

You can see from the pictures what fun we had during our February vacation week Aloha Party. Come join us



again on April 24 at 10:00 AM for a Vacation Week Earth Day Party. Create your own robot out of recycled items, build a geodesic dome out of newspaper, and plant some seeds for your garden! Hopefully spring will be here so we can get outside to play.

Richmond Public Library

19 Winchester Road, Richmond, NH 03470
library@richmondnh.us Tel. 239-6164

Tuesdays & Thursdays 3-7pm
Wednesdays 9-noon
Saturdays 10am-2pm

Catalog:
[opac.libraryworld.com/
opac/home.php](http://opac.libraryworld.com/opac/home.php). Library
name: Richmond Public.
No password required.



Fire Department Open House

Spencer Heise

On Saturday April 27th the Richmond Fire Department will be hosting an open house from 12 – 2 PM. Come meet your Richmond firefighters and learn about what they do for your community. Tour the station and take a look at our trucks and some of our tools. There will be a motor vehicle accident demonstration that all are welcome to attend. The Troy Fire Department will also be cooking hamburgers and hot dogs. So come for lunch and enjoy the show.

Council Meeting

Debora Pignatelli

Executive Councilor, NH District 5

I hope you enjoy reading my reports after each Council meeting. Below are items I think have particular interest to District 5. Your friends can sign up to this mailing list at <http://eepurl.com/dt8r4z>

You may remember that the Council tabled the raises for the Liquor Commissioners and other top management officials at our last meeting. We decided to postpone their raises until audited numbers are released later this year and then re-visit the raises. They had not met their targeted numbers in two of the last three years and expenses had risen considerably.

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February 6, 2019 Meeting

#18 Authorized the Bureau of Highway Maintenance, Well Section, to enter into a contract with Skillings & Sons Inc., Amherst, NH, for the decommission of existing abandoned drilled wells on the properties of Donna Cronin, New Ipswich, NH, Thomas Schmidt, Chester, NH, and NHDOT, Bow, NH, in the amount of \$18,000. Effective upon G&C approval through June 28, 2019. 100% Highway Funds

#19 Authorized the Bureau of Highway Maintenance, Well Section, to enter into a contract with Skillings & Sons Inc., Amherst, NH, for the decommission of existing abandoned drilled wells on the properties of Nate Boutwell, Pelham, NH, and NHDOT, Salem, NH, in the amount of \$18,000. Effective upon G&C approval through June 28, 2019. 100% Highway Funds.

#40 Authorized a loan agreement with Pennichuck East Utility Inc., Merrimack, NH, in the amount not to exceed \$4,240,000 to finance water system improvements. Effective upon G&C approval. 100% Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund Repayment Funds.

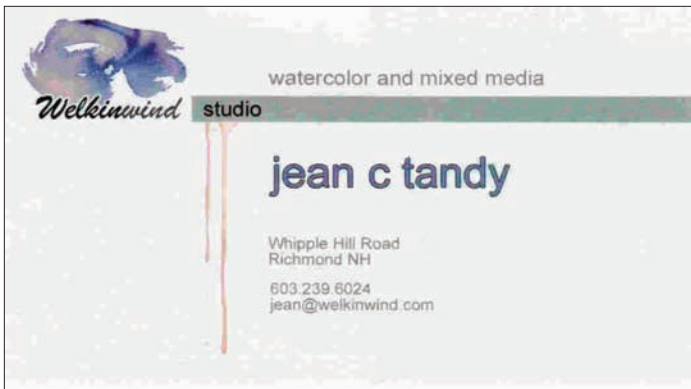
#4 Authorized to award an Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund grant to the Francetown Land Trust Inc., Francetown, NH, in the amount of \$185,000 for the purpose of conserving two parcels of land with 2,000 linear feet of frontage on the South Branch of the Piscataquog River in Francetown. Effective upon G&C

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approval through December 31, 2019. 100% ARM Funds.
#49 Authorized the Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services to enter into a grant agreement with the Town of Dunbarton for a total amount of \$13,716 for the purpose of implementing a mobile integrated healthcare program called NH Project FIRST. Effective upon G&C approval through September 29, 2019. 100% Federal Funds.

The following individuals from District Five were nominated by Governor Sununu to State of New Hampshire Boards and Commissions: Clark Freise, Litchfield, NH as Assistant Commissioner, Department of Environmental Services and Winifred G. Grogman, Durbarton, NH to the Board of Veterinary Medicine
Council Meeting February 20, 2019

The Governor and Executive Council met on Wednesday, February 20, 2019, in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House, Concord, NH and considered an agenda of approximately 102 items.

The next scheduled Governor and Executive Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 10:00 AM in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House Concord, NH. All our meetings are open to the public and are somewhat interesting, even if I may be a bit biased. Please let me know if you would like to attend so that I can greet you personally.

MOP 150, I, B (3): Reports and Findings Department of Administrative Services

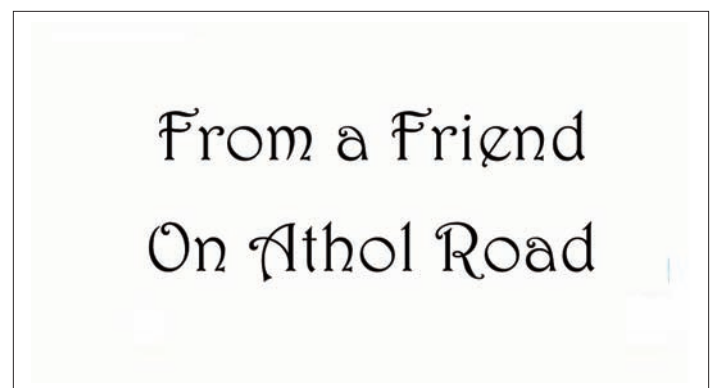
#A Authorized to accept and place on file the Report and Findings of Councilor Debora Pignatelli with regard to a certain project in participation with Rivier University, Nashua, NH. VOTE: Unanimous

Rivier University is planning on building a new Science Center and Athletic Building. I held a Public Hearing on the campus and the item was voted on by the Council.

#40 Authorized to amend the sole source contract agreement with Southern NH Services Inc., Manchester, NH (originally approved by G&C on 9-20-18, item #32), for the Fuel Assistance Program, by increasing the amount by \$2,503,932 from \$10,038,550 to \$12,542,482. Effective upon G&C approval through September 30, 2019. 100% Federal Funds. VOTE: Unanimous

#41 Authorized to amend the sole source contract agreement with Southwestern Community Services Inc., Keene, NH (originally approved by G&C on 9-20-18, item #35), for the Fuel Assistance Program, by increasing the amount by \$612,871 from \$3,829,194 to \$4,442,065. Effective upon G&C approval through September 30, 2019. 100% Federal Funds. VOTE: Unanimous

#46 Authorized to enter into a sole source contract with





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Southwestern Community Services Inc., Keene, NH, for the Senior Energy Assistance Services Program, in the amount of \$10,597. Effective upon G&C approval through August 31, 2020. 100% Other Funds (NH DHHS). VOTE: Unanimous

#48 Authorized to enter into a sole source contract with Southern NH Services Inc., Manchester, NH, for the Senior Energy Assistance Services Program, in the amount of \$37,220.52. Effective upon G&C approval through August 31, 2020. 100% Other Funds (NH DHHS). VOTE: Unanimous

#51 Authorized the Board of Pharmacy to accept and expend funds from the Department of Health and Human Services through two separate grants in the amount not to exceed \$218,376 for the enhancement of the NH Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs software to improve opioid-related surveillance, and to complete a Data Audit and Compliance Project. (2) Further Authorized to establish a temporary part-time position, Class 050, Compliance Investigator/Inspector (LG 27) and, temporary part-time position, Class 050, Assistant Inspector/Program Specialist I (LG 19). Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2019. 100% Transfer Funds (Transfer from DHHS Federal Funds). VOTE: Unanimous

#65 Authorized the Division of Forests and Lands to

enter into a contract with Innovative Natural Resource Solutions LLC, Antrim, NH, for the development of a forest resource assessment for the NH Forest Legacy Program, in the amount of \$25,000. Effective upon G&C approval through December 31, 2019. 100% Federal Funds. VOTE: Unanimous

#88 Authorized the Bureau of Student Wellness to accept and expend NH School Climate Transformation Grant funds in the amount of \$399,625 from the US Department of Education. (2) Further Authorized to establish 3 Full-time temporary Program Specialist IV positions, LG 25, salary range \$50,193-\$67,918.50. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2019. 100% Federal Funds. Fiscal Committee approved. VOTE: Unanimous

#93 Authorized the Division of Fire Safety to enter into a grant agreement with the City of Nashua in the amount of \$5,700 for activities that increase State and local effectiveness in handling hazardous materials incidents, enhance implementation of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act and encourage a comprehensive approach to emergency training and planning. Effective upon G&C approval through September 30, 2019. 100% Federal Funds. VOTE: Unanimous

The Governor nominated the following individual

Richard P. Drew LLC

Licensed Land Surveyor

Lot Staking Subdivisions
Boundary Plans

266 Tully Brook Road, Richmond, NH 03470

Phone: (603) 239-4147

Email: rpdrewllc@gmail.com

Pamela Goodell

Author

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Know you are not alone.*

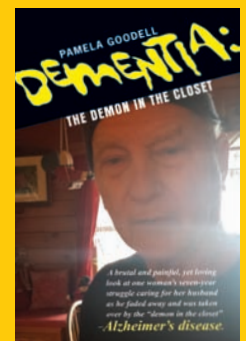
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from District Five to serve on a State Board: Andrew R. Peterson, Peterborough, NH to the New England Board of Higher Education.

Alternate Endings

The Rev. Dr. David Pierce

Allow me to introduce myself. Known to some in Richmond as “Pastor David” at the Richmond Community United Methodist Church, I love what I do and dearly love the folks at the church. But it was not always this way.

As a teenager, I remember being socially rejected in my small rural hometown as the son of the “town

drunk.” Insecure about my own worth, living in a painfully abusive and dysfunctional family, and eventually finding myself trying to survive on the streets as a runaway and homeless 15-year-old kid, every survival instinct I had at the time told me to stop paying attention my emotions and to stop trusting anybody but myself.

Although officially retired, I now find great meaning in being the local pastor in the small congregation here in Richmond. Oh my goodness, what a journey to this point! Imagine finding your deepest relationships with God and others, as well as experiencing your most powerful sense of being “called” only after retiring from a long career – a career that included an earned doctorate in both psychology and religion, being a psychotherapist, a university professor, a graduate school dean, a college president, and the senior pastor at one of the largest congregations in the Presbyterian Church (USA). And I only say that to say this, “But it was not always this way!”

I started out having a hard time getting a high school degree. In fact, I was expelled from public high school, after it was discovered that I was living in an abandoned farm house without parents. I was headed toward “no good place;” so I was told by all the authorities in my life.

So, as a young man, how was I to interpret my life? To this day, I still do not believe that the pain, confusion, disillusionment, and resulting anger led me to faith, or even to a sense of encouragement to turn things around, so to speak. No, for me rock bottom was just rock bottom; it led to self-degradation, to insecurity, to shyness, to a sense of hopelessness and to terrible thoughts. In a phrase, I felt stuck in my closed world. Something had to happen to break into that closed world. And it did.

What happened? What broke into my world? What

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changed everything? What was responsible for an “alternate ending” to where my life was going at the time? Believe it or not, it was what we call, “Easter.”

Easter is more than just a religious holiday in the church. It is more than one of the two great days (along with Christmas Eve) that many folks are glad to come to a worship service in the church building. Easter is those things...but so much more. Easter happens when the light of God’s love breaks through what we thought was an impermeable dark cloud hovering over us. Easter happens when a force greater than our oppressions, more persistent than our rehearsed grief, and more real than our rational thoughts, breaks the barrier of our world previously closed off by pain, survival, and self-sufficiency. Easter is coming for the best and for the worst of us. It really is.

I invite all to come to our “Easter” worship service on April 21 at 10:30 AM at the Richmond Community United Methodist Church. All will be warmly received and welcomed – just as I once was, and still am. I will be preaching a sermon titled, “Alternate Endings.” I hope to see you at the church then, and on any Sunday.

Getting to Know Your Advertisers

Bonnie McCarthy

The Richmond Rooster has been back in print (hallelujah) for a little over a year, and it occurred to me that very few people have any idea what is involved in its creation and production. To that end, I met with *The Rooster* Design and Production team of Jeani and Rosti Eismont, who advertise under the banner Eismont Design Studio and Gallery of Contemporary Art and Collectibles. To say these two artists wear a number of hats, defines the word “understatement,” but first, *The Rooster* Tale.

Anyone can write an article for *The Rooster*. The deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month preceding the next issue, and the earlier in the month, the better. I am starting three days early, so please consider doing as I say, not as I am doing. Articles and photographs (300 dpi is required) should be submitted to the Publisher/Editor John Boccalini at *The Rooster* website, therichmondrooster@yahoo.com. John creates a document of all the articles, photographs, and individual advertisers for the issue. He then sends it to Eismont Design before the 15th of the month. Jeani creates the layout for the issue and Rosti checks to make sure all the images are the correct file size for quality printing.



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This initial process takes about two days. The draft is returned to John and the proofreaders, Lew Whittum, Pam Goodell, and Tom Lavoie, who make corrections and return their corrected copies to Jeani. She reviews the edited copies and makes the necessary corrections. After going through each advertisement that includes a website and linking the ad to each website in the ad, Jeani makes a pdf and then a “reduced file size version” of the final draft, which she sends to John. John then posts the on-line, color version of *The Rooster* with the now clickable ads. Jeani copies the final, full-sized version to a thumb drive and takes it to the *Keene Sentinel* for printing. Once *The Roosters* are printed, Jeani picks up three heavy boxes and delivers them to the home of Carol Jameson, Advertising Director. Carol gets a blank check from Treasurer Deb Coll, counts the papers into bulk and individual delivery piles, and fills out the necessary mailing invoice. She then takes the check and *The Roosters* to the post office in Winchester for delivery. There is no cost to Richmond residents and all the work is done by volunteers. So here is a big CROW OUT to this dedicated team.

In addition to their volunteer work for *The Rooster*, Rosti and Jeani design and produce the Annual Report for the Richmond Town Meeting. They design and host many websites for a wide variety of clients. They also design magazines, logos, books, and any kind of printed material you can imagine. Pam Goodell’s marvelous

book about her uniquely honest journey with her husband's Alzheimer's entitled *Dementia: The Demon in the Closet*, was one of Jeani's local projects. This artistic duo is the sum of their many parts with written word, virtual design, and production being only one side.

They met in 1977 in NYC where their shared interest in art and design brought them together in a journey "upstate" from city life to Peekskill, NY, in 1979. They purchased an old farmhouse within commuting distance to NYC for work. Rosti continued his dedication to the art of making pottery, establishing Red Mill Pottery and building his own woodfire kiln. His ceramics are predominantly functional and useful for kitchen service and ceremonial presentation. Before moving to Richmond in 1984, in addition to being a graphic designer, potter, painter, gardener, and home restorer, Rosti held jobs as Art Director of *Essence*, *Harper's Weekly*, *Horizon*, and *Chief Executive*. Being AD of *Studio Potter* magazine, founded and based in New Hampshire, became the principle reason for the move.

Upon moving to NH, Jeani worked at Church and Main Advertising for 16 years, beginning with paste-up and eventually becoming Art Director. She left there to sail on the Picton-Castle (a Tall Ship) for seven months from the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean, across the Atlantic through the Caribbean, and back to Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. Rosti joined her in South Africa and convinced her to continue the voyage even though she was terribly homesick. In her own words, "I am so glad I did. It was a life changing experience." In addition to her very busy day job she is again challenging herself by teaching a watercolor class at the Jaffrey Civic Center on Mondays from 1:00-4:00.

If anyone is interested in joining the class please contact Regina Vorce at: info@jaffreyciviccenter.com. Their art is on sale at the gallery and periodically at other venues. Their studio at 50 Monadnock Highway

in North Swanzey is open by appointment or chance. Both Rosti and Jeani are available for commission work.

GET READY – Hummingbirds Due MAY 3

Neil Moriarty

My bird log shows that Hummingbirds (HB) showed up 2 days early on May 3, 2018. Elaine and I have a HB feeder in the window on the east and south sides of the house. A simple feeder will do. They don't even need landing perches (the birds won't use them anyway). You don't need fancy feed either; mix plain sugar (1 part) and water (4 parts). No red dye is necessary. We heat the water and put the sugar in; store the excess in the fridge. Feed should be changed about once a week (if hasn't all been consumed). Good Luck with yours!

IRISH BREAD

Terri O'Rorke

3 C. Flour
2/3 C. Sugar 3 tsp. Baking powder
1 tsp. Baking soda 1 tsp. Salt
1 C. Raisins 2 eggs, beaten
C. Buttermilk 2 Tbsp. Oil
1 Tbsp. Caraway seeds (optional)

In a large bowl, combine dry ingredients including raisins and seeds. In a separate bowl, combine remaining ingredients. Add this mixture to the dry ingredients, mixing lightly just until blended. Pour batter into a greased 1 1/2 quart casserole dish. Bake at 350 degrees for about 1 hour. HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Irish Dancers excited for St. Patrick's Day

Mary-Sarah O'Hanlon

Many of the Flying Irish Dancers performing on St. Patrick's Day weekend were participating in their first

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ever “March Madness” and were excited to be doing so. From library sponsored shows, to a parade, a resort performance and more, these Irish Dancers were raring to go.

The dancers have been practicing for months at the Flying Irish Studio on Rte. 119 in Ashby, MA. “Irish Dance is a difficult art form,” explains assistant teacher Tatiana O’Hanlon, of Ashby, MA. “You have to dance on time to music that often has an implied but not obvious beat; you have to leap high and land on your toes while keeping your body stiff and your arms by your sides and all movements have to be sharply defined.” Tatiana understands full well what it takes to be an accomplished Irish Dancer, having won 9th place at the World Championships in 2018.

The challenges can be very rewarding. As Maze Rigby of Ashburnham notes, “My 9-year-old daughter, Piper, has been taking lessons at the Flying Irish Studio for 5 years and she truly loves it. Getting the chance to dance in Irish step dancing shows and competitions has taught her that practice and hard work pays off. Watching your child’s confidence grow in something they love to do is great to watch.”

Bevin Tapply of Lunenburg agrees. “Our daughter Meredith, 6, joined the Flying Irish in September. Within six weeks, she was confidently dancing at competition. Her teacher Mary-Sarah has taught her about the importance of poise, practice, and self-confidence. Meredith has transformed from a child who would never want us to watch her perform, to a child who does nightly performances. She takes Irish dance with her everywhere ... meaning this is her new way of moving around. She has come so far in such a short period of time!”

Aderyn Daugherty, 14, of Richmond, NH, likes the companionship she finds in class. “I have been dancing here for three years now, and I really enjoy it. Everybody is really friendly and fun to dance with.” Aderyn



Back Row, L to R: Mary-Sarah O’Hanlon, Lex Piccione, Andrea Connolly, Judy Savage, Aderyn Daugherty; Middle Row, L to R: Keira Murray, Miranda Gates, Elizabeth Salerno, Rylee Kelly; Front Row: Kaite Murray

is in the advanced class which is a mix of teenagers and adults, all of whom cheer each other on while good-naturedly teasing each other. She took first place at the New England Championships last November in a mixed team of her classmates. Aderyn is also looking forward to the Flying Irish’s Spring Feis (pronounced fesh) in April, where she will compete to move up to Novice level in her dances.

The Flying Irish Studio takes students ages 3.5 to adult, all of whom may choose to compete or perform or remain recreational. Mini-sessions for all age groups are starting in April. Log on to www.flyingirish.com to find an upcoming performance or sign up today.

Monadnock Humane Society

Marketing Communications Manager

caroll@humanecommunity.org

Swanzy, NH – Monadnock Humane Society offered their annual Affordable Public Rabies Vaccination and Microchipping Clinic on Saturday, March 9th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The event was held in the MHS Guinane Training Center at our Adoption and Learning Center in Swanzy, NH. Plenty of parking available.

The Clinic is offered to the public on a first-come, first-serve basis. Reservations are not required. Pricing




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All rabies vaccine certificates will be written as one year unless the owner presents a signed rabies vaccination certificate for the dog or cat at the time of the Clinic, in which case the vaccine will be effective for three years (rabies tags alone will not be sufficient proof of a rabies vaccine).

Please note: Dogs need to be on a leash and under owner's control. Cats should be in secure carriers. For more information, call us at 603.352.9011 ext. 101, or email to adoption@humanecommunity.org

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

MHS Affordable Public Rabies Vaccination and Microchipping Clinic for Cats and Dogs

Saturday, March 9th

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

MHS Guinane Training Center

Monadnock Humane Society

101 West Swanzey Road, Swanzey, NH

APRIL ANTICS

Karen O'Brien

April is a very busy month for anyone who gardens in the Northeast. Lawns need to be raked and de-thatched, growing beds need to be uncovered and tidied, and some early plantings need to be made. How fitting, then, that Earth Day is celebrated this month, when we are again engaging in all things green. Two-thousand-nineteen marks the 49th anniversary of Earth Day, which was instituted by Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wisconsin) in 1970. He envisioned an environmental teach-in to raise awareness of many of the concerns for the health and well-being of our planet. Passage of the Wilderness Act in 1960, and the publication of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* in 1962, were two indicators of the increasing recognition that there was a need for

action to preserve and protect our natural resources before they were damaged beyond repair. Twenty million Americans participated – mostly on college and high school campuses. My own high school – Doherty Memorial in Worcester, MA – was one of those involved in that first attempt, setting time aside for speakers and clean-ups in the area. I remember being excited to be a part of a national movement to “save the planet,” and it was also nice to get out of classes for a day!

April 22 was set by Nelson as a time he felt most colleges would be able to put time aside for such activities. It would occur after spring breaks and before exams, and the weather would be conducive to outside forums. It is interesting to note that April 22 is also the birthday of St. Francis of Assisi, one of the first “environmentalists,” and of Julius Sterling Morton, originator of Arbor Day, which began in April in 1872. It is also the birthday of Vladimir Lenin, proving we should probably not read anything into any of this.

Today, going “green” is becoming more common and accepted. Back in 1970, it was only the beginning of the awakening of the emergent environmental issues that technology and industrialization had caused. People embraced their new microwaves, dishwashers, and the like and saving the land was reserved for those people on the fringe. Hippies and the back-to-the-land folks were seeking a return to a simpler lifestyle, uncorrupted by so-called “improvements.” Fortunately, Earth Day was not a single, one-time event, and has grown into a global holiday in which many people around the world are involved in helping to mitigate past damages to the planet we call home and to plan for the future.

There are many ways we can adjust our lives to become more green. Using a clothesline – even some of the time – instead of a dryer cannot only save energy but also give your clothes a fresh, clean scent better


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than any fabric softener. The effects of the sun on your clothes can even help bleach out some stains, especially if you use lemon juice on them first. The dangers of household chemicals are driving more and more people to use natural alternatives or make their own cleaning products. One concoction I have had success with is "Four Thieves Vinegar." It is wonderfully antiseptic, and can be used on many surfaces. I find it especially useful on very grimy, dirty windows, as it cuts through layers of grime and leaves the surface crystal clear. Its insecticidal properties also help keep flies off your windows. The herbs, while antiseptic themselves, also add a little fragrance to the vinegar. The name of the formula (also known as Grave Robbers Blend) supposedly came from the use of it by thieves during one of the many instances of the Black Plague. The robbers used the vinegar (soaked in rags and placed upon their person) to allow them to enter and steal from the homes of those dying of the dreaded plague. The preparation gave them immunity from the disease. There are many variations on the recipe, but I have used the following:

- One gallon of apple cider vinegar
- 1 handful of each of the following dried herbs: sage, lavender, wormwood, thyme, rue, mint
- 4-5 cloves of crushed garlic



Let sit in a warm place for about six weeks. Strain out the herbs and place in bottles. Can be used full strength or diluted with water.

This is NOT to be ingested or used on food preparation surfaces, as wormwood and rue are potent herbs that should not be taken internally. Vinegar, by itself, kills more than 80% of mold, so it can be used for that purpose, as well.

There are a lot of articles, books and more informa-

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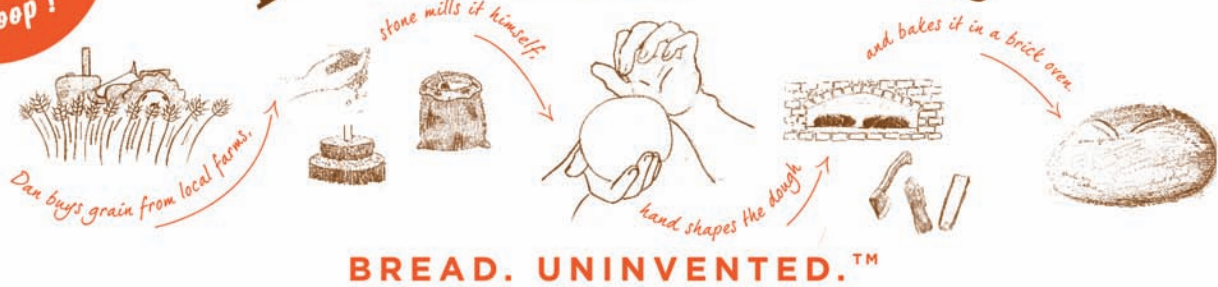
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tion on making your own home care products. If you would like more, please contact me and I will give you some of the sources I have used.

Happy Earth Day! THE GREEN WOMAN'S GARDEN www.greenwomansgarden.com.

Age-Focused Planning for Southwest New Hampshire

JB Mack

The Southwest Region Planning Commission is conducting a survey to collect information as part of an age-focused planning study for Southwest New Hampshire. Through this project, we will examine current and projected demographics as well as the wants and needs of residents. Current trends indicate a rapid increase in the older population combined with a decline among younger residents. A balance of all ages is important to be able to maintain a healthy and vibrant community. Some communities are finding it increasingly difficult to fill volunteer positions on local boards and for critical services such as firefighters. To assist with this effort, we need to gather information from residents from each of the 33 communities in which we serve. Your participation in this survey will provide the important information we need. We ask also that you share this survey

link with others in your household as well as friends, neighbors, and co-workers. The link to the survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AgeFocused>

If you would prefer to complete a hardcopy of the survey rather than the on-line version, or if you have questions regarding this project, please contact Lisa Murphy, Southwest Region Planning Commission at lmurphy@swrpc.org or by calling (603) 357-0557.

Thank you for participating in this survey!

RICOTTA CAKE

Terri O'Rorke

This is a family-recipe cake that was served at Easter. Easy to prepare and delicious!

1 yellow cake mix, prepared as directed and poured into greased 9" x 13" pan. Mix together:

2 lbs. ricotta cheese

3/4 C. sugar

4 eggs

1 tsp. vanilla extract

Pour this mixture over cake batter. Bake at 325 degrees for about 1 hour and 15 minutes. Butter knife should come out clean when inserted in middle of cake.

Refrigerate any leftovers.



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Richmond

Community



Newsletter

Vol. IV, No. 2

Published when the Spirit Moves

April, 1976

Town Meeting Follow-up

At the Town Meeting last year there was confusion as to who had the authority to accept roads. After researching this, we published the following statement in the June 1975 issue of the Newsletter:

"We have secured a legal opinion that only the Selectmen can accept roads, on receipt of a petition and after a public hearing. Also, if the road is of special advantage to any individual (such as a subdivider), the Selectmen may require him to bear the expense of constructing and maintaining it."

This year Article 26 in the Warrant was "To see if the Town will vote to accept the Granite Hill Road..." On protest from the floor that this would be illegal, the Town voted to table this article. Afterwards Selectman Webber requested and was given the references from the Revised Statutes Annotated of New Hampshire. For the information of all concerned these references follow:

RSA 234:1 Petition. Selectmen of a town, upon petition, may lay out any new class IV, V, or VI highway or alter any such existing highway within their town for which there shall be occasion.

ANNOTATIONS 1. Generally...A vote by the inhabitants of a city upon the construction of a highway is merely advisory and does not control the actions of the city councils ... 3- Petition - Necessity. Selectmen have authority to lay out highways only in cases where applications are made to them for the purpose...Selectmen cannot legally lay out a highway upon the vote of the town instructing them so to do...

RSA 234:2 Notice. Unless the selectmen are clearly of opinion that such petition ought not to be granted they shall cause notice in writing of the time and place of hearing appointed by them to be given at least fourteen days previous to hearing to the first petitioner and to each owner of land over which such highway may pass.

RSA 234:19 Conditional Lay Out. Whenever a highway will be of special advantage to any individual the selectmen may require him to bear such portion of land damages and expenses of constructing and maintaining it, and the gates and bars across it if any, or any of the same, as they may deem just; and the highway may be laid out subject to such condition.

ANNOTATIONS 1. Illegal conditions. Where the permissible condition is illegally imposed, any person appealing from the layout may take advantage of the illegality notwithstanding the individual for whose benefit the highway was laid out is willing to assent to the imposition...

It is our understanding that subject road is of special advantage to the subdivider of Granite Hill.

The article to accept Federal funds for the creation of recreational facilities was unanimously defeated. It was the sense of the Meeting that the Town should not yield control to the Federal Bureaucracy, but should develop this project

as much as possible with volunteer labor and by contributions. \$2000 was voted to bulldoze out the stumps and to prepare the area.

The proposed adoption of the Australian Ballot System was tabled.

It was voted to increase the Bicentennial Commission by three members. The Selectmen have appointed Stewart Ross James, Thomas Baird, and Christine Blais.

The Selectmen's salaries were increased from \$450 to \$600 a year, so that they will now earn approximately 15 cents an hour.

Most of the rest of the Meeting, except for routine matters, was devoted to zoning in one form or another. The new proposed Zoning Ordinance was defeated 50 -60. Comments indicated that the objections were to the three new proposed districts and to the article prohibiting having even a single unregistered vehicle exposed. The article to elect the Planning Board was defeated 30 - 52. The article to raise and appropriate \$3000 for legal expenses to enforce the junk car, etc., ordinance was defeated on a tie vote and again defeated when reintroduced by Selectman Webber under the final article, when most people had gone home. The proposed extension of the moratorium on subdivisions was tabled.

Charles Gilman was elected Selectman. Lee Robbins is the Selectman member of the Planning Board. Ken Marrer was replaced on the Planning Board by Jerry Merrifield.

Taxes 1976

Based on the 1975 assessment and the figures given by the Selectmen at Town Meeting, the estimated tax rate for 1976 compared with the 1975 tax rate per \$1000 valuation is:

		Est. 1976	1975
Voted at Town Meeting	Municipal	\$ 14.40	\$ 12.90
Voted at School Meeting	School	23.30	21.20
Proposed Budget	County	3.90	3.10

\$ 41.60 \$ 37.20

Note: The County Tax does not include the cost of the new Court House or the remodeling of the old Court House. The County Tax, until now a minor part of our tax, is threatening to rise substantially. We are following this, but as of now the decisions which control the tax are in limbo.



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Deadline is the 10th of each month.

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Town Business Hours

105 Old Homestead Highway, Richmond NH 03470

William Daniels, Doug Bersaw, Andrew Wallace

Mon. 9 AM – 12 PM, 3 – 7 PM, 5:30 – 7 PM for business
7 PM – ? for public concerns)

Wed. 9 AM – 1 PM

Thurs. 9 AM – 12 NOON (unless posted)

Public is welcome to attend. Please call for an appointment if you have an item for the agenda.

Town Administrator: Susan Harrington

Administrative Assistant: Vacant

Town Clerk: Annette Tokunaga

Deputy Town Clerk:

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

Wed. 9 – 12 noon, 1 – 4 PM, Thurs. 9 AM – 12 NOON

Tax Collector: Steve Boscarino

Deputy Tax Collector: Joanne Cote

Mon. 6 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 9 AM – 12 NOON

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

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