



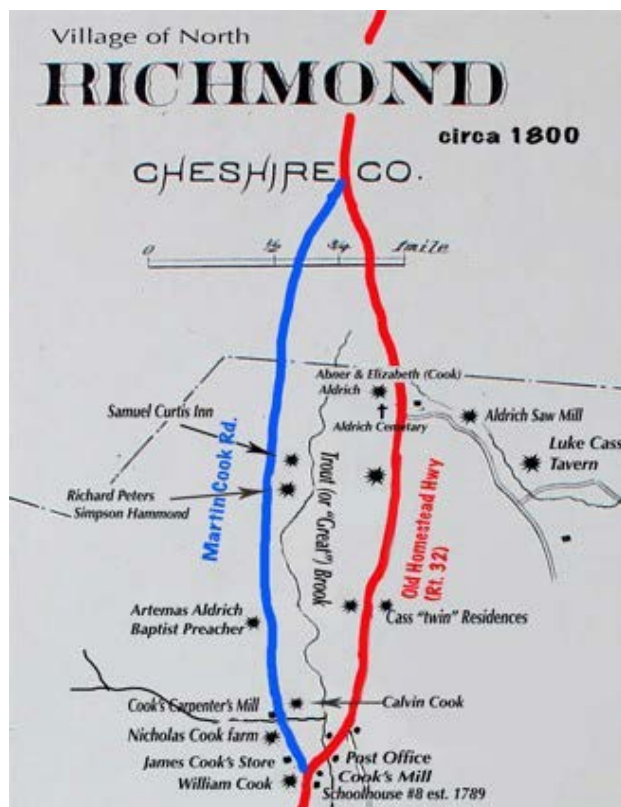
The Richmond Rooster

Something to Crow About

July 2021

The Small Hamlet of Guinea, NH Douglass Bartlett

There was once a thriving little hamlet north of Richmond, NH. Occasionally referred to as “Guinea” and now known as “North Richmond”, the little settlement was at the junction of Old Homestead Highway (Route 32), Martin Cook Road and Fish Hatchery Road. This small community consisted of a store, a school house, a post office, a mill, a cemetery and numerous residences. Let’s endeavor to bring that scenario back to life by hiking through the area circa 1800 -1850.



We will begin our trek at the Richmond/Swanzey town line, heading south on Old Homestead Highway. Right there at the line, sits the home of Abner Aldrich in about 1770. His wife was Elizabeth Cook, sister to Nicholas Cook of whom we will hear more. Just past the house on the same side and up on a knoll, is the Aldrich

Cemetery, where most of the people we will describe are buried. Peacefully nestled in the woods, it is a restful place with trees nudging some of the gravestones.

Walking further south about a mile, is a Greek revival style house on the left whose history I have yet to learn. A little further, we come upon twin houses on each side of the road. They were built by Cass people, probably brothers. Hiking to just after Fish Hatchery Road, one would see the “Guinea” Post Office set back from the road on the left — what would become a charming yellow cottage home in the 21st century. At that point, one crosses a small bridge over Trout Brook. You might witness a few boys fishing off the side, as the little brook was widely known for its abundance of trout, thus, aptly named. Mike Johnson who grew up visiting his grandparents on the Nick Cook Farm, says it was one of the best trout fishing spots in the whole county.

On the right just before Martin Cook Road, there were probably a few small residences of people who worked across the road at the Mill: perhaps, the Martins, Whites, or Starkeys. “Cook’s Mill”, powered by Trout Brook, stood just after the Post Office and was, according to William Bassett’s History of Richmond (1884), first built as a saw and grist mill in 1780 by brothers, Nicholas and William Cook. As one of the many mills of Richmond, it was reincarnated many times as a fulling or cloth dressing mill and, finally, as a mill for manufacturing pails in 1852. It also had a variety of owners: Cooks, Aldrichs, Starkeys,

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Martins. Further research must be done to discover when this mill met its demise. It was still operating at the time of Bassett's history in the 1880's. Incidentally, Richmond, at one point, had 17 mills and was known to have the most mills of any town in NH.

As you continue with your stroll again on the left is Schoolhouse #8. You might see the various children of Samuel, Noah, and Luther Curtis; Simpson Hammond; Artemas Aldrich; Nicholas and William Cook; Sarah and Wilderness Martin; Elijah White; and Thomas Alexander at play in the schoolyard. (They might even be taking a cool dip in the millpond just behind!) The dam works and the pond would become, in 2021, a picturesque scene of ruins covered with lily of the valley and verdant grass. This spot would make an excellent little town park.

Next, across from the school, we will take a right and walk up Martin Cook Road. Martin Cook Road was first laid out in 1770 and was then the main road to Keene. It couldn't have been called that in 1770, because Martin, Nick Cook's great-grandson, didn't die until 1905. In 1784, a new connection was made, linking the lower part of Route 32 to Fish Hatchery Road and the upper part of Route 32. So, Martin Cook Road became a side loop off Old Homestead Highway. Walking up Martin Cook Road, one sees interesting stone work on the left. It is supposed that these were foundations for the William Cook House and for the James Cook's Store (owned by William's son) which once stood in this vicinity. The people now living on this corner relay a story they once heard that these two buildings caught fire long ago. The buildings, having wood shingle roofs, were burning fast. When the fire leaped to the schoolhouse across the road, the local citizens, having limited manpower, were forced to choose which building to save. They decided to save the schoolhouse. "If the schoolhouse did not burn", you may ask, "where is it today?" It was moved to a property on Bullock Road and incorporated into a modern construction there. There are now only two schoolhouses which remain standing in Richmond: one is our town library (Schoolhouse #6) and the other is Schoolhouse #2, which is on the west side of town on Cross Road and in dire need of rescue/restoration.

When we walk up the road a short distance past two modern houses, we come to the Nicholas Cook Farm on the left, which is where I now live. Nicholas Cook purchased the land from his brother, William, in 1773. This approximates the date of this house, but we don't know how many years before or after this

the house was actually built. Nick Cook's first child to be born in Richmond was in 1773. We do know that the house was built in stages. It has the typical beehive chimney and fireplace construction. What is curious is that one of the fireplaces faces an exterior wall which was only about two feet away. Why would someone do this?! Obviously, they planned to add on in the near future. They did so, soon after, which is why we have an exterior double wall inside the house. This is the house where Nick's granddaughter, Hannah Cook, grew up. She was the only person in Richmond to be killed by a lightning strike, in 1829. We were going to call the Nick Cook Farm, "Lightning Struck Hannah House", when we first bought it and expected to encounter her ghost at any point. But, alas! She did not die in our house. She was down visiting her brother, Calvin, who had recently built a little cape style house just across the road and over the brook on the right. That is where she got struck — inside the house! So, maybe she haunts that house. We have not seen her. Her marker at the Aldrich Cemetery bears a cryptic epitaph about the unpredictability of life.

Proceeding further, Martin Cook Road becomes "Class 6" and is only frequented by dog walkers, hunters and four wheel drivers. There is no evidence of past habitation until you come to what looks like a little village green on the left. Surveying this area, one finds evidence of what looks like a once ambitious undertaking of settlement: clearing and a high stone wall building. There is even what looks to be an animal pound. Here we find the foundation of the house of original builder, Artemas Aldrich. He was the preacher of the Second Baptist Church of Richmond. He was related to Nicholas Cook's sister; it is likely that all the Cooks and Aldrichs were Baptists hailing from Bellingham, Massachusetts and as equally reviled as the Quakers in 1700's Massachusetts. Bellingham was on the Massachusetts/Rhode Island border and considered to be more a part of Rhode Island. Rhode Island was filling up, so the Cook and Aldrich Bap-

**From a friend on
Athol Road**

tists passed over Massachusetts to settle in Richmond. From this little “village green”, there is evidence of two roads leading up hill. I read somewhere that there were two more farms uphill from here; the town lot maps say “Bolles” and “Buffum”. Perhaps they were planning a village in 1774 when Martin Cook Road was the main thoroughfare. The last inhabitant was Joseph Newell, whose wife also was an Aldrich.

As the walk continues, we notice huge boulders strewn down the hillside on the left. This is evidence of glaciers moving down the side of the Franconia Mountain Range (not to be confused with Franconia Notch of White Mountain fame). As we descend at a somewhat steep pitch, we come upon a large cellar hole on Dixie Gurian’s property. If it was a half cellar, the house would have been large and may have been the Noah Curtis Inn spoken of in Bassett’s history. And, lastly, continuing downhill and on the left, we come to a red cape house, which may have been the place of original settler, Richard Peters. He owned up to three lots of land in North Richmond, making him the largest land owner.

Just a little past this location, the road levels out, and we reach the old granite post, marking the Richmond/Swanzey town line, thereby concluding our historic hike through Guinea (North Richmond), New Hampshire.

Richmond Historical Society Has a New President Douglass Bartlett

Since becoming president of the Richmond Historical Society and a possible frequent contributor to the Richmond Rooster, the Society suggested I provide a little information about myself.

Born in Kansas, I first came to New Hampshire to teach in Claremont in 1968. A few years later (probably due to my own struggles with deafness), my teaching morphed into teaching the deaf at Crotched Mountain, Greenfield, NH. Then, I served as a counselor for the deaf in Boston and completed

ed Masters Degrees in Counseling and Deaf Education, commuting to a farm in Antrim on weekends.

Upon first arriving in New England, I noticed Bartlett graves all over and became fascinated with genealogy. I have been doing historical research since the 1970s. I am a “dyed-in-the-wool” history lover.

In 1982, looking for something new and interesting to do, I left deaf services and purchased the Peterborough Diner. In 1986, after discovering “food service” will do you in even faster than “human service”, I took off for vacation in Hawaii. I did not come back until 2016! During my time in Hawaii, I was a therapist for teenagers and wrote and directed a grant program which engaged youth in environmental causes.

Although Hawaii is incredible and wonderful, it never felt like home. New England always has. After making the decision to return, Don and I drove all over New England looking for a place to settle in for our last years. Keene and its area was, in our view, the perfect place. Then, we found our new paradise: the Nicholas Cook Farm on Martin Cook Rd.

Our house is circa 1773 and has gotten me hooked on knowing the history of this area. In addition to serving as the trustee/treasurer of the Richmond Public Library, I see accepting the presidency of the Richmond Historical Society as an excellent way to serve this wonderful community. Thanks for this great opportunity!



Douglass Bartlett

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Danny Wahl

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

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June 14, 2021

Meeting of the Richmond Selectmen

Selectmen present: Douglas Bersaw and Andrew Wallace

Selectmen absent: William Daniels

Public Present: Kim Mattson

Non-Board member present: Susan Harrington

Meeting opened at 5:31 p.m.

Bersaw moved; Wallace 2nd; Board voted to approved the manifest dated June 14, 2021 for week of June 4, 2021 - June 10, 2021 in the amount of: \$11,450.49 for payroll/accounts payable.

Driveway permit for paving an existing driveway from the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation. Map 402 Lot 081.

Driveway permit for driveway from the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation. Map 407 Lot 092 Sub 002.

Bersaw moved; Wallace 2nd; Board approved Yield Tax for Map 405 Lots 071 and 072. This is a revised bill. Wallace signed Pistol Permit R698934.

Wallace moved; Bersaw 2nd; Board approved Building Permit for Map 407 Lot 095.

Bersaw moved; Wallace 2nd; Board signed Cease and Desist for Map 405 Lot 016.

Letter of Thanks from the Library Trustees. Read. Cheshire County Sheriff's Office Log for 03/01/21 to 05/31/21 received. Reviewed.

Dog Warrant submitted by the Town Clerk received.

Wallace moved; Bersaw 2nd; Board voted to sign Dog Warrant. Board reviewed letter from the Zoning Compliance Officer, Richard Drew to property owner at Map 405 Lot 125-Mill Road. Harrington will mail letter.

Harrington advised the Board that she had spoken to Buzz Shaw regarding a mailbox for a recreational property on discontinued Bowker Road. Property owner does not own frontage on a Class V Road therefore the property owner cannot have a street address or mailbox. Mr. Shaw has spoken to the Postmaster in Winchester and the Postmaster recommends a post office box. Harrington to contact NHMA for guidance on street numbers.

Appointments: Attorney Joseph S. Hoppock, Esq. met with the Board to discuss a petition for a layout of a Class V Highway pursuant to RSA 231:28. Hoppock will forward a response to the Board by Friday. Board will hold a public hearing, date to be determined next Monday, June 21, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Harrington



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CONSERVATION COMMISSION NEWS

Save the Date! August 21, 2021 10 A.M.

Dick Drew

Do you want to learn about Richmond's forests? The Richmond Conservation Commission is hosting a presentation at the Bennett Town Forest by the Cheshire County Forester that will help you understand our forests and their history:

Forests are constantly changing over time through a process known as forest succession. This event will focus on the basics of forest succession using a combination of lecture and fieldwork. Once we understand some key concepts such as shade tolerance and the role of disturbances, the future condition of a particular woodlot can be predicted with some confidence. Succession is a fundamental concept in forestry and has direct implications for anyone engaged in management decisions.

SAVINGS BANK OF WALPOLE TO OPEN NEW BRANCH IN WINCHESTER

Keene, NH -- Savings Bank of Walpole has announced plans to open a new branch in Winchester. The bank has filed applications with the FDIC and New Hampshire Banking Department to open a branch at the recently vacated TD Bank location next to Kulick's Market. This will be Savings Bank of Walpole's sixth branch in Cheshire County at a time when other banks are either closing branches or being sold to larger out-of-state banks.

"TD Bank's departure left Winchester without a bank and we immediately began hearing from businesses, individuals and town officials asking Savings Bank of Walpole to consider opening a branch in Winchester" reports Mark

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Bodin, President of Savings Bank of Walpole. "The Monadnock Region is our home and we felt a sense of duty to explore how we can expand to serve Winchester and the surrounding area. The ability to move into an established bank facility along with the support from the town's businesses, residents and town leadership played a big role in our decision to move forward. We look forward to being more than the town's bank, we plan to be a partner for Winchester and part of its future growth" said Bodin.

"The Town of Winchester is extremely excited to see that Savings Bank of Walpole has decided to open a branch in Winchester," said Winchester Town Administrator Kary Miner. "We feel that Savings Bank of Walpole will be a huge asset to our Town. On behalf of the residents and the Town of Winchester we would like to take this time to welcome Savings Bank of Walpole to Winchester."

Savings Bank of Walpole plans to begin work on renovating the branch this summer with an expected opening around Labor Day. "This will be a full-service branch, offering the same services as Savings Bank of Walpole's five existing locations in Keene and Walpole," reports Dominic Perkins, the bank's Senior Vice President of Retail.

With assets totaling \$602 million, the Bank offers a wide range of financial products, including services to individuals, businesses and organizations. The Bank is affiliated with NH Mutual Bancorp, further enhancing the quality products and services it provides to customers. The Bank is a partner of the NHTrust1 brand to better serve customers by providing localized trust and wealth management products and services. Savings Bank of Walpole is an equal housing lender, and member of the FDIC. For more information visit www.walpolebank.com or call (603) 352-1822.

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Dana Taylor: a Good Friend - Eleonore Villarrubia

My fondest memory of Dana was hearing his clear and affectionate greeting, "Well, HELLO, young lady, and how are YOU today?" The fact is that I was born eight years before Dana - almost to the day -, definitely not the young lady he made me out to be. (When you are in your 80s, eight years are lots of years!) Dana's close friendship with our good friend and neighbor, Jim Buzzell, and my late husband, Will, and Stan and Evie Porgorzelski are memories I cherish. He was good for Richmond whatever position he held at a given moment. A brave American and a generous resident of Richmond, Dana's passing is a loss to all of us here.

Friends Forever, Cookie - Butch Nelson

Dana was a very good friend; when you needed help with something, he would always give you a hand or just stop in and talk. He was a guy who gave a lot without hesitation. Even though he had issues created by the Vietnam War, it didn't stop him from aiming for the stars. When he was running for Selectman, he was running for the people of this town. That's why he was voted in many times. But, it was sad to hear of his passing, and he will be missed. Even though you might not see him all the time, you knew he was still there, for he was a great person.

In Memory of Dana Taylor



My Memories of Dana Taylor - Mike Herlinger, Hailey, Idaho

I met Dana Taylor around 1996. My most memorable experience with Dana, of course, involved dirt, grease and automobiles. For some reason, I was in a SAAB car phase of life which, of course, led to "repairing a SAAB" phase of life. Luckily, Dana Taylor knew, or at least made me think he knew, all things about motors and their workings. I do actually think he did know all things pertaining! We spent weeks, which seemed like months, pulling a motor, going to junk yards, finding used motors and, finally, replacing what was broken. During those days in the garage, I really got to know Dana, his patience with me, his interest in engineering and stories about people getting zapped with lightning. True!

The memory that stands out the most is when I closed the "bonnet" of the SAAB and didn't realize that his arm was still in the engine compartment! The lid came down hard. He looked at me, and I pretty much wet my drawers. But, and this is a big but for him, nothing came out of his mouth; pure silence. I'm not sure if he was sparing me as I was dating his daughter, had some sense of accountability to what happened, or was just in so much pain that nothing could come out. Nonetheless, nothing was broken or seriously injured. It was that moment in time when our eyes connected, and I thought my life was over. It wasn't, and he still enjoyed my company, finished the car, which I blew the motor in a month, and went on building our relationship over coming Thanksgiving dinners and occasional weekend evenings on a porch.

I missed Dana from the moment I left NH as he made an impact into my life. I haven't seen Dana in a few years, but him leaving this earth saddens me with the feeling of losing a good soul among us. May you be with God and continue to watch over those you love.

Sweet Memories - Louise Robbins

A lady, named "Rita", and I worked for Mary when she had her shop. Dana always made sure we had candy - all kinds, all the time. Never let us go without if we needed it or not!

Also, remember Dana and his Ford Mustang when he got out of the service!

There are so many:

- when Mary and Dana got married;
- when their children were born;
- when they moved from across the road;
- on and on.

You are missed, Dana....

Tough as Nails - Gerri Lutz

My first memory of Dana was the day he came to see my father about a part for his car. There he was, up near the apple at the top of the hill digging. I asked my Dad who he was and what was he doing? Much later, he bought Carl Johnson's house on Route 32, expanded it to what it is today, and there he was up on the roof nailing down the shingles. What was remarkable about this was Dana had lost part of a leg during his time in Vietnam and was in danger, climbing up and down the ladder.

At this time, there was a recession going on 1960s through 1970s. Richmond maybe had a total of 250 people living here. Jobs were hard to come by; lucky if you made \$2.00 an hour. You could only get \$3.00 of gas at a time and if you needed oil for your house, you had to fill the tank at about \$2.00 a gallon. Many people were losing their homes. It was around this time, Dana decided to run for selectman in support of the people, to keep the town taxes down. For many years, he served as a selectman.

"A Life of Service to Others" - that was Dana. My condolences to the family.

Library News

Wendy O'Brien

Summer is Here!

Come check out some great summer reading selections curated by our Assistant Librarian, Trish Newton. She has put together a bunch of terrific books for those of you looking to start a new summer hobby. Looking for something close to home? We have a notebook of hikes in Richmond and close-by towns by Carol Jameson, previously published in *The Rooster*.

Knitting Circle is Back!

Looking for some help on your latest project? Come visit the experts at the Pavilion on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. New and experienced handcrafters of all kinds are welcome.

Book Club is Back!

Join us on July 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the Pavilion to discuss *Code Name Lise: The True Story of the Woman Who Became WWII's Most Highly Decorated Spy*. Copies are available at the Library.



Tails and Tales

Welcome to Summer Reading @ the Pavilion! Join us on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.:

July 7: It's a story time safari! Be ready with your binoculars (we'll be making some) and make a lion mask. For our older friends, learn how to ID animal poop!

July 14: Hooray for honeybees! Come learn about these important pollinators and make a honey bee hive.

July 21: Scrub a Dub, Dub - help clean up the polluted water and save the animals from an oil spill.

July 28: Come, get messy - making blobfish out of slime!

Going on a trip this summer? Bring the Library along!

Just a reminder that we are part of the NH Downloadable Books Consortium. You can download audiobooks and eBooks anywhere to your device using the easy Libby app. All you need is a library

Richmond Public Library

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Wednesdays 9-noon
Saturdays 10am-2pm

Catalog:

opac.libraryworld.com/

opac/home.php. Library

name: Richmond Public.

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New Titles

That Summer, Jennifer Weiner

The Hummingbird's Gift, Sy Montgomery

New Artisan Bread in Five Minutes a Day, Jeff Hertzberg

The Heart Remembers, Jan-Philipp Sendker

Facing the Mountain, Daniel James Brown

Summer of Lost and Found, Mary Alice Monroe

I am a Girl from Africa, Elizabeth Nyamayaro

Klara and the Sun, Kazuo Ishiguro

News from the Richmond Town Clerk

Karen O'Brien

In my quest to fully inform Richmond residents of the intricacies of vehicle titles and registrations, I would like to address the fees associated with registering your vehicle. The state fees are based on the GVW (gross vehicle weight), which can be found on the driver's side door jamb.

0 - 3,000 lbs. \$2.60 per month

3,001 - 5,000 lbs. \$3.60 per month

5,001 - 8,000 lbs. \$4.60 per month

8,001 - 73,280 lbs. \$.08 per hundred lbs. per month
or \$.96 per hundred lbs. gross weight per year

Example:

A 12 month registration on a vehicle with a GVW of 7,300 lbs. is \$55.20 (12 months x \$4.60 per month = \$55.20)

Town fees are based on the manufacturer's list price. This is not the price you paid for the vehicle, but what the vehicle was listed for originally. This price does not change. It can be a problem when figuring out these fees, as this information is not always readily available, except through looking up the vehicle in a red book, blue book, or other publication dedicated to the list price of vehicles. It is also

very specific as to make and model, as some vehicles have extra packages added that increase the list price.

The rate is based on a complicated millage system, which is a tax rate on property expressed in mills per dollar of the value of the property. It starts with a mill rate of 18 mills times list price for vehicles manufactured in 2021-2022 and drops to 15 mills for a 2020, 12 mills for a 2019, 9 mills for 2018, 6 mills for a 2017, to, finally, 3 mills for vehicles 2016 or older.

I have a brochure generated by the NH City & Town Clerk's Association which gives more information about how to estimate your fees. You can stop by the Town Hall to pick up a copy, or I would be happy to send you one via email.



Everyone will receive either an email or letter reminding them of the renewal of their vehicles, which occurs at the end of their birth month. These are generally sent the month before the registration is due, so you will have enough notice to renew. You will be notified of the exact amount owed to both the State of NH and the Town of Richmond, and two checks (or cash) are required. You may complete the renewal online through the EB2Gov system or by mail. The online procedure is fairly simple, but you will need to pay through your checking account (be sure to get the correct routing and account numbers!) and also pay a small fee for the service. You can find the link on the Town Clerk page of the Town website. <http://www.richmond.nh.gov>. We do not accept credit or debit cards. Of course, you can also stop by and do the renewal in person during the hours the office is open. I look forward to meeting more of you in person – that's one of the best parts of this job!

Important Reminder

If you have not voted in the past four years and would like to or need to make changes to your voter registration, please attend the Special Meeting of the Supervisors of the Checklist at Town Hall on Tuesday, July 13, 2021, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.



From: Your dog(s)
To: My owner
Subject: Don't make me a criminal!

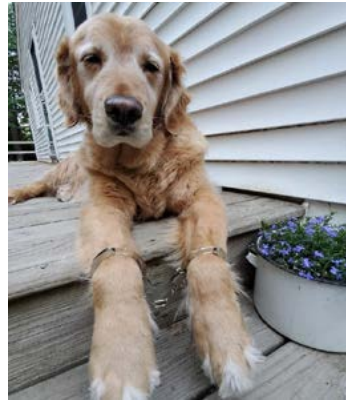


photo by Susan Harrington

I know you are busy with all sorts of human things, but I don't want to be the only dog in the neighborhood without a license. The shame of it all! My furry friends have their licenses and are safe and secure – don't you want the same for me? It only takes a few minutes to do this online, or you can mail a check if you can't get to the Town Clerk's office. Just remember that there is a late fee of \$1.00 for each month after June 1, so don't delay – do it today!

I heard through the doggy grapevine that civil forfeitures will go out July 1, so you can avoid additional costs by making me legal now. That way, you'll be able to afford more treats for me!

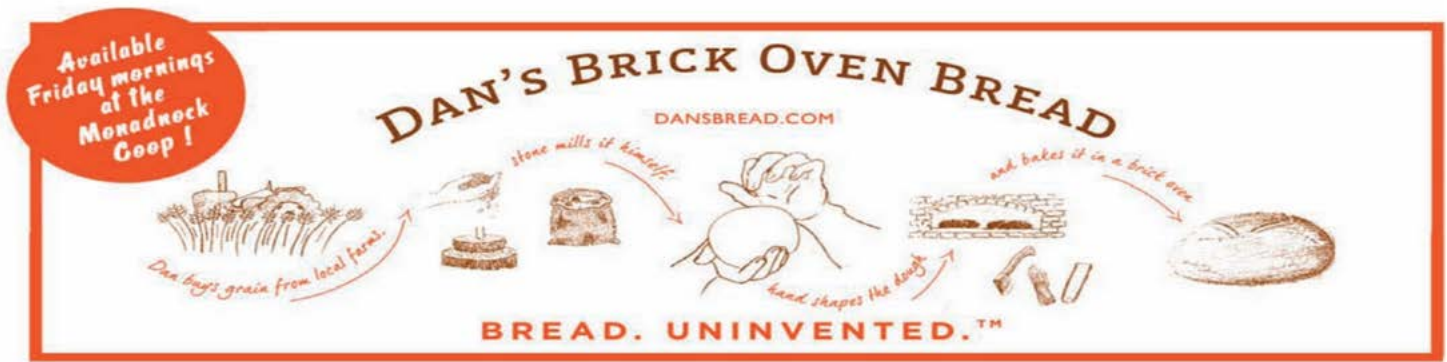
You can call the Town Clerk to find out what you owe or even better – email her at obrienrichmond-clerk@gmail.com and she'd be happy to fill you in. WOOF!!!

Barbecued Chicken Salad Sandwiches

Terri O'Rorke

- 1-1/2 pounds boneless skinless chicken breast
- 1/2 cup barbecue sauce
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup finely chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 8 kaiser rolls, split
- 8 tomato slices
- 8 lettuce leaves

1. Place the chicken in a shallow baking dish; add barbecue sauce. Turn to coat; cover. Refrigerate overnight.
2. Grill chicken, covered, over medium-high heat until a thermometer reads 165°F, six to eight minutes on each side. Cool; cover and refrigerate chicken until chilled.
3. Chop chicken; place in a large bowl. Stir in the mayonnaise, onion, celery, salt and pepper flakes. Serve on rolls with tomato and lettuce.



Ways We Can Conserve Energy

Susan Opal

We have a lot of news in the making about Community Solar and more. Join the Richmond Energy Committee by emailing SusanOpalWyatt@gmail.com

Summer Energy Saving Tips

1. Switch your fan blades to spin counterclockwise to push cool air down.
2. Cook outside! Barbecuing is an energy-efficient way to cook—you aren't heating up your house, and you're not using any energy.
3. Choose an ENERGY STAR® certified room air conditioner and use 10% less energy.
4. Check your air conditioner's filter every month. A dirty filter will slow down airflow and make the system work harder to keep you cool.
5. Install an ENERGY STAR® certified smart thermostat. A smart thermostat that has earned ENERGY STAR certification is Wi-Fi enabled and can automatically adjust temperature settings in your home for optimal performance.

Electronic

1. Seal your ducts. Sealing and insulating ducts can improve the efficiency of your cooling system by as much as 20%.
2. Unplug your video game devices when you are not playing.
3. Switch your electronics to energy-saving mode

when not in use.

4. Turn off the monitor if you aren't going to use your PC again for more than 20 minutes. Turn off both the CPU and monitor if you're not going to use your PC for more than 2 hours.
5. Use a power strip or electronics timer for your appliances to reduce power usage.
6. ENERGY STAR-labeled computers use 30% to 65% less energy.

Appliances

1. Refrigerator - Clean your refrigerator coils to improve the efficiency of your fridge.
2. Stove - Cover pots when boiling to prevent the release of heat.
3. Clothes Washer - When possible, wash clothes in cold water. Over 75% of a washing machine's energy is used to heat the water.
4. Water - Use low-flow showerheads to reduce household water use up to 40%.
5. Dryer - Dry laundry on the lowest heat settings; you'll use less energy and it's gentler on your clothes.
6. Energy - Go outside! Give the appliances in your kitchen a break and fire up the grill.
7. Oven - Open the oven only when necessary. When opened, the temperature is reduced by up to 25%.
8. Water Heater - Replace your electric water heater with a heat pump water heater for two to three times more efficiency.

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It's a Home Run!

Neil Moriarty

The Monadnock High School baseball team achieved State Level III Baseball Champion status this year. Richmond has several players on this team. Job well done!

Our High School Graduates Rock!

Neil Moriarty

First Name	Last Name	
Hayden	Budzick	NH Scholar
Gabriel	Doyle	NH Scholar
Nathan	Doyle	NH Scholar
Willow	Finley	MRHS Diploma
Trevor	Heise	MRHS Diploma
Ivy	Love	NH Scholar, Diploma of Distinction
Andrew	Pearsall	Adult Diploma
Madison	Pearsall	2020 Grad
Aurora	Perry	NH Scholar
Alexander	Royce	NH Scholar
Sebastian	Stengle	MRHS Diploma
Anthony	Tomer Jr	NH Scholar

Award-Winning Delaney Swanson

Neil Moriarty

- Salutatorian
- Top 10 Senior
- National Honor Society
- State Champion in the 3200 meter (two mile)
- NH STEM Scholar
- Diploma of Distinction
- Female Athlete of the Year
- Female Scholar Athlete
- Swanzy Conservation Commission Scholarship
- Swanzy Garden Club Scholarship

Delaney's grandparents are Richmond residents and must be very proud!



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The Edge Ensemble Presents its Second Online Theatrical Production for Summer 2021

Catherine Behrens

The Edge Ensemble's second online theatrical production, *Incomplete*, will be available for viewing free on YouTube starting June 25th. An original play by Dan Patterson, *Incomplete* explores what happens when characters created by a playwright take on lives of their own and begin asking fundamental questions about the terms of their existence. It abounds in humor while raising universal questions about the human condition. Kim Dupuis is directing Dan Patterson, Damien Licata, Kenzie Yelin, Peter Eisenstadter, Catherine Behrens, Tracy Messer, and Susan Sanders. David Teubner is the cinematographer and editor and Susan Sanders is the art director and costume coordinator.

The Edge's first online production was *Trifles* by Susan Glaspell, which will remain available for viewing through the end of June.

The Edge is deeply grateful to The Historical Society of Cheshire County for allowing us to film these productions in their beautiful and historic Bruder

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House. The help provided by Alan Rumrill, Rick Swanson, and Jennifer Rumrill is greatly appreciated.

The Edge is also indebted to the Putnam Foundation and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation for supporting these two online theatrical productions.

To view these productions, you can go to The Edge's website, www.edgeensemble.org/videos or search for Edge Ensemble on YouTube. It can then be viewed on your computer or on your television.

Please consider making a donation because we are offering these productions free of charge. Filming is quite expensive, and your donations will help us to cover those expenses. Go to www.edgeensemble.org and click on donate.

Call The Edge at 603-352-5657 for further information. Or email TheEdgeEnsemble@aol.com. You may also visit the Edge's website, www.TheEdgeEnsemble.org; or visit the Edge's Facebook page



Monadnock RSVP Volunteer Center Jazmin Belcoure, Program Coordinator

This past year has illustrated the importance and power of community. Like so many during this pandemic, our Monadnock RSVP volunteers rolled up their sleeves and asked the question, "What can I do?" Some stayed with the agencies they were volunteering with, some volunteered in new ways, making masks or grocery shopping and many turned their attention to friends, family and neighbors. Now, as pandemic restrictions ease, agencies are starting to ramp up their services again, and volunteers are needed more than ever.

If you are looking to lend your services, Monadnock RSVP Volunteer Center can help. We conduct personal interviews with each of our perspective volunteers to help find a rewarding activity. Whether it's volunteering one to two hours a week as a friendly visitor with Neighbors-In-Deed, helping students in a classroom learn to read with America Reads, or finding a role with one of our partner agencies to drive, tutor, garden, deliver meals or any number of other possibilities.

Let us help you help our community, call at (603) 357-6893 or email RSVP@mfs.org. Monadnock RSVP Volunteer Center is a proud grantee of AmeriCorps Seniors and receive funds through their RSVP program. We are a program of Monadnock Family services.

Parks and Recreation Karen Daugherty

I hope everyone enjoyed themselves at the Summer Reading Kick-off and Tie Dye Party! Thank you to all that helped out.

As you head over to Cass Pond, please remember to carry out what you carry in. We do have several geese in the area again this year. Please do not feed them, or any other wildlife at the beach. Thank you!

Please join us for these upcoming events:

August 21st 2021 10 a.m. “Back to School” Party and Summer Reading Wrap-up at the pavilion

September/October 2021 Collaborative event with Harvest Festival and Agricultural Fair

December 2021 Movie at Takodah

January 2022 Winter Event

February/March 2022 Annual Winter Event



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A Farmer's Market in Richmond? Yes!

Liz Ehrman

Sunday from noon to 3 p.m., you'll find regional vendors at the Four Corners (intersection of Routes 32 and 119). Karen O'Brien offers heirloom tomato and pepper plants, unusual herbs, including medicinal, and native plants; Dan's Brick Oven Bread features freshly milled and baked bread and crackers. The Daniels Family vends Richmond Maple Syrup. From Rindge, Amber Dewey markets Dolcezza Skin Care and Soaps and Harper Haven eggs. There are more vendors to come!

This week, I'd like to let you know a bit more about Amber and her products. The word, "dolcezza" (dole-CHET-za), means "sweetness" in Italian, and that is what Amber named the queen of her first beehive. She started making skin care products for herself and her family and friends as a way to use the beeswax she harvested along with honey. Around the same time, she took a cold-process soap-making class with her daughter, and they were hooked. As a nurse practitioner with a background in pharmacology and toxicology, she understands how what we put on our skin can affect our health. After experiencing the benefits of beeswax in skin creams and homemade small-batch soaps, she was inspired to make these products available to everyone.

Amber's products are made with beeswax from her bees and from other local hives. The beeswax is blended with expeller-pressed, non-GMO, fair-trade avocado oil and with 100% pure, sustainably-produced, and fair-trade Shea butter. Organic essential oils are used to lightly scent the creams. She never uses stabilizers, preservatives, petroleum products, or artificial colors and scents. The process creates a gentle moisturizing and protective skin cream for the entire body. The creams are perfect for gardeners and people who wash their hands a lot and for people with sensitive or reactive skin. One of the scents combines geranium,

citronella, rosemary and peppermint, which makes a gentle and effective insect repellent and smells great!

Soaps are made using a cold-process method (using lye), from fats and oils that are as earth-friendly and people-friendly as possible, using local beeswax, but no other animal products. Organic essential oils are used to lightly scent the soaps and shampoo bars. The soaps contain organic oatmeal and local honey to create a gentle moisturizing soap, suitable for kitchen or bath. The shampoo bars contain tropical oils for a gentle shampoo that can be used daily. Again, there are no stabilizers, preservatives, petroleum products, or artificial colors and scents. A customer favorite is the Lemon Poppyseed bar, which contains poppy seeds to gently scrub and exfoliate.

It's important to reduce our impact on the earth, as much as possible. Packaging of both the products and the ingredients is carefully selected to reduce the use of single use plastics. Amber uses a homemade solar wax melter or a woodstove to purify the beeswax and melt the wax and the oils together.

Harper Haven Farm eggs are from a small flock of pastured, free-range hens. The flock is a mixture of Buff Orpingtons, Golden-Laced Wyandottes, and Speckled Sussex, with two roosters, a Rhode Island Blue named, "Lumiere," and an Easter Egger named, "Beast." Eggs are available at the Farmers' Market or through a CSA-type subscription. Stop by the Farmers' Market and ask!

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A Glimpse into the Farmer's Market



**COAL'S INCREDIBLE JOURNEY –
PART III:
With the Help of Angels
Fran Heap**

In May's edition of the *Rooster*, I wrote of our cat, Coal, who disappeared from our Richmond property on July 3, 2020. In June's edition, I wrote of the Ten Thousand Eyes ("TTE") website, sponsored by the Monadnock Humane Society ("MHS"), and where I posted his photograph and description. Six dreary weeks had passed since we lost Coal; my husband and I had given up hope of ever seeing him again. I joined the ranks of the TTE microvolunteers and regularly reviewed my emails for alerts. Sadly, another cat, Max, who could have been a twin of Coal, had just gone missing from Richmond, too.

On August 17, 2020, I received an email from MHS. It read:

Hi Francesca,

I wanted to reach out to let you know we may have gotten your cat, Coal, brought into the shelter today. I left a message on your voicemail from our Ten Thousand Eyes website. If you can get back to me so we can set up an appointment for you to see if it is him, that would be great.

Best,

Ashley Okola,

Assistant Manager

I'm not sure what happened to that voice mail message, but I was skeptical MHS had my cat. After all, it had been six weeks. Nonetheless, I loaded up a cat carrier and headed to my appointment with Ashley, convinced it would be Max, not Coal, I would find at the shelter.

When I arrived at MHS, Ashley greeted me and went to retrieve the stray cat. She had been hired by MHS eight years before. Ashley's credentials were impressive. She already had life experience in animal welfare and veterinary health, as well as a Master's Degree in Animals and Public Policy.

The animal reception waiting room was clean, with large glass windows. Ashley came down the hall, carrying a painfully thin cat. Through the glass, I recognized its markings. "It's him! It's Coal!", I

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exclaimed to Ashley. She was delighted; it was she who had noticed a few white hairs on his black nose and matched him to his photo in the TTE Lost Cat database.

Ashley did some quick calculating. Coal had



Ashley Okola - photo by Alan Conklin

traveled nine miles into Winchester in the six weeks he had been missing! A homeowner had found Coal inside a garage and brought him to the humane society. Coal was weak, dehydrated, disoriented, and down to roughly seven pounds. The staff at MHS had examined him, fed him, and even started his deworming in the one day they had him. I could not wait to get Coal home and was tremendously grateful to MHS for taking such good care of him.

Coal beat the odds: only 11 percent of Monadnock Region stray cats are reclaimed by their owners through MHS, despite its association with TTE. (To my knowledge, Max, the other missing Richmond cat, has never been found). Stray dogs fare better at 75 percent. Ashley Okola values the MHS/TTE

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partnership because the TTE software application “gets the community involved” and “petowners can feel safe that MHS is trying its best for their animals.”

In an email of June 10, 2021, to the TTE microvolunteers about the “Coal’s Incredible Journey” article in the June *Richmond Rooster*, Ashley issued this statement: *I think the biggest piece that all of the staff take very seriously is ensuring that every effort has been made to check strays against the postings on TTE. The ideal home for any stray is the one they went missing from and it is imperative that we help as many families reunite with their cat or dog as possible.*

Coal’s recovery took time. He slept for hours in those first days. His black fur was flecked with new white. He had developed an appetite for crickets. (How many of those did he eat on the road, I wonder?) Coal now follows me closely, emitting hoarse meows every few minutes, like a homing signal, so I cannot lose track of him. In those six weeks Coal had been on his incredible journey, our handsome boy had somehow cycled through eight of his nine lives.

At Coal’s last veterinary visit, his vet, Dr. Hofheimer of Park Place Veterinarians, laughingly told me that my husband and I had “overshot the mark”, because Coal had filled out to 12 pounds! We will try to put the brakes on, but it’s hard not to spoil him after all he has been through.

I often reflect upon those angels who made it possible for Coal to return home safely from his incredible journey:

- Gary Lee, who gave months of work product and money to create an application to reunite pets with their owners;

- The TTE microvolunteers who look out for strays and around whom the TTE application was built;
- The kind homeowner from Winchester who took the time to bring Coal to MHS after finding him in the garage;
- The MHS volunteers and staff who knock themselves out to provide decent pet care, out of their great love of animals;
- The donors whose generous contributions keep MHS afloat.

Angels, may I say that to Coal, my husband, and me, you are “purrfect”?

Cat Lost from Old Homestead Highway in Richmond


“Pebbles”, a timid gray shorthair with slight tiger markings on her tail, needs your help. Please call the Monadnock Humane Society at (603) 352-9011 if you have information to share and mention “TTE ID 1280.” Thank you.

The Trouble with Invasive Plants Karen O’Brien

There’s a lot of controversy in the plant community involving invasive plants. These are plants that have been introduced into an area, where they often take hold and take off, smothering everything in their wake. That’s because they are from somewhere else, and insects and other fauna do not appear to have a taste for them. So, they are able to quickly spread, to the detriment of our native plants. They also tend to produce

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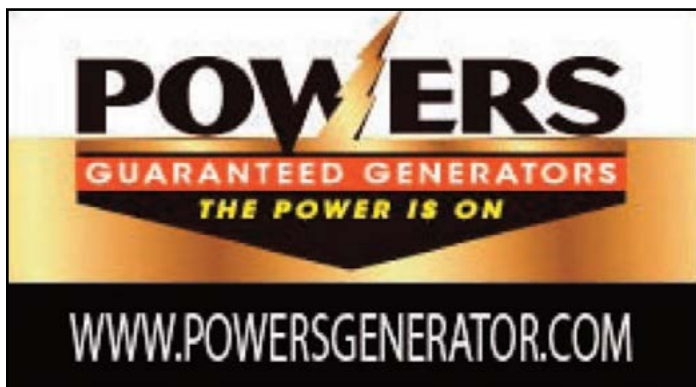
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many offspring, have early and rapid development, and demonstrate adaptability and tolerance of a broad range of environmental conditions. Many of these invasives were brought here intentionally, often by agencies involved with stabilizing banks, creating food for wildlife, etc. Some were cultivated as garden plants, but, then, escaped their garden beds and marched into uncultivated land. But, we now know that these invasives have a deleterious effect on our fields and woodlands.

Several of these plants are food for wildlife, particularly birds. Autumn olive (*Eleagnus umbellata*), which blooms in late May, has tasty small red fruit which makes a wonderful jelly. But, it is out of control along roadsides and does not support a lot of insects, as our native insects do not recognize it as a food source. So, it grows unchecked, and birds spread its seed far and wide. In my yard, I had one large bush which took a large tractor to pull out! It is still sending up shoots after one year, and I have noticed several young plants growing in many areas in my field; I need to remove them before they get much larger. You can see this plant along the highways, particularly along Rte. 91, as it grows rapidly and is actually quite attractive. Some wildlife biologists see this plant as beneficial as so many animals eat the fruit, but its abundance has made this a thug which crowds out other plants.

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) can be seen growing along roadsides and at field edges. I have a few plants in my yard, and they are easy to pull when they are small. The only good thing about this invasive

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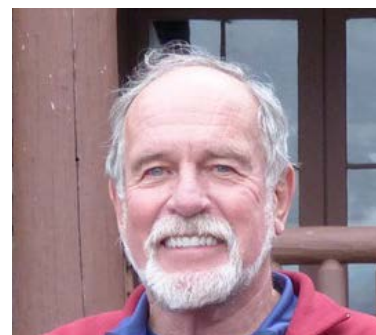
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is it is quite tasty as a green, so pull as much as you can and make pesto or stir up a batch of pot licker. Garlic mustard can be a serious problem in some areas.

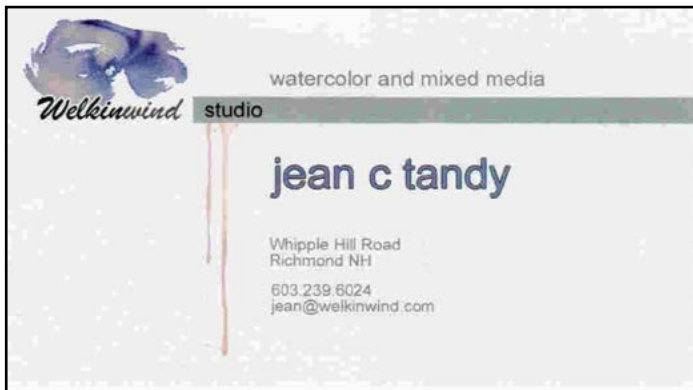
You may have heard of kudzu (*Pueraria montana*), the plant from hell. I have seen it growing on roadsides further south. I'm not sure it is really very hardy here in New Hampshire, but it is on the prohibited list, as I'm sure no one wants it to get a foothold here. It is amazing to see massive vines growing all over trees. You can't even tell what type of trees they are, as the kudzu leaves completely dominate everything they climb on. I hope our cold winters deter it from coming this far north. We do have some vines which are invasive and, gone unchecked, will strangle lots of other plants. One of



these is Oriental bittersweet, *Celastrus orbiculatus*, which has a lovely orange covering which opens to reveal red berries underneath. A favorite fall decoration, it has spread into woodlands, across stone walls, and twist and vines itself around everything. I am battling it as it climbs into my fruit trees, rhododendrons, and everywhere, really. It is fairly easy to pull when it is small, but the roots are long and deep. There is a native bittersweet, *Celastrus scandens* (American Bittersweet); a good way to tell the difference is the roots of the native are not orange as in the Oriental type. The berries tend to be at the ends of the branch, as well,



Bob Weekes - photo by Jan Weekes

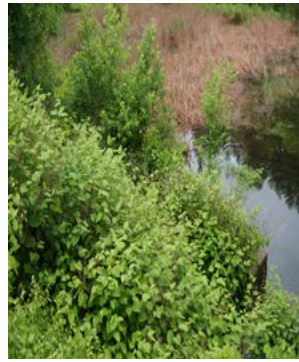


and not along the whole stem as in the invasive type.

Another nasty vine is honeysuckle. There are several honeysuckles which are invasive, but are bushes, such as *Lonicera maackii* and *L. tartarica*. But *Lonicera japonica* is a vine that can grow to 30', and its leaves are semi-evergreen, allowing it to outcompete its native neighbors. It depletes the soil moisture and nutrients to the understory, and the vines can even bring down weakened trees by their shear weight. One way to distinguish between native and invasive honeysuckles is by looking at the stems: native honeysuckles have solid stems, while invasive honeysuckles have hollow stems. The flowers are lovely, but they do produce numerous berries which, sadly, are dispersed by birds. The fruits are not nutritionally fit for migrating birds, who need more fat and certain nutrients for migration. Think of gorging on candy, instead of a balanced meal.

Burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*) is a most obnoxious plant; its fall color is why so many people planted it. It is a strange pinkish-red, (reminding me of Mercurchrome, if you're old enough to remember that) and you can see lots of it in the wooded areas where it has escaped and become almost a monoculture. It is far easier to recognize in autumn, as it is quite striking. Many people have this in their yards, never realizing how it spreads into the woods where it competes with native plants. If you want red foliage, a good alternate is blueberry bushes, which feed both us and the birds, and have nice, red color in autumn.

For the most obstinate shrub, my vote goes to *Reynoutria japonica*, Japanese knotweed, also known as "Godzilla weed." This very persistent plant has roots that can spread horizontally to 65' – that's right: SIXTY-FIVE FEET! The roots can go down to almost 10 feet, making it a real challenge to remove this plant successfully. I had one when I first moved to Richmond and I loved the flowers, which are favored by many bees and other pollinators. But I knew it had to go, as I have a pond and didn't want it to spread there. This is an ongoing project, as we dug out with a backhoe as much of the plant roots as we could. I then sifted through all



Japanese Knotweed

the soil, as the smallest piece of root will send up shoots. It's been two years, and I am still getting small shoots emerging, which I pull and put in the garbage. We had dumped the roots in the burn pile, planning to burn them later, and they began to grow without any soil on them! I can only hope that I can eventually choke it out. You can often see them in huge drifts along streams or ponds, where they overwhelm all other wetland plants. Nothing will grow beneath them, and their rapid growth, almost four inches a day, quickly outcompetes pretty much everything.

The last plant I want to discuss is multiflora rose, *Rosa multiflora*. This is an aggressive rose, with very many small white, fragrant flowers. As is so with so many of these invasives, they produce an abundance of fruit (hips), which people find attractive and good for decorating. This is another shrub which took a tractor to pull out. I had several in my field in Massachusetts, and those branches caused a lot of painful whiplash as we tried to remove it. I'm sure it has slowly crept back, as it is nearly impossible to remove every little fragment of root. If you cut it back, it will sucker and send up even more stalks.

Look around, and you'll see these plants are everywhere. Once you recognize them, you will see how entrenched they are in the landscape. I know we have a policy of "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free", but, please, no more invasives!

It is illegal in New Hampshire to collect, transplant, sell, or propagate these plants. There are many more, sadly, than those I have listed, such as Dame's Rocket, Buckthorn, and Barberry. For a full list of prohibited plants, go to: <https://www.agriculture.nh.gov/publications-forms/documents/prohibited-invasive-species>

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William Daniels, Doug Bersaw, Andrew Wallace

Mon. 9 AM – 12 PM

5:30 – 7 PM for business

7 PM – ? for public concerns

Wed. 9 AM – 1 PM

Thurs. 8 AM – 12 Noon (unless posted)

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

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Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Thompson

Town Clerk: Karen O'Brien

Deputy Town Clerk:

Mon. 9 AM – Noon

Wed. 9 – Noon, Thurs. 8 AM – Noon

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Mon. 6 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 9 AM – Noon

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Tues. 3 PM – 7 PM, Wed. 9 AM – Noon

Thurs. 3 PM – 7 PM, Sat. 10 AM – 2 PM

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Selectmen – 239-4232

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

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