



# The **Something to Crow About** **RICHMOND ROOSTER** **March 2020**

## MARCH MUSINGS

Karen O'Brien of The Green Woman's Garden

It has been a very cold and snowy winter here in New Hampshire. I have been busy planting seeds and potting up seedlings since the end of December. When the seed catalogs arrived in November, it was a treat to page through and decide what varieties of herbs, flowers, and vegetables I would attempt this year. Sometimes my selection is based on tried-and-true plants – for example, I would never miss planting Pruden's Purple tomato. Often, my choices are influenced by an article in an herb or gardening magazine attesting to the superior attributes of a specific variety that pique my interest. The fun of planting your own seeds is that your options are limited only by your available space or pocketbook – you are no longer restricted to what your neighborhood garden shop offers. You can really add some incredible plant variety to “spice up” your garden!



In this new year of hope and with an eye towards self-sufficiency and sustainability, I will be emphasizing how to get the most out of your garden, and how to properly site and care for your plants. You need not have a large area just for your herbs. Many can be easily tucked in amongst other plantings where their color, shape and scent will blend in with or enhance your landscape. Or you may decide to simply group a few pots of herbs on your patio. Whatever you decide, my wish is that you try a little greening of your world.

It is not too late to start some of your own seedlings.

If you have never done this before, there are a few key things you will need to know, as well as a few purchases you will have to make.

It is important to realize that you will most likely need an additional light source. Windowsill gardening at this time of year does not produce the best results. If you've tried this, you may have noticed that your seedlings become very spindly, or leggy. They are reaching for the light source, which is the window, and will lean towards it. The best solution is to acquire some type of fluorescent light fixture. Shop lights can be found at many hardware stores for around \$20. A four-foot light will accommodate 2 flats of plants. Though you can spend the money for special grow lights if you wish, you can substitute one cool bulb and one warm bulb to achieve almost the same result. One important point is that the light source should be very close to the growing plant – almost touching it. Therefore, you should have some method of raising and lowering the light – a chain is sometimes supplied with the light. A bonus of growing under lights is that you can grow your plants anywhere you have space. I used to start all of my seeds in my basement, which kept the mess out of the living room. The only caution I would make is to watch out for mice – one year I had several flats of plants sheared off as though someone had taken a scissors to them! The final note is that the lights need to be on for about 14 hours a day – a timer makes this easier.

As most seeds germinate better with a little heat (some will not germinate at all unless the soil temperature is about 70-75°F) you need to figure out a way to provide bottom heat. I use grow mats, which are self-contained, water-resistant, and pretty much fool-proof. You can also try starting seeds on top of your refrigerator, or near some other heat source. Just don't make it too warm or you may cook your plants. The trays need to be removed from the heat source once they germinate, or you will be watering them several times a day. Trays that come with a clear plastic top are the best, too, since they keep in the moisture that germinating seeds need. Many plants do not need light to germinate



(though some do – check the instructions on the seed packet) so you need not worry about providing them with light until they break through the soil.

One last thing to note is that you should always use clean, sterilized pots and a growing mixture specific for starting seeds to ensure the health of your plants. This will prevent the dreaded “damping off” of your



seedlings, which is caused by a fungus that can linger in the soil or dirty pots. The stem of the seedling will look pinched, and since nutrients will not be able to be drawn up from the soil, it will die. Most seed starting mixes contain a small amount of fertilizer, too. You will have to watch your seedlings carefully so that you give them neither too much nor too little water. As my plants grow, I usually water with a weak solution of fish emulsion every few days. This gives them a little boost and results in better plants.

For anyone first starting out planting from seed, I would suggest trying tomatoes and basil. These are very popular, and some of the easiest plants to get to grow. Even discount stores are offering heirloom seeds, which are far superior to many of the plants offered at nurs-

eries. You can choose from all sorts of varieties, rather than settle for the one or two types you might find at a garden center. My favorite seed house are Richter’s (for herbs), Pinetree Garden Seeds, and Fedco. These are all in the northeast and so often have varieties suited for our climate. They all can be ordered on-line, though at this late date they may be out of some seeds.

Don’t wait too long to plant your seeds inside. Many seeds need 6-8 weeks of optimal growing time before they can be set out in the garden. Know your last frost date, and work backwards from that to discover when you should plant. Realize, too, that you will need to spend time re-potting those little seedlings as they grow, to encourage stronger roots and sturdier plants.

Spring will be here before you know it (whatever the groundhog said!) Good luck, and remember:

*As the garden grows,*

*So does the gardener, Karen*

## AGRICULTURE IN RICHMOND

Karen O’Brien, Agriculture Commission alternate  
Agriculture has always been an important facet in New Hampshire history. The first settlers saw endless forests with majestic pines reaching to 200'. Though we now embrace trees and try to preserve and protect them, in the 1700s they were seen as obstacles to a desired result – open land for planting. According to Neith Boyce, in *The Town in the Forest – Life Story of Richmond, New Hampshire*, Richmond was granted land as part of the Massachusetts Colony in 1736, but not settled. A new grant was issued in 1752, but the Indian Wars interfered with settlement at that time. By 1765, enough people had finally tamed a section of land and located there to be able to hold a town meeting.

The first farms were planted to grain, grass, and corn, along with pear and apple trees for cider making. These first Richmond citizens were, of necessity, a hardy and independent lot. They found the easiest way to clear the land was to girdle the trees – strip the bark to essentially starve the life out of the trees. After a year, the dead tree could then be cut down. But many opted for hewing these stately giants, piling them up and then burning them. Much of this was practiced in defiance of the King of England, who had decreed that all large pines belonged to Him for use in the British Flotilla. These self-made men pretty much ignored the King and carried on as they saw fit, caring nothing for regulations that no one could enforce.



By 1820, Richmond had reached its peak. The forest was mostly gone, its population at its highest point (1391), and was described, according to Boyce, as “purely agricultural and pastoral.” *The Richmond Character*, mandating that the acres deeded to each citizen needed to be cleared within a specific amount of time, had done its job of changing the landscape and decimating the forest.

In 1821, the New Hampshire Board of Agriculture was formed to protect and regulate agriculture in the state. Though New Hampshire was better suited to the natural forest and wetlands that had been there since the Ice Age had retreated, farmers continued to work the rocky, thin soils, cultivate the hills and valleys with crops for themselves and livestock, and endured the extremes of temperature and the short growing season. The Sixth Census, in 1840, listed horses and mules, cattle, sheep, swine, and some poultry as part of the inventory of land use. At that time, Richmond produced wheat, barley, oats, rye, buckwheat, potatoes, hay, hemp, flax, and Indian corn. Over thirteen thousand pounds of maple sugar was produced – a staggering amount. The production of lumber, however, was practically non-existent, at only \$1,047, with only ten men employed.

In 1913, the State Board of Agriculture was abolished and replaced by an act of legislature as the Department of Agriculture. The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension was formalized in 1914, and in 1916 the New Hampshire Farm Bureau was established. Agriculture was booming in the state, and New Hampshire led the world in poultry production from 1930-1950. The New Hampshire breed of chicken was recognized in 1935 by the American Poultry Association. This chicken, like the state it is named for, was selected and bred to be hardy, vigorous, and of rapid growth, while being a dual-purpose meat bird that was also an excellent producer of eggs.

In 1973, The New Hampshire Current Use Law was enacted, helping preserve and protect land for agricultural use. By 1990, there was a complete reversal of agriculture versus forests. Where in 1900, agriculture was estimated at 3,250,000 acres, nearly one hundred years later it was down to 480,000 – a drop of 85%. Forests, on the other hand, increased from 22% to 87% of land usage. The tide had turned.

Conscious of the loss of farms and some of the agricultural resources that make the state so appealing, led to the approval by the legislature of the establishment of Agricultural Commissions (AgCom). For years, those working the land had been stewards of the state’s resources. This shift in land use could change the rural character of the state, which needed to balance growth with quality of life. Smaller tracts of land – some arable, some not – needed protection and support. The hard-to-describe rural character – we know it when we see it – makes many communities desirable, and many land use policies and regulations can actually cause towns to lose their lands to sprawl. Agricultural Commissions help “protect agricultural lands, preserve rural character, provide a voice for farmers, and encourage agricultural-based businesses” (*What is an Agricultural Commission [AgCom]? – New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources*)


Any concerned citizen or group can start organizing support for an AgCom in their town. In the case of Richmond, Kim Mattson first suggesting forming one, and along with Theresa Majoy, began the groundwork for forming a commission for Richmond. Their efforts were successful, and the first informal meeting was held July 22, 2011 with the purpose of electing officers. The first official meeting was held July 22 with members Theresa Majoy, Claire Jahnske, Sandy Holbrook, Wes Vaughan, Rachel Olney, and Heather Canfield attending.

Richmond’s AgCom supplied their mission state-

**Richmond Public Library**  
 19 Winchester Road, Richmond, NH 03470  
[library@richmondnh.us](mailto: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.



check out

**coop basics**

low prices everyday

MON - FRI 7AM - 9PM, SUN 9AM - 9PM  
 34 CYPRESS ST, KEENE, NH - 355 8008

**good.local.food.**  
 MONADNOCKFOOD.COOP/BASICS



**monadnock**  
 FOOD CO-OP

ment in a meeting November 1, 2012. It read:

*The Richmond Agriculture Commission supports the Town's Master Plan (section III page 7 items 5 and 7) by providing a positive way for the governing bodies of the town to consider the effects on agriculture before taking action.*

*The purpose of the Agriculture Commission is to protect and sustain agricultural lands, preserve the Town's rural character, provide a voice for farmers, and encourage agricultural-based businesses. New Hampshire farmers serve as stewards of land and water resources, and provide habitat for native plants and animals. The Agriculture Commission has no regulatory authority or enforcement powers. It serves as an information bridge between the farmers and the non-farming public.*

The goal for the Commission in the beginning was two-fold. They wanted an educational component so that interested citizens could learn various aspects of agriculture and agriculture byproducts. The second was to share what agricultural resources were already in Richmond, be it established businesses or town owned and supported resources. This led to a successful series of events, such as garden and farm tours, plant swaps, and agricultural fairs. There were joint meetings with other town boards and commissions, video nights, and pot lucks. All these were attempts to draw the whole community into recognizing and supporting agriculture in Richmond.

In their mission statement, the Richmond AgCom is not regulatory but advisory. Though there are statewide initiatives, such as the UNH Extension, NH Farm Bureau, and the Dept. of Agriculture, an agcom can deal effectively with local issues and concerns, and serve as a local voice for agriculture. They can:

- \* conduct inventories of agricultural resources, farms and buildings

- \* educate the public
- \* provide visibility for farming
- \* help protect farmland and other natural resources
- \* conduct activities to promote and encourage agriculture

In order to remain relevant and viable, the Richmond Agriculture Commission seeks input from its citizens and neighbors. We would love to hear suggestions on what we can do to further support the farmers and agricultural resources of our town. If you want to retain the rural character that is uniquely Richmond, then please reach out to us, attend our events, and stay informed. Please go to our FaceBook page – Richmond NH Agricultural Commission, *like us* and join us in supporting agriculture in Richmond. You can also contact members of the AgCom: Michele Barrett, Jennifer Daniels, Lisa Hedenberg, Mary Ann Lauretti, Louise Nolan, or Karen O'Brien at [RichmondAgCommission@gmail.com](mailto:RichmondAgCommission@gmail.com).

### Editor's Note

John Boccalini

Thanks to Karen O'Brien for the extra help this month.

### Dates to Remember

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

- Mar. 9 OPEN from 4-5pm to accept absentee ballots
- Mar. 10 Town Election Polls open 11am-7pm, Veteran's Hall
- Mar. 13 OPEN 3-5pm to accept applications for recounts of votes cast at Town Election for officers
- Mar. 14 2nd Session of Town Meeting starts at 9:00am, Veteran's Hall
- Mar. 17 Open 3-5pm to accept applications for recounts of votes cast at Town Election for any questions

**Richmond Community  
United Methodist Church**

PASTOR SHARON SARGENT

**Sunday Worship Service**  
**10:30 am**

*All are welcome to join our church family!*





**The Richmond Heritage Commission**



*Helping to bring  
Richmond's rich past  
...into the present,  
...to enhance its future*

105 Old Homestead Hwy [www.richmond.nh.gov](http://www.richmond.nh.gov)



## Town Election

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

The first session of the Town Meeting, known as the Town Election, will be held at the Veterans Memorial Hall on March 10. The polls will open at 11:00am and close at 7:00pm. The Monadnock Regional School District Election will be held at the same time.

If you are not yet a registered Richmond voter, you may register to vote on Election Day. If you are unable to come to the polls on Election Day, you can request an absentee ballot, if qualified. The conditions that qualify a voter to request an absentee ballot are listed on the Application for Town and School Election Absentee Ballot. This Application is on the Town of Richmond website, [richmond.nh.gov](http://richmond.nh.gov), on the Town Clerk's page, under the Elections bar.

The deadline for returning an absentee ballot by the voter is the day before the election no later than 5:00pm. If mailed or delivered by someone authorized to return it, the deadline is Election Day no later than 5:00pm.

The business session of the Town Meeting will commence at 9:00am on Saturday, March 14, at the Veteran's Memorial Hall. All registered voters attending this meeting will have the opportunity to discuss, amend and vote on the town budget and other business on the warrant. If you are not a registered voter and you would like to vote at the business session, please register no later than Election Day, March 10. No voter registration activity will occur on March 14.

Call 239-6202 if you have questions or concerns.

## The NH Presidential Primary in Richmond

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk

The NH Presidential Primary was held on February 11, 2020. The Town of Richmond saw a 48% voter turnout. This included 29 people who registered to vote that day. Of the 398 ballots cast, 171 were Republican and 227 were Democratic. Following are the results:

### DEMOCRATIC

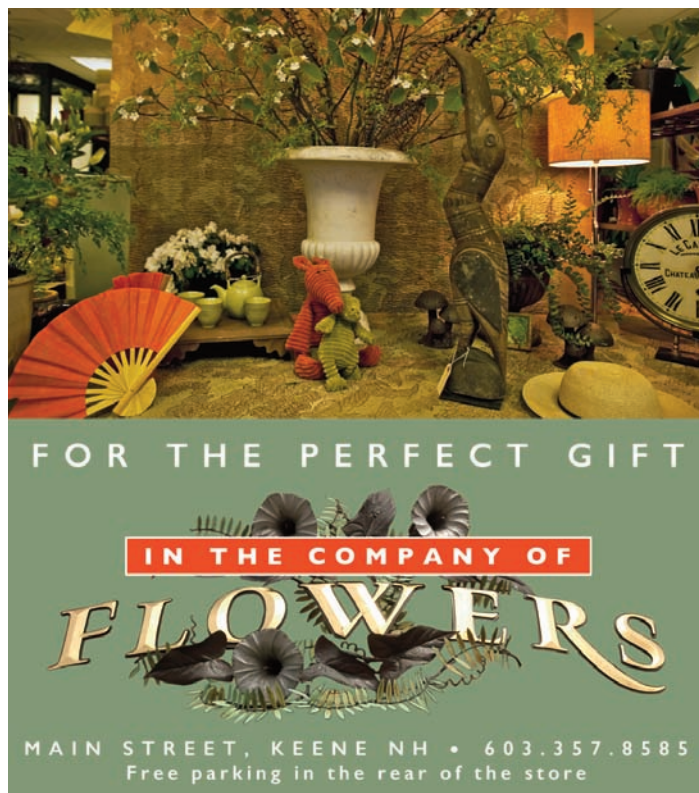
53 Pete Buttigieg  
50 Bernie Sanders  
44 Amy Klobuchar  
24 Elizabeth Warren  
17 Joseph R. Biden  
17 Tulsi Gabbard  
10 Andrew Yang  
7 Tom Steyer  
2 Patrick Deval

### REPUBLICAN

161 Donald J. Trump  
8 Bill Weld  
1 Pete Buttigieg

### WRITE-IN:

3 Michael Bloomberg



## News from the Selectmen

Doug Bersaw, William Daniels, Andrew Wallace  
Saturday, February 1, 2020 three of us attended the Monadnock School District deliberative session to debate and decide the final warrant articles that will go to voters on March 10, 2020. As in previous years, the district's operating budget was the most debated topic. The Monadnock School Board has been pushing significant increases to the budget even though previous years have ended with a significant surplus. This year there is also an additional \$1.4 million in state aid coming into the district, but despite this, the amount requested by the school board was increased 13%. For that reason, the budget committee set a budget lower than what was requested by the school board, but still considerably more than what was spent last year. Unfortunately, after a lot of debate, the budget committee's operating budget was increased with a 37-35 vote. The Selectmen are concerned by this increase because it will significantly impact Richmond's property tax rate which we work hard to keep in check. Nearly 67% of Richmond's property taxes go to the Monadnock School District and when the budget increases so does the tax rate. Quality education is important to all of us, but the increase requested by the School Board has been left unexplained. When asked to justify the increase the school board was unable to provide any specific answers. This should result in another sizable surplus and

Articles seven and eight (which would set up new trust funds with money left over at the end of the year) lead us to believe that the school board expects the same.

In addition to the increased budget, there are a number of spending articles, that if passed would further increase the burden on taxpayers. With the increase in state aid and an increased budget, one would think the district should have funds available for these without having to raise more through taxation.

**ARTICLE TWO:** To see if the Monadnock Regional School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,130,000 for renovations at Monadnock Regional Middle High School

**ARTICLE THREE:** To see if the Monadnock Regional School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 for engineering and design work as a result of the district-wide feasibility study

**ARTICLE FOUR:** To see if the Monadnock Regional School District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$240,000 for maintenance and repair work at all the District's Schools

**ARTICLE NINE:** Would allow the School Board to keep over half a million dollars in surplus funds rather than it being guaranteed to buy down the tax rate.

Three additional votes at this deliberative session could have saved the Richmond taxpayers over \$150,000 and your participation March 10, 2020, will also have a significant impact. Polls will be open at the Veterans Hall from 11:00am to 7:00pm.

### Library News

Wendy O'Brien

[library@richmondnh.us](mailto:library@richmondnh.us) (603) 239-6164

Thurs. Mar. 5, 5:00pm, Teen Pizza Night: Art Night

Sat. Mar. 7, 10:30-11:30am, Community Coffee Hour  
(Weather permitting)

Tues. Mar. 10, 6:00pm, Book Group, *Indigo Girl* by  
Natasha Boyd

*Ceremonies from the Heart*



Rev. Bonnie McCarthy, D. Div.  
Richmond, NH 603-239-4088  
[www.ceremoniesfromtheheart.ws](http://www.ceremoniesfromtheheart.ws)

Marriages  
Life Celebrations  
Baptisms

Thurs. Mar. 12, 6:30pm, Lecture by Janine Marr,

“Alternatives to Invasives in the Landscape”

Sat. Mar. 14, CLOSED IN MORNING FOR TOWN  
MEETING

Tues. Mar. 24, 3:00-6:00pm, First Aid Class

Tues. Mar. 31, 6:30pm, Lecture by Jeff Taylor,  
“Invasive Plant Control”

RPL—Agricultural Commission Joint Lecture/Work-  
shop Series

Join us for an informative and fun series focusing on how we can garden with native plants and help keep invasives at bay! We will look at our impact on the environment and how we can take steps to minimize our imprint. Look for a more detailed event listing elsewhere in the Rooster, but don't miss the lectures by Janine Marr and Jeff Taylor in March!

### CPR & First Aid Classes

Sandee Auvil, certified instructor, will hold First Aid and CPR courses over the next 2 months at the RPL. Pre-registration required and each class has a maximum of 6 people. The cost is \$30, and includes a book and registration card. Please contact the Library to sign up.

Mar. 24, 3-6 pm, First Aid

Apr. 21, 5-8 pm, CPR

### Book Group: *Indigo Girl* by Natasha Boyd

“The year is 1739. Eliza Lucas is sixteen years old when her father leaves her in charge of their family's three plantations in rural South Carolina and then proceeds to bleed the estates dry in pursuit of his military ambitions... Thwarted at nearly every turn, even by her own family, Eliza finds that her only allies are an aging horticulturalist, an older and married gentleman lawyer, and a slave with whom she strikes a dangerous deal: teach her the intricate thousand-year-old secret process of making indigo dye and in return – against laws of the day – she will teach the slaves to read.” –GoodReads.

**Richard P. Drew, LLC**  
*Licensed Land Surveyor*

LOT STAKING · LAND PLANNING  
BOUNDARY PLANS

266 Tully Brook Road  
Richmond, NH 03470-0446

Phone: (603) 239-4147  
Cell: (603) 313-6696  
Email: [rpdrawllc@gmail.com](mailto:rpdrawllc@gmail.com)



Join us at 6:00pm on Tuesday, Mar. 24, for a lively book discussion with your neighbors. Copies of the book are available at the Library-pick one up today!

### New Titles

*The Book of Dreams*, Nina George  
*On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*, Ocean Vuong  
*The Rockford Files* (DVD)  
*When You See Me*, Lisa Gardner  
*A Long Petal of the Sea*, Isabel Allende  
*House on Fire*, Joseph Finder  
*Night Boat to Tangier*, Kevin Berry

### RPL/Agricultural Commission Joint Lecture/Workshop Series

Wendy O'Brien

Join us for an informative and fun series focusing on how we can garden with native plants and help keep invasives at bay! We will look at our impact on the environment and how we can take steps to minimize our imprint. Join us on the following dates:

**March 12 @ 6:30pm**

Janine Marr: "Alternatives to Invasives in the Landscape"

Janine is a familiar face to many with her monthly column in the *Monadnock Shopper News*. She is an advanced master gardener with interests in native plants, using native and non-native fruits for jams and jellies, and creating a sustainable low-maintenance landscape for the wildlife.

**March 31 @ 6:30pm**


Jeff Taylor, "Invasive Plant Control"

You probably know Jeff from Windswept Christmas Tree Farm, but did you know he also advises homeowners and other professionals on invasive plant control? Come hear about how you can identify and control invasives on your own property.

## RICHMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Richmond, NH The Town and the Forest,  
250+ years of living and growing together.**

**ebb&flow**  
WATERCOLOR PAINTINGS BY JEANI EISMONT  
PAINTINGS AND CERAMICS BY ROSTI EISMONT  
FEBRUARY 14 to MARCH 13, 2020 • OPENING: FEBRUARY 15, 2020 5 to 7pm



**JAFFREY CIVIC CENTER • 40 MAIN STREET • JAFFREY, NEW HAMPSHIRE • 03452**

### Month of April

Environmental Action Bulletin Board at the RPL-See how you can help locally!

**April 22 @ 10:00am**

School Vacation Earth Day party

Come celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day at the RPL. We will be making seed bombs, butterfly feeders, and other fun family activities, including the popular paper bag Earth Day challenge!

**May 2, time TBD**

Karen O'Brien, Workshop: "Native Plants around the Library"

Kevin R. Marcotte

603-239-4047  
603-209-6423

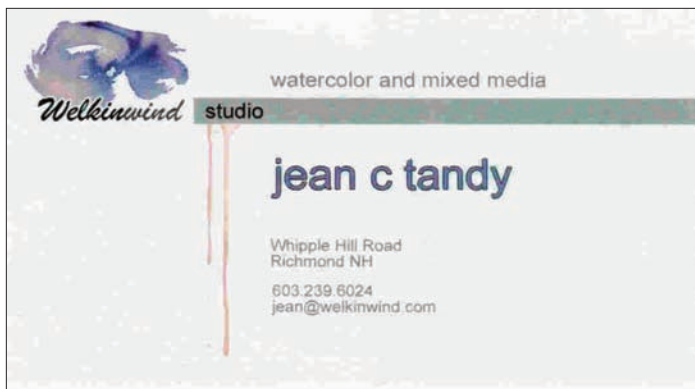


Quality Craftsmanship - Done right the first time!

Aluminum & Steel Welding  
Conveyor Designing and  
Maintenance  
Projects for the Home

ksprecision@hotmail.com  
Check us out on Facebook

Mobile and Shop Welding  
Creative Designing  
Metal Fabrication  
Consulting



Karen is a master gardener and owner of The Green Woman's Garden on Whipple Hill Road. You may have read her wonderful gardening articles in *The Rooster*. She will take us on a tour of the grounds around the Library and help you to identify native plants in the Richmond area.

**June, date and time TBD**

UNH Extension Service: "A Garden for Wildlife"

Join us for a slide presentation that shows how anyone with a backyard, garden, or landscaped area can help wildlife by altering their landscaping and gardening practices. The presentation includes discussion of wildlife, habitats, plant choice, use of native plants, nest boxes and feeders, and issues such as invasive plants.

## Things and Thoughts From the District

Neil Moriarty

Don't forget to Vote ON March 10, 2020 – Vet's Hall 11am to 7pm

- i. I intend to keep creating Things and Thoughts from the School District for now. Maybe I'll get bored with attending or watching the TV version and will stop.
- ii. 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 FREE resources that provide assistance.
- iii. Still don't have Smoke Detectors and /or Bed Side Alarm? (Note: this message is copied from the Red Cross "Google" page)

Non-GMO Forest Fed Pigs  
 Chickens & Turkeys  
 Eggs, Bacon, Ham,  
 Variety of Cuts

**The Farm At  
 CROOKED CREEK  
 HOLLOW**

frank@cchfarm.com  
 (h) 603-239-8541  
 (c) 910-880-1901  
 www.crookedcreekhollowfarm.com

**Sausage:**  
 Hot Italian  
 Smoked Kielbasa  
 Maple Breakfast  
 French Apple  
 Smoked Baja  
 Basil  
 Sweet Italian  
 Jalapeño & Chipotle  
 Smoked French Apple  
 Maple & Brown Sugar  
 Smoked Sweet Italian

# Cushing & Sons

Water Wells and Systems  
 www.cushingandsons.com  
**Serving Richmond since 1972**  
 Water wells, pump repair service, well inspections,  
 pressure tanks, hydrofracking of low yield wells.  
**Out of water? Call us FIRST**  
**Prompt same day service**  
**352-8866**

**The Red Cross** and its partners will install a limited number of free smoke alarms for those who cannot afford to purchase smoke alarms or for those who are physically unable to install a smoke alarm. The Red Cross installs a limited number of specialized bedside alarms for individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.

**Facilities Committee Meeting Canceled Again!**

**PLEASE READ THIS!**

Having not met in six weeks, the committee meeting has been canceled yet again. You will see in Warrant Article #3 is a request for the voters to support the creation of drawings and design work for Option #5 of the Architectonics Plan.\* Option #5 creates a Southern Elementary School in the Troy School, while closing Emerson in Fitzwilliam; a new building at Mt Caesar to replace Cutler (Swanzy grades 3 thru 6); and keeps Gilsum Elementary open.

While the Architect collected a great deal of information, he did not do a true cost comparison of the eight options – and neither has your school board! I am not on the Facilities Com., but until my departure from the Board, I attended their meetings – when they had them!

The whole idea of the study done was to save money. Yes, it was building maintenance money; however, our biggest cost in the district is employees, not building maintenance. When I say employees – I am not talking teachers – we have a fair plan for teacher-to-student ratio.

**TODD ARSENEAULT**  
 WATER CONSULTANT

**Hellenbrand®**

**Aqua-Aid Systems**  
 WATER CONDITIONING & FILTRATION  
**800-252-8484**

631 ROUTE 12 NORTH  
 KEENE, NH 03431  
 EMAIL todd@cushingandsons.com

CELL 603-313-1099  
 OFFICE 603-357-2366  
 FAX 603-357-8572



A few of the many questions that need answers: Is the school at Mt Caesar one school or two (how many principals, secretaries, nurses, door ladies, etc.? What is the resolution to the child drop off / pickup issues at the Existing Mt Caesar\*\*? What happens when we more than double the size of the drop off / pickup– does the same fix work? Does any fix work with pre-K to 6 grades there? Are we getting our moneys worth at Gilsum for only 60 kids? There is a secretary at Gilsum, a parttime nurse, and a parttime reading teacher shared with the middle school; the principal teaches, but as special funding. Without any labor savings considerations, we could save \$4,700,000\*\*\* in building work alone (10 years) by closing Gilsum.

Is option 5 our best option – folks we don't know!  
PLEASE VOTE NO ON WARRANT ARTICLE #3!!!

I hope you will consider following the voting ideas from the Monadnock Taxpayer's Association.

Thanks for reading my article, if you have a topic you wish me to cover, a comment on a previous article, or whatever, contact me at: 603-239-4031, by mail at 782 Old Homestead Hwy, or [cmoriarty@ne.rr.com](mailto:cmoriarty@ne.rr.com).

## MRHS 2nd Quarter Honors

Neil Moriarty

Name	Grade	Honor
Ruben Bosonetto	11	Honors
Dylan Cashman	11	Honors
Aderyn Daugherty	10	Honors
Nathan Doyle	11	Honors
Willow Finley	11	Honors
Ian Gauthier	10	High Honors
Clayton Kulczyk	9	Honors
Sebastian LaPlume	10	Honors
Laci LeBlanc	9	Honors
Ivy Love	11	Honors
Eva Bosonetto	7	Honors
Keegan Daugherty	7	Honors
Erin Harrington	7	Honors
Maria LaPlume	8	Honors
Elizabeth Morton	7	Honors
Dean Rukstela	7	High Honors
Isabelle Schmidt	7	Honors
Delaney Swanson	11	Honors

## Deans List

Neil Moriarty

University of New Hampshire Fall (2019) Dean's List to Richmond's Peter Margand. Congratulations, Peter.

## Candidate for Richmond Seat on MRSD School Board

Michelle Connor



March 10th is the upcoming Town Elections which also includes an open seat for Richmond's Representative on the School Board.

I am running for that seat. My name is Michelle Connor, Richmond resident, mother, business

owner, and involved citizen.

My special needs son has been a student within the District of the Monadnock Region for 5 years now. I have experienced first-hand the efforts of our teachers and administration to help students and families. My goal is now to help them as a member of the School Board.

My experience as a business coach can and would be beneficial to the Board. I have previously been involved with several boards within my business coaching practice such as chairperson of an organization called Women Empowered By Business, advisory board of MAPS Counseling in Keene, as well as Ambassador Committee of both Keene and Peterborough's Chamber of Commerce, just to name a few.

I have well over 25 years of experience in Customer Service, Sales, Networking and Team Building and Communication; all of which would be beneficial to the efforts of the MRSD School Board.

I just wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and ask that you keep me in mind when you vote for the Richmond Representative seat next month

## Monadnock Taxpayers Positions on the 2020 Warrant Articles

Neil Moriarty

We invite you to consider supporting.

Article 1: Vote No – Accept the Default budget. Our District has had a surplus for at least five years.

Article 2: Vote No – Get the district to get rid of the Wilcox building before expanding the high school. That would provide justification for need for more High /




**GARY'S**  
POWER  
EQUIPMENT  
SALES & SERVICE  
(603) 239-4953  
WINCHESTER, NH

Mahindra Tractors

Timberwolf   Stihl   EXmark  
Echo   Hustler   Ariens

Gary Rokes  
15 Warwick Road  
60 Forest Lake Road  
Winchester NH 03470

toll free: 800-499-4953  
fax: 603-392-0081  
garyspower@comcast.net  
garysmahindra.com



**Gomarolo's**  
SUPERMARKET  
P.O. Box 585 West Swanzey, NH, 03469

Jerry Gomarolo, Pres.  
352-3409

HOURS  
DAILY 8 AM - 9 PM  
SUN. 8 AM - 8 PM

Middle school space – the student population is about half of what it was at its peak.

Article 3: Vote No – We don't have enough information to accept option 5,\* additionally, option 5 keeps the 60 kid Gilsum school open. Voting yes would imply that the voters agree that option 5 is the best of the 8 options. Voters do not know the content of the eight options to make an assessment of the best way to go.

Article 4: Vote Yes – We need to keep up the maintenance of our schools.

Article 5: Vote Yes

Article 6: Vote Yes – Housekeeping article.

Article 7: Vote Yes – Its a good idea to create this trust.

Article 8: VOTER CHOICE

Article 9: VOTER CHOICE

Article 10: Vote No – We feel that our current Security Officer should be offered the Resource Officer position (allowed to carry a weapon). He is an X Sargent on the NYC Police Force.

\*Option 5 builds a south school at Troy Elementary (closes Emerson) and North School at Mt Caesar to replace Cutler, keeps Gilsum open.

### Just a Small Something

Rep. Jennie Gomarolo

I forget that it feels so good. I spent my day, Feb. 11 primary day, working the polls from 7:30am to 1:00pm (tedious), driving a friend home and a quick break,

holding a sign for “Amy” until about 5 (cold!), and then a meeting at town hall (still cold!). I got home and my husband had made the house smell lovely with a chicken casserole, and my daughter called at just the right time from Texas. To top it all off, the kitty (Carol and Peter's) we are sitting for, came up on the couch and held hands with me. I felt like I was being rewarded for a day well spent. Give of yourself and the universe gives back. Namaste.

### January 8, 2020, Council Meeting

Debora Pignatelli, Executive Councilor, NH District 5 I think these items may be of interest to Council District 5. Items may have links to documents with more information.

Authorized the Bureau of Highway Design to amend a contract with Alta Planning + Design Inc., Cambridge, MA (item #12 originally approved by G&C on 10/17/18), for the development of a Statewide Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan, by extending the completion date from February 28, 2020 to August 31, 2020. No Additional Funding. **VOTE: 5-0**

Authorized the Bureau of Bridge Design to enter into an agreement with Hoyle, Tanner & Associates Inc., for the preliminary design, public involvement process, and associated environmental and cultural services, for the replacement or rehabilitation of the existing bridge carrying US 202 and NH 123 over the

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED



FOR MORE THAN 60 YEARS

**Frazier & Son**  
FURNITURE

233 Old Homestead Hwy (Route 32, just south of the airport) • Swanzey, NH  
Mon - Fri 10 to 6 • Sat 10 to 5 • Sun 12 to 5 [www.frazierandsonfurniture.com](http://www.frazierandsonfurniture.com)  
(800) 494-3876 • (603) 352-0337

Serta L A Z BOY England Flexsteel



**POWERS**  
GUARANTEED GENERATORS  
THE POWER IS ON

[WWW.POWERSGENERATOR.COM](http://WWW.POWERSGENERATOR.COM)



# WANTED TO BUY

**Toys**  
Pottery  
Frames  
Cameras

**Danny Wahl**

Vintage Photographs and Clothing  
Blue Decorated Stoneware  
Musical Instruments

We are currently looking to purchase many  
different items, including but not limited to these items

**Tools**  
Old Radios  
Old Telephones  
Old Electric Fans

**603-239-7200**

Contoocook River in the Town of Peterborough, for an amount not to exceed \$569,948.72. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2022. 100% Federal Funds. **VOTE: 5-0**

Authorized the Bureau of Aeronautics to provide retroactive funding to the Nashua Airport Authority in Nashua, NH, for the design and bidding for airport pavement maintenance, rehabilitation, and marking of the inner taxiway and public-use taxilanes in the vicinity of Foxtrot Golf and Hotel aprons, Phase I, at the Boire Field, Nashua, NH, in the amount of \$199,500. Effective upon G&C approval through June 27, 2023. 95% Federal Funds, 5% General Funds. **VOTE: 5-0**

Authorized the Bureau of Construction to enter into a contract with Eurovia Atlantic Coast LLC, Charlotte, NC, for resurfacing of five sections of Tier 2 roadways in District 4, on the basis of a low bid of \$2,831,784.88. (2) Further Authorized a contingency in the amount of \$141,589.24 for payment of latent conditions, which may appear during the construction of the project. Effective upon G&C approval through September 11, 2020. 100% Federal Funds. **VOTE: 5-0**

The Governor nominated the following individuals to serve on State Boards and Commissions:

Quentin B. Estey, Peterborough, NH

Anthony W. Raymond, Holderness, NH

## Daniels Family Maple

71 Greenwoods Rd  
Richmond, NH 03470



Maple products available  
at most times

603-239-7269  
Visitors Welcome

Richard Darling, Milford, NH

David R. Place, Amherst, NH to the Advisory Board on Private Investigative Agencies, Bail Recovery Agents and Security Services

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. [www.debpignatelli.com](http://www.debpignatelli.com)

## End of the Year Report 2019

Debora Pignatelli


It is an honor for me to represent District 5 on the Executive Council. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the important work we have achieved this past year. The Governor and Executive Council had 23 meetings in 2019. Most meetings were held at the State House, but six were hosted in communities around the state. I was pleased to bring the Governor and Council to District 5 on September 18th when Peterborough hosted our meeting at the Peterborough Town House.

The Executive Council has been an important part of the Executive Branch of NH State Government since colonial times as a check on executive powers. In this capacity we reviewed over two thousand items that covered expenditures, appointments, and contracts. Those items totaled over 6 billion dollars.

## THE TOADSTOOL BOOKSHOPS

Enchanting Selections of Wonderful Books

Special Orders Welcome



Money Orders Accepted

Free Gift Wrapping

Out of Print Search

We Ship Anywhere

12 DEPOT SQUARE,  
PETERBOROUGH, NH  
924-3543  
M-F 10-6, SAT 10-5  
SUN 10-4

12 EMERALD ST.  
KEENE, NH  
352-8815  
M-SAT 10am-9pm,  
Sun 11am-6pm

LORDEN PLAZA RT, 101A,  
MILFORD, NH  
673-1738  
M-SAT 9-9,  
Sun 11-5

The responsibilities of the Council are very wide-ranging. In addition to approving all state contracts, the Council also approves all judicial appointments; approves all people to lead our important agencies and commissions; grants or denies all pardons; protects our lakefronts and shorelines; sets tolls on all New Hampshire Turnpikes; makes important recommendations on the Ten-Year highway plan; oversees the operations of state agencies; addresses a wide variety of constituent concerns; and, of course, acts as a important check on gubernatorial exercise of power.

Another important responsibility is our position on the Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation, otherwise known as GACIT. We reviewed needed transportation improvements and created a ten-year plan that was submitted to the Governor and then forwarded to the legislature. I held meetings in District 5 to gather input from local leaders and citizens on projects that were important to be included and ranked in the Ten-Year Highway plan. Additional information can be found at the Department of Transportation's Ten-Year Plan home page.

In November, the Council passed our recommendations to the Governor. After 17 years of advocating for removal of the Merrimack tolls, I was pleased that the Council recommended the toll for Exit 11, in Merrimack, be reduced to zero!

## Parks and Recreation

Karen Daugherty

By the time you read this we will have had our Winter Movie at Camp Takodah featuring *Toy Story 4*. I hope everyone enjoyed it! If there is a particular movie that you would like to see, please email us and let us know. Please join us for these upcoming events:

**March 13**, 6 PM Veteran's Hall Ladies Game Night

**March 28**, 10 AM Easter Egg Hunt

**April 17**, 6 PM Veteran's Hall Ladies Game Night

**May 2020**, Ladies Game Night

**May 2020**, Roadside Clean-up

**June 2020**, Ladies Game Night

**June 2020**, Annual Summer Picnic and Tie Dye party

**July 2020**, Ladies Game Night

**Aug. 2020**, Ladies Game Night

**Sept. 2020**, Harvest Festival and Potluck

**Sept. 2020**, Ladies Game Night

**Oct. 2020**, Ladies Game Night

**Nov. 2020**, Ladies Game Night

**Dec. 2020**, Movie Time at Takodah

## IRISH CREAM BUNDT CAKE

Terri O'Rorke

1 C. chopped pecans

1 (18oz.) package yellow cake mix

1 (3 1/2 oz.) package vanilla instant pudding

4 eggs

1/4 C. water

1/2 C. oil

3/4 C. Irish Cream

1/2 C. butter

1/4 C. water

1 C. sugar

1/4 C. Irish Cream

Grease and flour a 10-inch Bundt pan. Sprinkle chopped nuts evenly over bottom of pan. In a large bowl, combine cake mix and pudding mix. Mix in eggs, 1/4 cup water, 1/2 cup oil, and 3/4 cup Irish cream liqueur. Beat for 5 minutes at high speed. Pour batter over nuts in pan. Bake at 325° for 1 hour or until toothpick comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes in the pan, then invert onto the serving dish.

Glaze: In a saucepan, combine butter, 1/4 cup water, and 1 cup sugar. Bring to a boil and continue boiling for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in 1/4 cup Irish cream. Prick top and sides of cake with a fork or toothpick. Spoon glaze over top and brush onto sides of cake. Allow to absorb glaze repeat until all glaze is used up.



Gene White, Agent

**Archie D. Jennings Agency, Inc.**

Personal & Business Insurance

239-4971

P.O. Box 13 30-02 Warwick Rd.

Kulick's Country Mall, Winchester, NH 03470

E-mail: ADJA@myfairpoint.net



Volunteers Enabling Transportation Inc



**VET**

Vet is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, all-volunteer organization formed to provide rides from most of Cheshire County to medical appointments primarily for veterans, seniors and others with disabilities.

EIN 81-3974802

603-499-8956

glwelch11@gmail.com

P.O Box 51

Kenne, NH 03431



# Monadnock Family Services

## MEN WHO COOK

A delicious feast prepared by  
the best cooks in the  
Monadnock Region!



Zorn Dining Commons on  
the campus of  
Keene State College

Saturday, March 14, 2020  
6:00 PM

Tickets:  
Adult \$25  
Child \$7 (age 10 & under)

Seating is limited.  
Reservations: Mary Delisle  
283-1568 / [mdelisle@mfs.org](mailto:mdelisle@mfs.org)

Or  
Purchase your tickets at  
Prime Roast Coffee Company  
16 Main Street, Keene

**Beneficiary:** *America Reads*, a Monadnock  
RSVP Volunteer Center program serving:

1,164 children  
105 volunteers  
16 elementary schools  
16 towns  
11 early learning centers



# Kulick's Market

(603) 239-4843 (603) 239-4083

30-08 Warwick Rd.  
Winchester, NH 03470

**Stanley S. Plifka Jr.**  
President



Cell (603) 355-7800  
Home (603) 239-6040 Fax (603) 239-8335



32 Monadnock Hwy., Rt. 12S  
Keene, New Hampshire 03431  
OFFICE: (603) 352-1972 x204  
CELL: (603) 355-0720  
FAX: (603) 352-0545  
EMAIL: ral4754@gmail.com

**BLAIS**  
& ASSOCIATES  
REALTORS®  
www.blaisrealestate.com



Rick Lewis  
Associate Broker



Bob's Fuel Company, LLC  
(603) 239-6721  
www.bobsfuelcompany.com

We will heat your home for less!  
www.bobsfuelcompany.com

**Caitlin Ward**  
Manager

(603) 239-6721  
bobsfuelcompany@gmail.com

21 Warwick Road  
Winchester, NH 03470

Keene, NH to Greenfield, MA to  
Brattleboro, VT (and everywhere  
in between)

Heating Oil \* Kerosene \* On Road Diesel \* Off Road Diesel

Available  
Friday mornings  
at the  
Monadnock  
Coop!

## DAN'S BRICK OVEN BREAD

DANSBREAD.COM



Dan buys grain from local farms.



stone mills it himself.



hand shapes the dough



and bakes it in a brick oven.



**BREAD. UNINVENTED.™**

From  
A Friend  
on Athol Road

From  
Another Friend  
on Athol Road



# EMERGENCY: POLICE/FIRE/RESCUE 9-1-1

## The RICHMOND ROOSTER

70 Whipple Hill Road, Richmond, NH 03470



### **Richmond Rooster Staff**

**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:**

John Boccalini, Michelle Connor,

Karen Daugherty, Jennie Gomarolo,

Neil Moriarty, Karen O'Brien,

Wendy O'Brien, Terri O'Rorke, Debora Pignatelli,

Annette Tokunaga, and *The Rooster* Staff

### **Online Advertising Rates**

**Contact:** 917-533-2180

Business card size.....\$132

Double size.....\$264

1/4 page.....\$330

1/2 page.....\$550

Full page.....\$1100

#### **Ad Dimensions:**

Business Card.....2" h x 3 5/8" w

Double Vertical.....4 1/8" h x 3 5/8" w

Double Horizontal.....2" h x 7 1/2" w

1/4 page.....4.9" h x 3 5/8" w

1/2 page.....4.9" h x 7 1/2" w

Inserts also available by quote or Carol Jameson,  
Advertising Manager, email [carol.jameson@me.com](mailto:carol.jameson@me.com)  
or Bonnie McCarthy, Advertising Consultant, at  
[ceremonies.heart@yahoo.com](mailto:ceremonies.heart@yahoo.com).

#### **Online Subscriptions Free**

Call 532-4945 or email [therichmondrooster@yahoo.com](mailto:therichmondrooster@yahoo.com)  
Stories are presented as fiction and are not intended to be  
historically accurate in content. Public notices, committee  
reports, articles, press releases, and letters to the editor are  
printed as received with minor changes according to space.  
*The Richmond Rooster* welcomes comments and article con-  
tributions.

**Deadline is the 10th of each month.**

**Email –** [therichmondrooster@yahoo.com](mailto:therichmondrooster@yahoo.com)

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

### **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:** Jennifer Thompson

**Town Clerk:** Annette Tokunaga

**Deputy Town Clerk:** Martine Imon

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:** Ann Dea Whippen

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): 355-2000**

**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:** Elton "Buddy" Blood, II – 400-3629

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





**Personalized, Trusted Service since 1972**

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

**BLAIS & ASSOCIATES REALTORS®**

1966 (603) 352-1972  
32 Monadnock Hwy. Keene



**SLD PRECISION MACHINE, LLC.**  
shannon@sldprecision.com  
Shannon Deem- Owner  
Shop (603)392-2008 Mobile (603)831-0106

**HOLMAN CONTRACTING**

Call for a free quote today ...

**JOHN HOLMAN**  
www.HolmanLandscapeMaterials.com



**Three New Services**

- Tree Trimming
- Wood Chipping
- Stump Grinding

**40 YEARS EXPERIENCE**  
Roads, Driveways, Site Prep, Septic Installation, Site Excavations, Trucking, Material Processing & Sales

242-3660  
585-9600

# Happy St. Patrick's Day, Richmond!



**The RICHMOND ROOSTER**  
594 Old Walpole Road, Surry, NH 03431

BULK RATE  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 4  
WINCHESTER, NH  
03470

CURRENT RESIDENT  
RICHMOND, NH 03470