



The Something to Crow About RICHMOND ROOSTER

May 2019

May and Getting Outdoors More

Karen O'Brien

I've been reading a lot lately about the benefits of being outdoors. As a gardener and owner of a farm, I spend a portion of each day outside – whether I want to or not. The plants and animals need to be tended to, and so I bundle up whatever the time of year and venture out. I am also inclined, in order to get some aerobic exercise, to walk in nearby woods, rather than on a treadmill. During the time I spend outdoors, I find myself contemplating nature, organizing my thoughts, and generally focusing on breathing in the greenness that I am surrounded by. I know I feel more at peace and content, as well as more alive.

So it was not much of a surprise, and more of an affirmation, to learn that there is now some scientific evidence showing that exposure to plants and nature provides a measure of benefits for stress-related ailments such as high anxiety and blood pressure. Time spent in green spaces also brings increased concentration and happiness.

According to an article in *Nursery Management* (Feb. 8, 2013), studies by Geoffrey Donovan of the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station, as well as others, have shown that mortality rates increase in areas where there is tree loss due to emerald ash borer. As trees can improve air quality, it is probable that the loss of trees can lead to cardiovascular and respiratory distress.

The article also goes on to provide information from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on the calming effect for children with AD/HD symptoms. Performing activities in green spaces had a positive affect on children, reducing their symptoms and allowing them to function better than when exposed to non-green spaces.

A related article, "Take Two Hours of Pine Forest and Call Me in the Morning," speaks of the research being done to prove the benefits of "going green." In Japan, a movement called shinrin-yoku – literally "forest bathing" – is now a standard treatment for stress

related ailments. People from the crowded cities travel to parks to partake in activities designed to relieve the stress and anxiety of modern living – smelling, tasting, and touching the green world. Researchers are proving that nature can be a true ally in combating the stresses of modern life, lowering blood pressure, relieving depression, and even possibly preventing cancer. The 48 Forest Therapy Trails throughout Japan are being utilized by thousands with positive results.

Yoshifumi Miyazaki (University of Chiba) and Qing Li (Nippon Medical School) are using field tests, hormone analysis and brain-imaging technology to quantify what is happening physically and psychologically to those who wander the woods. They are proving the benefits of green space on human health and well-being, with results lasting even after you return home.

Additionally, there is evidence that digging in the dirt – i.e. gardening – can be of benefit, too. First, gardening can be good exercise, as well as being meditative, fun (mostly!), nurturing, and allowing us to connect with nature on another level. But beyond that, there is a strain of bacteria in soil, *Mycobacterium vaccae*, that has been found to trigger levels of serotonin, which can lessen anxiety and cause an elevation of mood. It may even have the positive effect of improving cognitive function, and even have a beneficial effect on cancer and other diseases. Mary O'Brien (no relation) of the Royal Marsden Hospital in London, demonstrated the benefits in her lung cancer patients when they were inoculated with this bacteria. Further experiments on mice by Dr. Chris Lowry of Bristol showed

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that use of the bacteria led to less stressed mice – and so may be useful in depression. Of course, there are also lots of dangerous or unhealthy things in soil, too, but I do know that I feel better after a gardening session and getting dirt under my fingernails.

So, if you are planning a vacation, go to a natural area, one with lots of green space. Try to be outside at least one weekend a month. Visit a park or spend time in your garden. Being near the water is also of benefit. In the winter, get to a greenhouse at a nursery or botanic garden and inhale the scents of greenery and the damp soil. I know that being in my greenhouse, tending my seedlings, calms, and centers me. Get a little dirt under your fingernails and cherish and protect the pockets of green in your neighborhood. Stay green and gritty. To read the articles, go to:

<https://www.outsideonline.com/bcse/search>

<http://www.healinglandscapes.org/blog/2011>

Hewes Hill and Tipping Rock

Carol Jameson and Jon Hill

This is an out-and-back hike of about two miles (or more if you explore around the top of the hill) with an elevation change under 500 feet. It has been a hiking destination in Swanzey for more than a century. The trail takes you uphill to a massive 40-ton boulder that you can actually make move. Then on to stunning granite cliffs with sweeping vistas, perfect clearings for a picnic and narrow catwalks on the side of the cliff. Our thanks to the Monadnock Conservancy, the Swanzey Open Space Committee and the land owners who granted the conservation easement. The trail is well-maintained and well-marked with blue blazes. A map is posted at the trailhead and sometimes available online at the Swanzey town website or at Swanzey Center Town Hall. It is a good trail for wet seasons, generally dry with few spots that could get muddy.

To get there, take Route 32 north from Four Corners into Swanzey, turn left on Warmac Road and park in the small parking area across from Chebaco Kennel. Do not block the gate into the field. Walk to the far right corner of the field and you will see the trailhead, with a map of the blue-blazed trail.

The hike begins as a gradual but steady incline through a mixed hardwood forest to Tipping Rock. The forest has a good variety of trees – hemlock, white and red oak, white and red pine, maple, birch, beech and even serviceberry (amelanchier, also called shad be-



cause it blooms in early Spring when the shad run). The granite ledge and the number and size of the boulders increase as you climb. You will know you are approaching Tipping Rock when the trail begins to level. Tipping Rock is a massive boulder as large as a small house that sits firmly on granite ledge. If you rest your shoulder and push, you can set it rocking back and forth.

Tipping Rock is only the first gem in the hike – the next stage takes you over very gently rolling terrain through hemlock and oak, past granite cliff formations, ledge and more giant boulders. It was April 4 when we walked, but there were still ice formations here and there on our right where snow had melted and started to flow down a boulder or ledge, freezing again on its way down. There are several sweeping overlooks on your left, to the west. Because of the irregular town boundaries, there is a three town view – Swanzey, Winchester, and Richmond. As you look out, you see the Franconia Range in Richmond to the far left and Franklin Mountain (with the cell tower) to the extreme right. In between are views of (we think) Bullard Mountain, Gunn Mountain, Rattlesnake or Gardner,



and then Willis and Willard, going from right to left. From a higher overlook, we were even able to spot

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Meetinghouse Mountain in Winchester as a distant low hill with a cell tower, in the far center of the vista. You can make out some of the roads that branch off of Swanzey Lake

Road, by the land contours and the very few fields and houses that are visible. Rabbit Hollow Road would be hidden by the contours of the land, but the visible line of trees with one house and a large field could be Winch Hill Road. Mostly, you see undeveloped woodland, as if no one had settled here for generations.

When you get towards the top, yet another fun stage begins – exploring the small clearings and catwalks off of the trail. The trail is now on top of a cliff with a steep drop off on your left (west). As you pass the overlooks on your left, notice when you see a double trail marker with the top mark to the right of the bottom mark – this is the universal trail sign indicating that the trail turns or curves to the right. At many of these markings, there

is a side trail or clearing to the left. This is not part of the trail indicator system, but a feature of the topography. One such spot is a perfect large clearing for a picnic. Others are narrow catwalks overlooking the steep drop of the cliff. The trail markers end before the summit of Hewes Hill. Continue straight for a short distance to reach the top. The view to the east and north is mostly obstructed by treetops, although you can see a clearing in the distance through the trees that might be the Keene Airport. Continue north over the top on an unmarked footpath and you will come to red blazes that mark the property line of the conservation easement. You will also see the other side of one of the catwalks you spotted when you were heading up the blue blazed trail. Retrace your steps to back track down to your car.

Town Clerk's Calendar

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

WED. May 22: CLOSED – Attending Regional Clerk's Meeting

MON. May 27: CLOSED for Memorial Day

THU. May 30: Deadline to license dogs to avoid late penalty fees

Indoor Yard Sale?

Pam Bielunis

Is anyone interested in an "Indoor Yard Sale" at the Vets Hall? Individuals would reserve a table for \$10-20 to be donated to the Richmond Food Pantry or some other town benefit. Vendors would bring their goods to the Vets Hall and all trash and unsold items would be removed by the individual vendors.

If interested, contact Pam at 239-6498 or email pjb327@msn.com. Looking for suggestions of dates, one- or two-day event, Friday-Saturday, or Saturday-Sunday. Just looking to see if there is interest in town. I am willing to organize it. Thanks.

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Property Tax Relief

Annette Tokunaga

If you are single and earn \$20,000 or less or are married and earn \$40,000 or less, you may qualify for tax relief from the State of NH. The form (DP-8) can be found on the State website, www.revenue.nh.gov. They are also available at the Town Hall for anyone wishing to pick one up. The claim must be postmarked no later than June 30. Please call the clerk's office at 239-6202 for more information.

Library News

Wendy O'Brien

Every Saturday, 10:30, Knitting Circle

Every Wednesday, 10:00, Story Hour

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sat. May 4, 10:30-11:30: Community Coffee Hour

Tues. May 14, 6:00: Book Club: Still Life

Thurs. May 16, 5:00: Teen Pizza Night

Save the Dates!

Sat. June 8, Plant Dividing Exchange: Do you have too many plants in your garden? Would you like to meet other Richmond gardeners? Drop by the Library between 11-12 and we will have a leave-a-plant, take-a-plant table outside and coffee and tea inside. Expert



Richmond gardeners will be on hand to help you divide your plants and answer any questions you may have about your garden.

Sat. June 15, Summer Reading Kickoff: Join us with the Parks and Recreation Committee for a blast off into summer reading – A Universe of Stories!

New Titles

Game of Thrones, 7th Season

The Map of Salt and Stars, Jennifer Zeynab Joukhadar

Cemetery Road, Greg Iles

Where the Crawdads Sing, Deila Owens

Run Away, Harlan Coben

Celtic Empire, Clive Cussler

The Last Second, Catherine Coulter

Bridge of Clay, Marcus Zusak

Book Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 14 at 6:00 PM. We will be reading *Still Life* by Louise Penny. "Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec and his team of investigators are called to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montréal and yet a world away. Jane Neal, a long-time resident of Three Pines, has been found dead in the woods. The locals are certain it's a tragic hunting accident and nothing more but Gamache smells something





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foul this holiday season...and is soon certain that Jane died at the hands of someone much more sinister than a careless bowhunter," 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.

Energy Hub

Susan Opal

Learn More About What We Are Doing About Global Warming. We Have The Technology Now To Change the World!

Richmond along with all the towns in the Monadnock Region have formed an "Energy Hub." Our hope is that we will have 100% renewable energy for all the Region. But for now we have passed 100% for Keene as of 1/18/19. We are starting with a "button-up effort" and LEDs for all. Four towns have been active for years and are having a "solarize effort," in a group deal with an installer who helps these towns get started. We hope we will be able to join in next year.

But first, we need volunteers here in Richmond. If you are interested, please let me know. You can email me at SusanOpalWyatt@gmail.com. We, in Richmond, have an opportunity to replace the windows in the orig-

inal "Schoolhouse" (3 windows). We have a Richmond Energy Volunteer Group which we would like to restart now. See some of the work that is getting started already by visiting these websites:

<https://greenmonadnock.org/hub/about/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MonadnockEnergyHub/>

<https://greenmonadnock.org/monadnock-energy-hub>.

Help WantedTown Of Richmond

Annette Tokunaga

The Town Clerk's office is seeking a part-time deputy town clerk (10-15 hours per week). Minimum qualifications include strong customer service, computer literacy, and accounting skills. Maintaining confidentiality and attention to detail required.

The successful candidate will perform all duties pertaining to this office, including processing motor vehicle registrations, issuing dog licenses, marriage licenses and vital records requests, and assisting at elections. Extensive training is required, both on-site and at State agencies in Concord. Must be a Richmond resident and flexible as to the hours and days worked.

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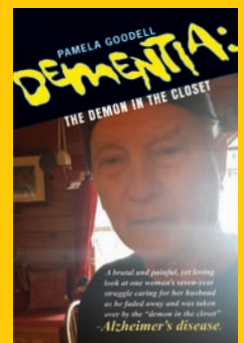
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Legislative Update

Cheshire 12 – Jennie Gomarlo

The legislature is at crossover where the house will be hearing bills passed by the senate and vice versa. Bills of note passed by the house are the repeal of the death penalty, decriminalization and taxation of cannabis, limiting concealed weapons on school grounds, and lastly, the house version of the proposed budget for the 2020 and 2021 biennium. The finance committee focused on more aid to towns for schools and property tax relief. The repeal of the education tax credit was tabled.

My committee is working on a Wayfair decision bill

(the SCOTUS decision to allow states to collect tax from vendors in other states) in an attempt to protect our small businesses, and also a tax reapportionment bill on intangible goods and services regarding market based method as opposed to cost of performance method which we have here. The testimony from a business owner who does marketing in many states for the food industry was eye opening. He is taxed on 100% of his sales here in NH and then taxed on any sales he has in states with the market based method, such as Maine.

Next week we will hear the senate bills on simulcast racing, historical racing, and casino gambling.

Reach me at jennie.gomarlo@leg.state.nh.us or 352-9282. Thank you and Happy Spring

Council Meeting

Debora Pignatelli

Executive Councilor, NH District 5


The Governor and Executive Council met on March 27. Here are items I think of interest to Council District 5.

The next Governor and Council Meeting was held on Wed., April 17 at 10 am. in the Executive Council Chamber at the State House in Concord, NH. Our meetings are always open to the public. Please let me know if you would like to attend so that I may greet you personally. <https://debipignatelli.us18.list-manage.com>

Division of Economic & Housing Stability

#10 Authorized to enter into a sole source agreement with Southwestern Community Services Inc., Keene, NH, to provide a permanent housing program to homeless individuals and families through the Federal Continuum of Care program in an amount not to exceed \$88,195. Effective April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020. 100% Federal Funds. Vote: Unanimous
#23 Authorized to enter into a sole source contract with Southern New Hampshire Services Inc., Manchester,

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NH, to supplement the Agency's Weatherization Assistance program, in the amount of \$595,220. Effective March 27, 2019 through December 31, 2019. 100% Federal Funds (LIHEAP-US DHHS). Vote: Unanimous
#25 Authorized to enter into a sole source contract with Southwestern Community Services Inc., Keene, NH, to supplement the Agency's Weatherization Assistance program, in the amount of \$227,345. Effective March 27, 2019 through December 31, 2019. 100% Federal Funds (LIHEAP-US DHHS). Vote: Unanimous

#51 Authorized the Division of Education Analytics and Resources to enter into a sole source contract with GEM Consulting, Hollis, NH, to process assessment and accountability data, document routines necessary for continued processing of required assessment and accountability data, documentation, source control entry, and knowledge transfer, in the amount of \$50,000. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2019. 100% Federal Funds. Vote: Unanimous

#71 Authorized the Division of Public Works Design and Construction to enter into a contract amendment with D.L. King & Associates Inc., Nashua, NH (originally approved by G&C on 6-20-18, **late item #A**), for the Supreme Court roof, Concord, NH, by increasing the base amount by \$18,539.40 from \$956,450 to \$974,989.40. Effective upon G&C approval through May 31, 2019. 87.50% General, 0.41% Transfer, 12.09% Other Funds. Vote: Unanimous

Late Item #A. TABLED – The Governor and Council on motion of Councilor Volinsky, seconded by Councilor Pignatelli voted to table the request to enter into agreements with AmeriHealth Caritas NH Inc.; Boston Medical Center Health Plan Inc.; and Granite State Health Plan Inc., to provide health care services to eligible and enrolled Medicaid participants through NH's Medicaid managed care program known as NH Medicaid Care Management, in an amount, for State Fiscal Year 2020 shared by all vendors, not to exceed \$924,150,000. Effective upon G&C approval, with providing services to members July 1, 2019 through the completion date of June 30, 2024. Funds for Granite Advantage Health Program are 93% Federal and 7% Other for calendar year 2019 and 90% Federal and 10% other for calendar year 2020; funds for the Child Health Insurance Program are 79.4% Federal and 20.6% General funds, and funds for the standard Medicaid population funding under the Medicaid Care Management account are 51% Federal, 24.3% General and 24.7%



Other funds. Vote: 4-1

This item had been placed on the table one month ago so that we Councilors could hold informational meetings and ask questions of the Health and Human Services Department and the three vendors chosen to provide Medicaid services for the state for the next five years. This is a five-year contract and the most money spent on a contract – almost one billion dollars! After two public informational meetings and many emails back and forth, I felt I could support this contact and voted in favor. It begins July 1.

Destination Imagination

Jerry Kuhn, Membership Coordinator
Monadnock Regional High School is having another successful year in its participation in the New Hampshire Destination ImagiNation program. MRHS once again sponsored one of the state's four regional meets on March 16. During the NHDI competitive season, I received many compliments on the way we run our regional tournament, and people from around the state remarked at how impressed they were with the welcome they received in our facility from the entire staff.

We started the competitive season with three teams. All three teams were co-managed by me and my wife Bernadette Kuhn.

One team participated in the "Monster Effects," the Structural challenge. They needed to design a structure

that would be efficient and act as a triggering device for a special effect used for their presentation. This team included Allison Newell ('21), Ariana Pimentel ('21), Lillian Pouliot ('20), Matthew Roberts ('21), and Joshua Roy ('19).

Another team competed in the "On Target" Technical challenge where they had to design a flying vehicle that could drop a payload on a target. This team included Alexis Bauer ('20), Heather Doyle ('19), Taylor Jackson ('20), Jackson Streeter ('19), Simon Swartout ('19), and Crimson Wheeler ('19).

Our third team took on the "Heads Up" Improvisational challenge where they had to present an improvised scene based on research they did on individuals found on coins from around the world, using verbal and non-verbal techniques, with a switch from a comedic to tragic storyline. This team included Colin Ellsworth ('19), Talee Messenger ('19), Molly Robinson ('21), Olivia Stanley ('19), and Christopher Wilder ('20).

All three teams were invited to participate in the NHDI State Tournament on March 30, held at Nashua High School. The "Monster Effects" team took 4th place, after doubling their structural efficiency since the regional tournament. The "On Target" team took 3rd place with the top score in the instant challenge portion of the competition. The "Heads Up" Improv team took 1st place in their competition, once again earning an invitation to go on to the Destination Imagination Global Finals Tournament to be held in Kansas City, MO from May 20-25.

Global Finals is an exciting event, at which our teams will have the opportunity to meet and compete with teams from all of North America and over a dozen other countries as well. Over the past 21 years, I am proud to report that MRHS has brought 25 teams to this level of competition, which really speaks to the quality of work our kids are capable of producing.

While we are excited for the teams competing at the

Global level, Bernadette and I want to emphasize our pride for *all our kids*. DI has always brought out their best, and given them opportunities to learn the importance of working together as a team and to be able to appreciate and learn from setbacks. Their hard work and dedication, and the fun they had while becoming more competent problem solvers and critical thinkers, gives us the chance, over time, to see incredible growth in many of our kids through their participation in this program. We couldn't ask for better representatives of Husky Pride.

Jerry Kuhn
MRHS DI Building Coordinator
Monadnock Regional Middle/High School
Swansey, NH, 03446
Tel: 352-6575 ext. 116 Fax: 355-1209

Save This Date to Dedicate The Civil War Monument

Bonnie McCarthy

Sunday, June 9, 2019, will mark almost exactly eleven months since the Richmond Heritage Commission and the Richmond Historical Society kicked off their joint project to honor Richmond's Greatest Generation, our Civil War soldiers. We held a highly successful and well-attended program featuring Hank Hallas, who discussed and presented a binder detailing research on each of the 79 Richmond men who served our country in the Civil War. At this time we announced our plans to create a bronze plaque and granite monument to honor these soldiers. One-month-and-one-day shy of the anniversary of our July 8, 2018, announcement, Richmond will celebrate the dedication of its newly installed Civil War Monument at Veterans' Memorial Park (adjacent to the Veterans' Memorial Hall), 150 Old Homestead Highway at 2:00 pm. And what a family celebration it will be!

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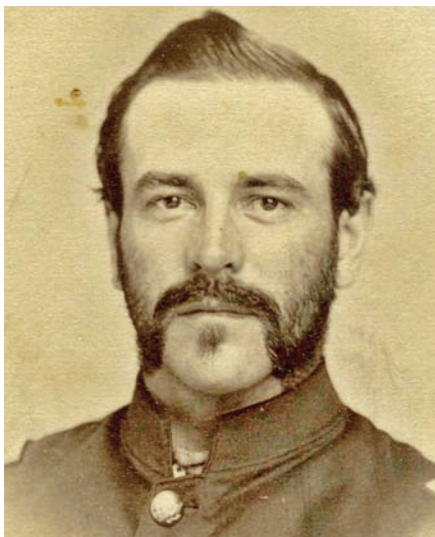
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6th New Hampshire Regiment will serve as Honor Guard to formally dedicate this monument to the 79 soldiers and to share their knowledge of the Civil War. They will be in full uniform and prepare a small camp exhibit to show how military personnel subsisted during these treacherous times. Inside the Veterans' Memorial Hall there will be various artifacts, books, photographs, music, and, of course, refreshments. There will also be a coloring table for the young and the young at heart. Plenty of parking is available, but be aware that this is an outdoor activity, rain or shine, and watch for pedestrians.



The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 2:00 pm with the unveiling of the monument and a reading of each of the 79 names by Hank Hallas. Jerry Mills will ring a bell after each name is read. The New Hampshire 6th Captain of the Guard will muster the troops, who will lay a wreath at the monument. There will then be a regimental, musket salute, after which taps will be played.

At some time during the ceremony, we hope to have a fly over by either F-15 jets from Barnes Air Force Base or straight wing planes from Manchester or Vermont. Negotiations are still in progress as I write this article. We sincerely extend an invitation to this family event as participants are eager to share their knowledge of the Civil War and honor the Richmond residents who served.

Getting to Know Your Advertisers

Bonnie McCarthy

Since January 2019, *The Richmond Rooster* has been publishing gardening articles and tips from Karen O'Brien, who cultivates "The Green Woman's Garden" at 335 Whipple Hill Road in Richmond. Karen is originally from Worcester, MA, but spent many years in Mendon, MA, where in 2007 she founded The Green Woman's Garden at her 18th-century farm. She has gardened for more than 40 years and is a certified Master Gardener. She volunteers as the Botany and Horticultural Chair of The Herb Society of America and the Secretary of the International Herb Association. Recently, I visited Karen and her boyfriend Mike, at her 50+ acre wooded spread, which includes seven acres in Winchester abutting Pudding Hill Road. It is a good thing that Mike is a congenial, well-rounded contractor because Karen has plenty of creative ideas for the enhancement of the house and immediate surroundings.

Karen's intention from the beginning has been to help people learn forgotten skills that support a sustainable, natural lifestyle. With her recent move to Richmond, she plans to continue to explore ways for people to enrich their lives and homes through the use of herbs and natural plantings. In March, in conjunction with Susan Marsden, Carol Jameson, and the Richmond Public Library, she gave a well-attended workshop on seed planting. As she told me, "Planting a seed and seeing it emerge is magical. It still thrills me, after all these years, to experience that first sliver of green break the




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surface of the soil.” Karen has plans for future green gardening workshops at the pavilion behind the library. If anyone has suggested topics, please contact Karen at karen@greenwomansgarden.com or call 413-225-2144. She likes nothing more than sharing her knowledge of how natural plants and herbs can enhance our lives by the delight of their fragrance, the enhancement of landscape, the creation of homemade products, their decorative use, and their attraction of beneficial insects. According to Karen, “The use of natural plants and herbs is becoming critical to providing pollen, nectar, and habitat to pollinators.”

To enjoy the pleasures of cultivating plants, you do not need a lot of space or unending time. Gardens of any size can be grown in the ground, in window boxes, and almost anywhere in containers. Karen has a wide variety of native plants and herbs for sale, including my favorites – heirloom tomato and hot pepper plants. Her website and Facebook page, *The Green Woman's Garden* list the many, unusual items she has available. Her hours on Whipple Hill are by appointment, but you can call or email an order at any time for either pick up or delivery. Custom orders are always welcome. Depending on the time of year, she can start from seed and deliver the mini-nascent garden of your heart's desire in transplantable form.

Baked Chicken Dijon

Terri O'Rorke

- 4 Tblsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 Tblsp. water or vegetable oil
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1/2 tsp. Italian seasoning
- 1 lb. boneless chicken breasts

Mix all ingredients in a large bowl. Add chicken, mixing to coat. Bake at 375° for about 20 minutes or until done. Goes well with steamed vegetables such as broccoli and a side salad. Serves 4.

Parks and Recreation

Karen Daugherty

I hope everyone enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt and the on-going Ladies Game Nights! It's time to pitch in as a community and keep our town clean.

Our next event is Roadside clean-up on Saturday, May 4th. If everyone cleans up along their property up to their neighbors', this town should be free from Roadside clutter. Free trash bags are available at the library now. Please leave your filled trash bags along Route 119 and 32 so the Road Agent can pick them up on May 4th. Thank you!

It's that time of year again. The beach will be equipped with buoys and a porta-potty for Memorial

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Day weekend. Get your swimsuits and floats ready! Please remember – DO NOT FEED THE DUCKS OR GEESE at the pond so that we can keep our swimming area clean for the entire season. Cass Pond is a carry-in/carry-out beach. Please bring your trash home.

We hope to see you at these upcoming events:

May 4: The town Roadside Clean-up.

Gloves and trash bags provided at the library.

May 17: Ladies Game Night at 6pm at the Vet's Hall

June: Annual Summer Reading Kick-off, picnic, and Tie-Dye Party

July: Annual Beach Party

August: "Back to School" Party

Things and Thoughts from the District

Neil Moriarty

If you have a problem that you can't seem to solve – Try calling 211 which will put you in touch with a host of resources that provide assistance.

1. Teachers Take Insurance Pool to Supreme Court

In spite of a new Teachers Contract worth \$226,993, your teaching staff still claims that \$390,000 is in the Insurance pool. That means that besides an increase in pay, they are still looking to share your property taxes of about \$390,000 between about 105 people!

2. MRSD School Water is Tested including for Lead

Here is a statement directly from our Maintenance Director David Lapointe:

"Water (is tested) at all schools, yes, lead testing has been going on for a few years now. We are mandated to have all water supply checked for lead by the end of June. We have already completed that. We are all set."

I put this in here as a result of a rant on TV that water is not checked in particular school water.

3. Your Budget Committee survived the attack – We still have a Budget Committee at Monadnock; congratulations to Richmond's Doug Bersaw.



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4. Monadnock (and Winchester School District) joins CONVAL in suing the State for more State Funding for Education. Although months or years away from any settlement, our attorney feels we have taken the right approach.

5. Update On Winter Sports:

Anthony Tomer and Nate Doyle played boys basketball Player of the Year Girls Basketball Division III was our Caitlyn Boucher; selected to the second team Gwen Simpson; finally, Coach of the Year Curt Dutilley (two championships in three years); all from MRSD. Well done.

6. Ms Isabelle Schmidt made the 2nd-trimester Honor Roll from Emerson. I received no honor roll kids from Cutler.

As always, thank you for reading my article, if you have a suggestion, comments, or items you wish me to cover, contact me at cmoriarty@ne.rr.com, 603-239-4031 or at 782 Old Homestead Hwy, Richmond NH 03470.

Barbara Hull Richardson (1922 - 2019)

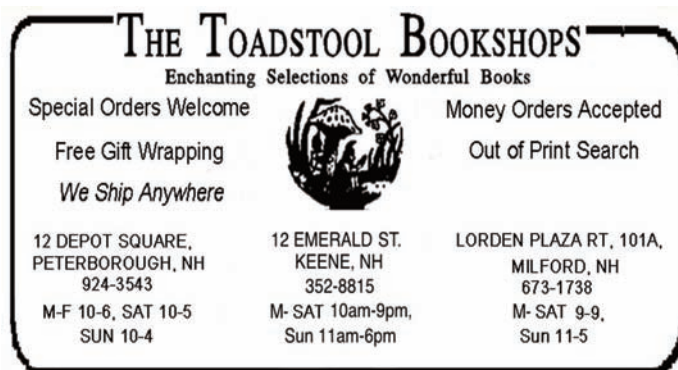
Longtime Richmond Resident

Reprint from Legacy.com

Barbara Hull Richardson died at home in Keene, NH on March 23, 2019, surrounded by her children, and with the support of family, friends, and caregivers.

Barbara was born on September 30, 1922 to Clara Woodruff and Robert Alonzo Hull, joining her older brothers Robert Alonzo, Jr. and Lewis Woodruff, and later joined by her brother John Laurence. Barbara grew up in Waverly, Pennsylvania, and Hull family reunions continue to this day on her brother Bob's family's Spring Hills Farm in neighboring Dalton.

Raised as a Christian Scientist by her father, Barbara was a life-long pacifist, and, inspired by the Peace Pilgrim, became a vegetarian in 1962. In spite of her small stature and quiet manner, Barbara never wavered



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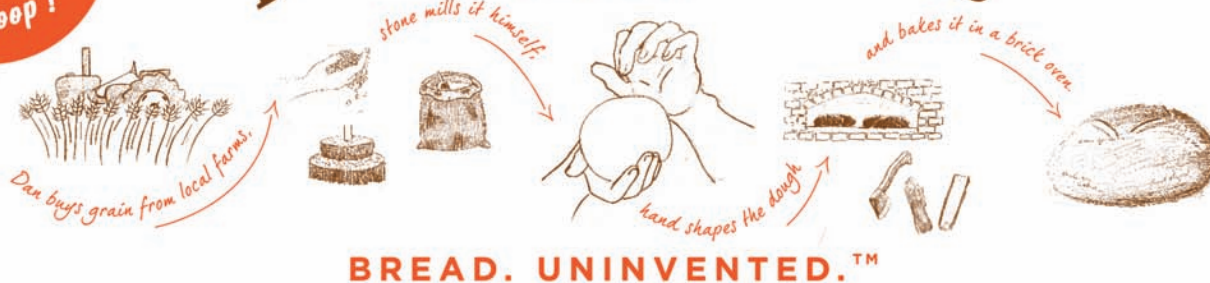
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from her public service and work on behalf of her beliefs and values, and she could be a formidable opponent when the need arose. Barbara inspired family, friends, clients, and coworkers by her example, living purposely and simply to make the world a better place, especially for those in need.



Barbara graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 1944. Her first job after graduation was as a 7th grade substitute teacher. On her 22nd birthday, she was accidentally shot by one of her students

shooting at tin cans in a pond when one of the bullets ricocheted off the surface of the pond. The bullet missed her heart by a quarter of an inch, and upon her miraculous recovery and learning of her surgeon's own personal tragedy, Barbara decided to do something worthwhile with her life.

Barbara then lived in Boston, rooming with her best friend from college, Fran Reiner Lax, attending Boston University (towards a masters degree), and working as a social worker at a settlement house in South Boston.

Barbara married Elmer Murray Richardson on September 6, 1947. They had four children – Barbara Ann, Laurence Hull (Larry), Christine (Chris), and Lovel. They lived in Chestnut Hill, PA; Old Greenwich, CN; Norwich, VT; and Fitzwilliam, NH. Elmer died in 1979, and Barbara moved to Richmond, NH in 1991. Barbara first came to NH in the summer of 1943 as a Hut Girl at Pickham Notch, spending all her free time hiking in the White Mountains along the Appalachian Trail.

Barbara helped bring the first Head Start Program to NH (in Keene), securing all the necessary local, state, and federal approvals as well as grant funding. With Eleanor Towns, Barbara started Task Force Share, which later became Project Share, providing donated appliances and home furnishings and volunteer services to people referred by social service agencies.

In 1966, Barbara began her career working for the State of New Hampshire's Division of Welfare, first as a caseworker. After receiving a Masters of Social Work degree from Smith College School for Social Work in 1973, Barbara became an administrator, commuting each day to Concord. Barbara worked as a Program Manager and wrote child services policy. She traveled all over the state helping to make permanent plans for children in foster care placement. Always ahead of her time, in the 1970s and '80s, Barbara worked on open



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adoption policy and policy to allow for adoption and foster care by gay and lesbian individuals and same-sex couples.

Subsequent to her first retirement, Barbara was elected to nine terms in the New Hampshire State Legislature, serving until 2010. At one point she was the only Democrat to be Clerk – with no other Democrats as Chairs, Vice-Chairs, or Clerks – for the Children and Family Law Committee. Barbara’s primary goal in the State Legislature was to establish the most equitable and fair way to fund public education, which is with an income tax as opposed to the property tax. Her seat-mates had been instructed that if she were to die on the floor to just prop her body up and keep voting on her behalf for an income tax!

Barbara served on a number of non-profit and educational boards. Barbara was one of the founders of Cheshire Housing Trust, and was a friend and supporter of Doris ‘Granny D’ Haddock, carrying on Granny D’s work through PACE (Promoting Active Civil Engagement) and Open Democracy.

Barbara is survived by her son Larry Hull Richardson of Richmond, NH, daughter Chris Richardson of White River Junction, VT, and daughter Lovel Pratt and her husband Boyd Cooke Pratt of Friday Harbor, WA; grandchildren Meghan Hull Follansbee, Seth Lewis Follansbee and his wife Olga Cecilia Follansbee, Li Edwards Richardson, Eli Gao Richardson, Jehshua Barnes, Maya Barnes, Nissa Cullen and her husband Tim Cullen, Robert Halloway Dunn-Pratt, Gemma Cooke Felton and her husband Tyler Felton, Theo Hull Pratt, Elwyn Dyer Pratt; great grandchildren Julian Hart, Tessa Francis Cullen, Reese Avery Cullen, Aiden Alexander Felton, and Rosalee Cooke Felton; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins; and innumerable friends.

Barbara’s only (and most enjoyable!) vice in life was books. Due to the loss in annual sales that the Toadstool Bookstore will suffer as a result of her death, everyone is encouraged to purchase books there or at their own favorite local independent bookstore. In lieu of flowers, donations are encouraged to Hospice at Home Healthcare (PO Box 564, Keene, NH 03431-0564), CAS A of NH (39 Central Square, Keene, NH 03431), or a charity of your choice.

A celebration of Barbara’s life will be held on Sunday, September 29, 2019 at 2:00 pm at the Keene Unitarian Universalist Church (69 Washington Street, Keene, NH).

Reta R. Haskins

Reprint from *The Keene Sentinel*

Our community came together on April 1, 2019, to celebrate the life of Reta Rebecca Haskins. The pews of St. James Episcopal Church in Keene were filled to capacity as family, friends and co-workers lined every corner and aisle to honor Reta. Rev. Elsa Worth officiated the services, and Walt Sayre and Walden Whitham provided the music.

Reta was born on June 18, 1982, in Peterborough, to Terry and Rebecca Haskins, weighing in just shy of ten pounds. She grew up on the “fun end” of Dover Street in Keene with her parents and her siblings, Lauren, Sean, and Terren. It was an idyllic street for the children



to play together, with their faithful dog, Charlie, dutifully watching over them and the other neighborhood kids. When Reta was six-years-old, the family decided that they needed more room for their very active clan, so they moved to Richmond, where she spent the remainder of her school years playing sports, working, studying, and socializing.

The Haskins’ home in Richmond became a gathering place for family and friends. It was there that Reta decided that the family needed to add her friend Jennifer Lavery to the bunch, which they did with open arms. Adding Jen as a daughter and sister was a decision that they never regretted. The home, and the fields and woods that surround it, were always a place full of laughter, joyful chaos, and adventure. Reta loved their home and Richmond, a place where many funny, wonderful, and sometimes hair-raising events took place that will be talked about as part of the Richmond lore for years to come.

In high school, Reta was an outstanding athlete on the basketball court and the soccer field; she was voted “Female Athlete of the Year” her senior year. During and after high school, Reta worked in various restaurants in the Keene area. In 2004, she gave birth to her son Caleb, the love of her life, her shining star, the reason she got up in the morning and put her best foot forward every single day.

In 2006, she moved to the Seacoast to be closer to her sister Lauren, and continued to work in the restaurant industry. In 2013, she enrolled in the nursing program at Great Bay Community College and later transferred into the distance Surgical Technology Program at Northern Arizona University in 2014. Graduating with an associate's degree as a certified surgical technologist in 2015, she worked at Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, Atlantic Plastic Surgery in Portsmouth, under the mentorship of Dr. Heidi Herrington, and eventually at Portsmouth Medical Center. In 2018, she also completed her certification as a surgical first assistant and was continuing to work toward the completion of her bachelor's degree while working full time. Joining the medical profession was a life-changing experience for Reta. She had found her calling. She was motivated, engaged and passionate about her work, always learning and teaching others. When she talked about her work with her family (or anyone, really), she lit up when describing something she had learned from a challenging case in the OR: who she was working with, what she was studying, or where her career would take her next. She excelled in this field and was highly regarded by her co-workers. She had never been happier, and all who loved her find comfort in the joy and success that she found in her work.

Reta loved her life, her son, her family, her friends, her job, and her co-workers. She was fiercely loyal, resilient, kind and generous, and she demonstrated a remarkable strength of character and work ethic in all that she accomplished. Her wit and intellect, her grace and style always shined. She loved the beach and the woods, reading, yoga and fitness, and good food, especially when shared with friends and family. Her love for Caleb was her center. She always found ways to show her love and support for her son through school, sports, activities, and travel. She held Caleb to a high standard, as she did herself, always working to thought-

fully and intelligently guide his growth, and Reta's character and light will always be seen in Caleb.

She died in the early hours on March 22 as the result of an automobile accident at the age of 36. She left behind many grieving family members and friends, but we are all comforted by the fact that she was living a loving and successful life on her own terms, and that is a testament of a life well-lived.

She is survived by her parents, Terry and Rebecca Haskins of Richmond; Jeremy, Lauren, Wyatt, Willow and Wren Horne of Madbury; Sean Haskins and Annie Daly of Brattleboro; Terren Haskins of Richmond; Cory, Jennifer, Logan and Kennedy Simmons of Phoenix, Ariz.; her son, Caleb Comstock, his father Jay Comstock, and Ana, Jack and Max of Fremont; Caleb's paternal grandparents, Fred and Sharon Comstock of Swanzey; her grandmother Mrs. Reta Bresnahan of Lunenburg, Vt.; and many aunts, uncles and cousins. She was predeceased by her maternal grandfather, Gerald Bresnahan of Lunenburg, Vt.; and uncle, Robert Bresnahan of Lancaster.

There will be a private burial at a later date. A college fund has been set up for Caleb. Anyone wishing to donate can do so at gofundme.com/caleb-comstock-fund.

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Publisher/Editor: John Boccalini 532-4945

Co-Editors: John Boccalini and Jeani Eismont

Design/Production: Eismont Design

Proofreaders: Pam Goodell, Lew Whittum, Tom LaVoie

Treasurer: Deb Coll

Social Media/Staff Photographer: Debra Carroll

This Month's Contributors:

Pam Bielunis, Jennie Gomarolo, Jon Hill, Carol Jameson,
Jerry Kuhn, Bonnie McCarthy, Neil Moriarty,
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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

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