



Raiding Richmond's Resources

Fran Heap

"A frog does not drink up the pond in which it lives" is a proverb which seems so appropriate to these times in Richmond. Selectmen Bersaw, Daniels, and Wallace have repeated last year's efforts to slash Richmond's protective wetland setback by two-thirds and, at the January 10th Selectmen's Meeting I attended, were actively pursuing the sale of more than 107 acres of town-owned land ((Lot 202-31) near the cemetery on Route 32. (*Rooster* readers might remember, too, that it was only April 2021 when the Selectmen proposed to sell off the 53 acre Allen lot.) I wonder if we have lost our way...

Take a walk back in time to this quote from the Introduction of the *Town of Richmond's Master Plan 2010*:

At a Master Plan Revision Committee meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2009 (17 committee members and 13+ invited guests), the sole purpose of the gathering was to discuss the vision of our small, rural town with population estimates of 1143 –1161 (See Appendix B/Internet). For over an hour, everyone respectfully, poignantly, and soulfully shared their concerns about this vision. Two concerns emerged as primary topics of the conversation: (1) Preservation of the town's rural character, a concern voiced by the town in a survey incorporated into the 2004 edition of the Master Plan; (2) Technological updating especially regarding cell phone and high-speed internet use. What united the two concerns and their attendant focal points regarding land use, energy, economic opportunity, capital improvements, and town government and services was a deep and abiding concern for community. Indeed, a certain level of grief was expressed. Richmond's historic landscape, necessary to understand the roots of our town as community, was often spoken about. The marvelous physical and scenic characteristics of Richmond need to be stressed and promoted. Open space and conservation ensure the future quality of life in Richmond.



Grazing Deer



Tom Turkeys Display

So, Richmond, do we vote to preserve or to raid our rural resources? The ball is in your court.

Richmond Historical Society

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Birdhouses Shaun Bennett

When I rebuilt my place, I made a new “flycatcher shelf” and mounted it on the wall under a bit of overhanging roof. For more than forty years, the small shelf under the eave on the old place had consistently hosted broods of flycatchers, and I wanted the tradition to continue. It didn’t work. But, the birds found their own place, the top of a beam which is sheltered under the new deck. Elsewhere, I hoped a nesting box in a field would attract a bluebird family. It hosted tree swallows instead. Even though not what I was trying for, it was still a good result, and a different box did become a bluebird home.

Things don’t always turn out the way you expect, but they are always interesting and rewarding, so I say *go forth and put up all the nest boxes you can*. Making them is a great winter project you can share with kids while teaching them some basic carpentry skills. Putting them up is another shared adventure. Seeing birds in your houses is a source of satisfaction, and, if you do it right, you may be able to choose which species benefit, including some of the ones whose populations are declining.

Planning helps. In addition to building a nest box to dimensions which are suitable for the target species, there are considerations, such as how high off the ground it should be and what it should be mounted on (a pole? a tree? the side of a building?). The entrance hole size can be selected to exclude non-target species, and some species prefer entrances with particular compass

From a friend on Athol Road

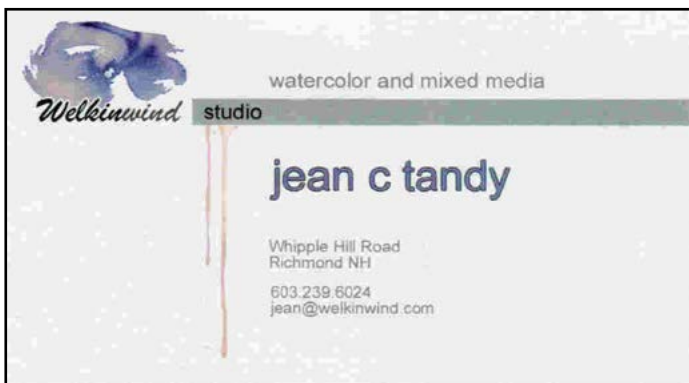
orientations. Steps can be taken to prevent predation by cats, raccoons, and other birds.

Even with good planning, there can be surprises. One human family was very pleased with its success in attracting an owl family to a nest box mounted on the side of their home. However, they soon discovered that owl chicks, like most birds, clamor for attention when a parent returns to the nest with food. Owls feed their young at night. Late at night. If you sleep lightly with the window open on a warm spring night, “shouting” owlets may not be your preferred lullaby. When the owlets outgrew the nest, the box was relocated.

You can make bird houses out of just about anything, but please avoid treated lumber and other materials which might have been exposed to toxins. If you want to paint your house, use latex paint, which has fewer chemicals. Do not paint the inside. Some think bright colors attract predators, but I’m not so sure about that. Rough cut, green lumber works just fine and is a lot easier on the budget, as well as being available right here in Richmond.



Screech Owl





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Most bird houses are an imitation of a cavity which might be found in a tree, although there are some exceptions, like flycatcher and barn swallow “shelves” which offer a sheltered, open platform. Great Horned Owls prefer “cones” that are like big wire mesh dishes. Even though this magnificent bird is declining in the Northeast, I don’t recommend trying to accommodate them. The cones need to be about 45 feet above the ground, greatly increasing the probability you will break your neck during installation. Furthermore, the birds choose their nest sites very early and lay eggs in February and March (too late to put one up now). Not only that, but the suggested separation between nest sites is 1.5 miles, and any bird that can’t find a natural place to nest in that much territory, more than two square miles, probably should find another line of work.

But I digress. As I was saying before the owls interrupted, birdhouses are like tree cavities, and, regardless of the design for a particular species, all of them need certain features including the following:

- Drain holes in the bottom to let out any rainwater which enters. In many cases, you can just cut a bit of the corners off the floor board to make drains.
- Vents near the top to let out hot air. Smallish holes or gaps between boards will do.
- A hinged side or other means to open up the house for cleaning. (Old nests should be removed annually well after nesting season has concluded, say early September.) Many designs include ways to include this feature easily and without having to buy an actual hinge.

Other elements may be specific to the sort of nest box you are building. Most are pretty simple, but, if you want to get into details, there are plenty of special considerations. For example, you may find that bluebird and swallow nests are parasitized by blowflies that can kill the chicks. Controlling these parasites is tricky, and pesticides do more harm than good. If this one interests you, check:

<http://nysbs.org/handouts/BlowfliesandBluebirds.pdf>

Though I have never actually seen this myself, there are credible reports that some birds will use cavities, including suitable birdhouses to sleep in during winter.

In some cases, a number of birds will crowd in and share the warmth. If you want to facilitate this, you should make a birdhouse that can be “winterized” with a few simple steps, like inverting the entrance panel, so that the hole is lower, and warm air can be better trapped inside (vents plugged, too). A little on-line research will help.

Which species do you want to attract? The easiest and most authoritative source of information on birdhouses for particular species is NestWatch, which is hosted by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, one of the finest ornithological organizations in the US. (Their Smartphone Bird ID app, Merlin Bird ID, is fantastic - and it’s free.) Go to:

<https://nestwatch.org/learn/all-about-birdhouses/right-bird-right-house/>

Find the plans which match your interests, including: where to place the bird house, the size of the cavity and entrance, and the best orientation. Or, you could just make your own design. I’ve seen birds nest in tin cans and mail baskets. You’ll probably get some no matter what you do.



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This year, I am going to try for kestrels, our smallest hawk. If that works, maybe I'll try some bat houses. But that's a different *Rooster* article.

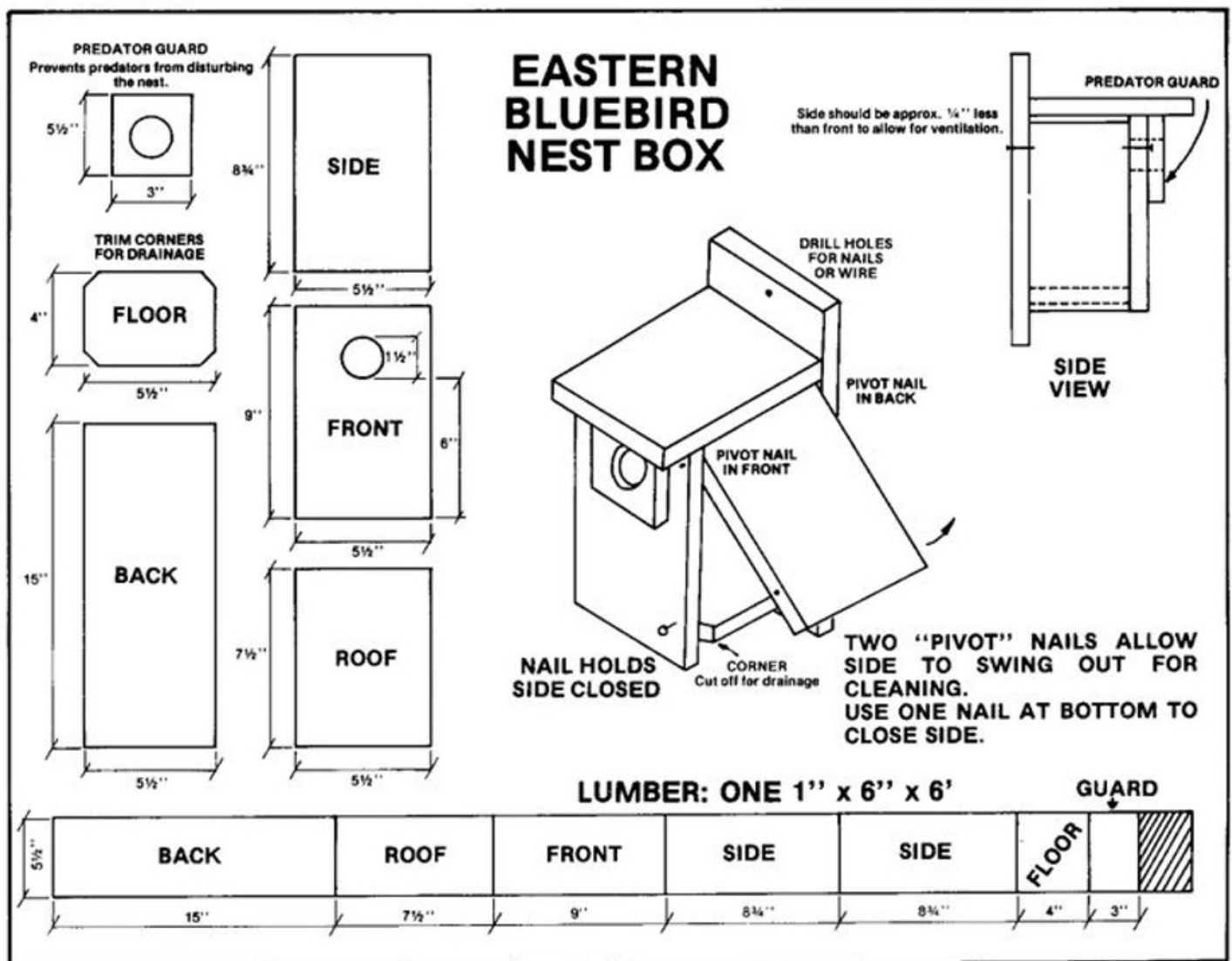
Note: I would like to know how your experience with birdhouses turns out and to have any other thoughts you can share about this or any of the other topics on which I have written for the Rooster. Please email me at: 119and32@gmail.com

[EDITOR'S NOTE - For online access to this public bluebird box diagram, please visit:

<https://www.adirondackalmanack.com/2010/03/newcomb-vic-offers-family-bluebird-nest-box-workshop.html>

and for this public winter roost diagram, please visit:

<https://www.pgc.pa.gov/InformationResources/Documents/plan5.pdf>



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Danny Wahl

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Plan 5 Winter Roost

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

LUMBER:

ONE - 1" X 10" X 10' BOARD

ONE - 3' LONG 3/8" WOODEN DOWEL

OTHER TOOLS AND SUPPLIES NEEDED:

SCREW DRIVER.

TWO SMALL HINGES.

1-1/2" LONG WOOD OR GALVANIZED DRYWALL SCREWS.

CAULKING: TUBE OF BLACK ROOF CEMENT.

CAULKING GUN FOR ABOVE.

BLACK STAIN OR PAINT.

BLACK ROLLED ROOFING: 9-3/4" X 15-1/4"

UTILITY KNIFE WITH SNAP OFF BLADES.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS:

Cut out parts & drill 3/8" holes all the way through FRONT, BACK, & SIDES as shown.

With knife, roughen interior surfaces with scratches 1/4" apart for climbing footholds.

Attach door to upper right side with hinges. Insert 9-1/2" dowel to two sides, gluing or caulking ends in place. Caulk back edges of SIDES and attach to BACK. Clean excess caulk.

CAULKING SEAMS ELIMINATES DRAFTS.

Install Floor. Use only 1 screw on right side to secure bottom of door.

Attach ROOST LEDGE to BACK and left side.

Cement 11" dowels into holes on BACK.

Caulk front edges of SIDES.

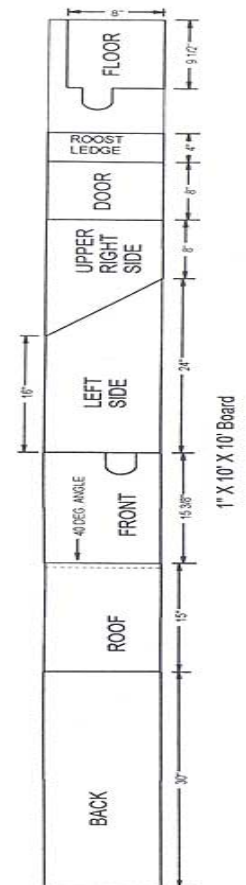
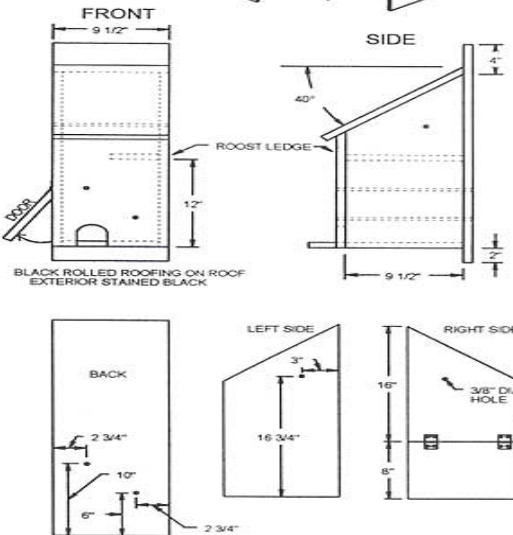
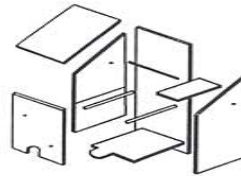
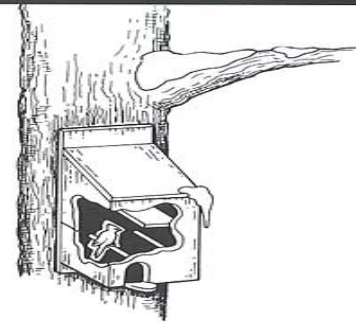
Push box FRONT into place and, at the same time, align and glue dowels into holes located in box FRONT. Secure with screws.

Apply bead of caulk to top of SIDES, FRONT, and back edge of ROOF. Attach ROOF.

Apply 2 or 3 coats of black stain/paint to exterior.

Apply bead of caulk on roof surface and edges. Push ROLLED ROOFING into place. Clean excess caulk. Caulk back edge of rolled roofing where it butts against BACK.

If necessary, staples or roofing nails may be used to help hold roofing in place until cement has cured.



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Linguine with Shrimp and Garlic Cream Sauce

Terri O'Rorke

Ingredients

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
8 ounces fresh linguine
12 large shrimp, peeled
8 cloves garlic, unpeeled
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 ½ cups heavy cream
½ cup grated Parmesan, plus more for serving
¼ cup finely chopped parsley, plus more for serving

Directions

1. Bring a large pot of generously salted water to a boil over high heat. Once boiling, add the pasta and cook, stirring occasionally, until just tender and al dente, 1 to 3 minutes (or according to package directions). Drain well and set aside.
2. Meanwhile, bring 6 cups water to a boil in a large saucepan.
3. Using a small paring knife, remove the vein along the back of each shrimp and rinse under running water. Add the garlic to the boiling water and cook for 2 minutes. Add the shrimp to the water with the garlic and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Drain the shrimp and garlic. Peel and finely chop the garlic.
4. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the garlic and cook for 1 minute. Add the heavy cream and bring to a simmer. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the cream begins to thicken. Stir in the Parmesan, parsley and shrimp. Season with salt and pepper.
5. Pour the sauce over the linguine in a large bowl and toss to coat. Garnish with more Parmesan and parsley.

Happy Valentine's Day, Richmond!



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The Edge Ensemble Seeks Actors for Two Short Films Catherine Behrens

The Edge Ensemble Theatre Company is opening auditions for its next two films and invites anyone interested in performing on film to apply.



The Edge will be filming two works by James M. Barrie (author of Peter Pan).

The Twelve-Pound Look has four characters:

- Two women aged 30-40
- One man aged 40-60
- One man aged 30-70

A Well-Remembered Voice has six characters:

- One woman aged 40-50
- One woman aged 18-23
- One man aged 40-65
- One man aged 18-25
- Two men aged 30-65

Rehearsals will be starting very soon. Actual filming will start in early spring.

If you are interested in auditioning for any of these roles, please contact Kim Dupuis at 603-352-5657 or email her at theedgeensemble@aol.com as soon as possible.

To view the Edge's six previous films on YouTube, visit the Edge's website, www.EdgeEnsemble.org/videos, or visit the Edge's Facebook page.

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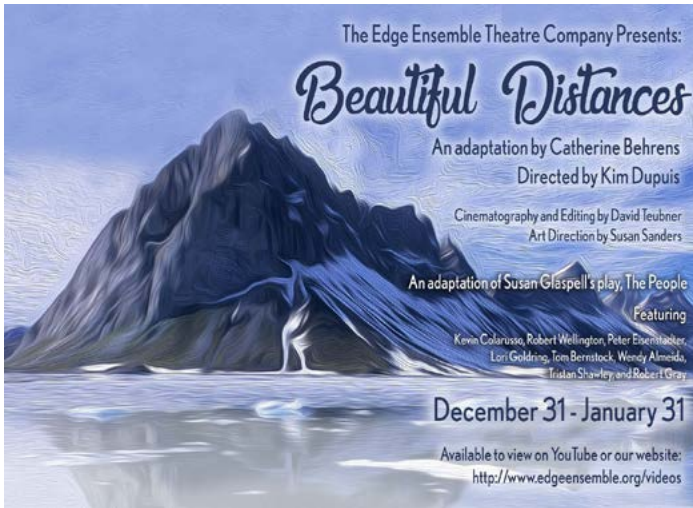
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The Edge Ensemble Presents:
Beautiful Distances
Catherine Behrens



The Edge Ensemble Theatre Company's final production of 2021 premiered on YouTube on New Year's Eve at 7 PM and is available for viewing any-time thereafter. *Beautiful Distances* is an adaptation by Catherine Behrens of a Susan Glaspell play, *The People*. It is directed by Kim Dupuis, with cinematography and editing by David Teubner, art direction by Susan Sanders, and poster design by Kyle Petrillo.

The production is chock-full of talented actors who worked hard under difficult circumstances to get the filming done while adhering to safety precautions in these times of COVID. The cast is comprised of Kevin Colarusso, Robert Wellington, Peter Eisenstadter, Lori Goldring, Thomas Bernstock, Wendy Almeida, Tristan Shawley, and Robert Gray.

Beautiful Distances explores the struggle of theatre artists to illuminate and enrich human experience through the medium of theatrical storytelling. Its message is timeless.

The Putnam Foundation, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, and the Eppes-Jefferson Foundation are generously supporting this production. This, like the Edge's other five online productions, are being offered free of charge. But, filming is quite expensive, and funds are limited, so donations are fervently requested. Donations can be made by going to www.edgeensemble.org and clicking on "donate."

To view *Beautiful Distances*, 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.

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



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**Connecticut River
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**New Funding to Help Wood Turtles
in NH, VT and MA**

**Rebecca Budd, Restoration Projects
Assistant**

Greenfield, MA – The Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC) today announced that they have received a new grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) that will help protect native turtles. The grant will fund landowner outreach by CRC and wood turtle site assessment by project partner, The Orianne Society (TOS).



Wood Turtles (*Glyptemys insculpta*), primarily found in river floodplains, and Spotted Turtles (*Clemmys guttata*) are the special focus of this project. Wood Turtles are considered a Species of Conservation Concern in the three states where CRC will focus outreach efforts. These turtles have suffered declines due to illegal collecting, development, agriculture, and stream

alterations. CRC and TOS will work with federal and state agency partners in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts to find willing landowners and sites that will lead to improving working lands, water quality, and wood turtle habitat in the Connecticut River watershed.

“Wood and Spotted Turtles thrive in environments with clean water, but they need space to roam on land as well, so improving habitat connectivity between land and water benefits them greatly. This not only helps rare turtles, but also creates habitat for other fish and wildlife, cleanses the water, and improves recreational opportunities. Farm Bill conservation programs also promote agricultural sustainability. Programs like this are a win for everybody” said Kiley Briggs, Director of Conservation with The Orianne Society.

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has designated northeast turtles as a “Working Lands for Wildlife” priority and offers programs to help with their conservation. The US Fish and Wildlife Service and each state wildlife agency have prioritized the restoration and preservation of the wood turtle, advancing both conservation science and action plans. This grant will help unite efforts by this coalition of organizations and find new project sites to help this species rebound and thrive.

“Strong partnerships form the backbone of this project,” said Ron Rhodes, CRC’s Director of Restoration Programs. “In addition to working with landowners, CRC and TOS will collaborate with all three states and our federal agency partners to ensure we identify areas that are most in need of restoration and maximize the benefits to both the turtles and landowners.



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This work wouldn’t be possible without this grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.”

Reptiles and amphibians have an incredible value and play integral roles in the function of healthy ecosystems. The Orianne Society works to conserve critical ecosystems for imperiled reptiles and amphibians using science, applied conservation and education. Learn more about Wood and Spotted Turtles, and The Orianne Society’s mission at www.orianne.org



January 4, 2022

Contact: Steve Lembke, President (802) 254-4813

Connecticut River Joint Commissions Receives Grant from State of Vermont

The Connecticut River Joint Commissions (CRJC) is pleased to announce that it has received a \$30,733 grant through the State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Department of Environmental Conservation. This one-year grant provides funding to implement CRJC’s July 2021 to June 2022 work program. Additional funding is provided by New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

These funds will allow the CRJC to continue its emphasis on the grassroots, locally focused work of its five local river subcommittees and the broader implementation of its river management plan. The CRJC focuses on the key issues facing the Connecticut River watershed of Vermont and New Hampshire and plays the vital bi-state role of convening, catalyzing, and leading dialogue on these regional issues.





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Current focus areas for the CRJC include:

- Participating as a stakeholder in the federal relicensing of hydroelectric facilities at Wilder Dam, Bellows Falls Dam, and Vernon Dam in Vermont and New Hampshire.
- Providing a forum for open discussion and comment on a wide range of projects affecting the Connecticut River and its watershed. Topics include permits, such as those for new development or invasive species management in proximity to the River and thus with potential impacts, as well as plans, such as Vermont's Tactical Basin Plans that help to inform an inventory of natural resources in the watershed, and also to manage and protect its' valuable land and water resources.
- Leading watershed management efforts highlighted in the CRJC watershed management plan; in particular working to improve water quality monitoring along the mainstem of the Connecticut River as well as convening bi-state partners to address the issue of climate migration.

New Hampshire's Connecticut River Valley Resource Commission and Vermont's Connecticut River Watershed Advisory Commission, created by their respective legislatures in 1987 and 1988, were directed to cooperate with each other to preserve and protect the resources of the Connecticut River Valley, and to guide its growth and development. They have met together as the Joint Commissions since 1989. Both Commissions advocate for and engage the public in decisions which affect their river and their valley. The Commissions are advisory and have no regulatory powers.

Studies show that residents of and visitors to Vermont and New Hampshire love the streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands of the Connecticut River watershed – these natural areas help define our bi-state landscape and character. This funding from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation enables CRJC to continue our work to protect these cherished resources. For more information about CRJC, please visit the CRJC website or contact CRJC staff, Olivia Uyizye.



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CVTC Transportation Coordinator

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Once our vetted volunteer drivers choose which trips best fit their schedule, they call the rider to verify pick-up times and, when they return home themselves, they track their total mileage for reimbursement from CVTC. Drivers select when, and to where, and for how long they are available. By making this difference in a rider's life, drivers contribute to the health of the Monadnock Region, one person at a time.

Please call CVTC for more information at 1-877-428-2882 x 5. www.cvtc-nh.org

Library News Wendy O'Brien

Library Calendar for February

Every Saturday, 10 AM – Noon: Drop-in Knitting Circle

Every Wednesday, 10 AM: Storytime

Special Events

Tuesday, Feb. 8th, 6 PM: Book Group, Olive Kitteridge

Thursday, Feb. 17th, 5:30 PM: Teen Pizza Night/Speed Charades

Wednesday, Feb. 23rd, 10 AM: Vacation Tech Day

Book Club

Join us on February 8th at 6:00 PM to discuss the Pulitzer Prize winning *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout:

At times stern, at other times patient, at times perceptive, at other times in sad denial, Olive Kitteridge, a retired schoolteacher, deplors the changes in her little town of Crosby, Maine, and in the world at large, but she doesn't always recognize the changes in those around her...As the townspeople grapple with their problems, mild and dire, Olive is brought to a deeper understanding of herself and her life – sometimes painfully, but always with ruthless honesty.—GoodReads.com.

Copies are available at the Library.

Teen Pizza Night/Speed Charades

This month's teen pizza night is on February 17th at 5:30 PM. All teens and tweens are welcome to come have pizza and play this month's game, "Speed Charades." We'll have pizza at 5:30 PM and start the game at 6 PM.



Vacation Tech Day

On Wednesday, February 23rd at 10 AM, we'll be holding a tech day for kids. Come check out our new 3D printer, 3D pen, robots and more! If there is interest, we'll begin a kids tech night where they can make their own 3D designs and print them.

New Titles

This Land Is Their Land, David Silverman

Good Eggs, Rebecca Hardiman

Our Country Friends, Gary Shteyngart

The Mercies, Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Outlander, Seasons 4 & 5 (DVD)

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Saturdays 10am-2pm

Catalog:

opac.libraryworld.com/

opac/home.php. Library

name: Richmond Public.

No password required.



The 2022 Speaker Series: *Introduction to Backyard Chickens*

The Agricultural Commission of Richmond presents seasonal lectures and demonstrations on various homesteading topics. Join us on February 13th at 3 PM for Introduction to Backyard Chickens, presented by Richmond resident, Lisa Hedenberg.

Growing up in southern Illinois, Lisa learned about raising poultry from her grandmother and will introduce us to her homestead and share old and new techniques of flock management. Details are available on our Agricultural Commission of Richmond Facebook page and by request. Stay tuned here for future events!

For more information including the lecture location, please contact Liz Ehrman, Liz.Ehrman@icloud.com.



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Bee Buzz
Liz Ehrman



Pollinators are in the news; backyard beekeeping is on the rise. Ever wanted to learn what it takes to keep honeybees? Surplus honey is a great draw, but it's also essential to do what we can to increase the numbers of pollinators in our region. Our food chain relies on these lovely ladies to forage nectar and pollen and keep our gardens producing healthy food. In addition, beekeeping is fascinating and an opportunity for the whole family to get involved. Youth Scholarship opportunities will be available.

February is a great time to take a closer look to see if this hobby is for you. Your local beekeeping club is offering a free information day, followed by a seasonal course. These classes will cover how to create your own honey supply, plus honey bee biology, behavior, hive management, how to spot disease or pests, and more.

A Beekeeping for Beginners class series, provided by the Monadnock Beekeepers Association, will be held at Cheshire County Court House, 12 Winter Street, Keene, NH. Two Saturday classes are planned: February 5th, 9 AM – 1 PM and February 12th, 9 AM – 1 PM. These classes are followed by monthly on-site practical instruction. First class is free.

Suggested reading, "Beekeeping for Dummies" by Howland Blackiston, is included in the course cost. Class size is limited. \$140 advance payment secures your place and includes: the second class, monthly on-site classes, book, membership in Monadnock Beekeepers Assoc., and more.

Advance payment for the entire course may be mailed to: MBA, POB 396, 63 Emerald St, Keene, NH 03431. Payment is also accepted after the first class, space permitting.

For more information:

Website: <http://www.monadnockbeekeepers.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/monadbeek>

Email: Bruce Harrison- bruceharrison34@gmail.com

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Garden Gnomes: from Ancient Greece and Rome to the 21st Century

Karen O'Brien

Who doesn't love those little gnome statues which can be found in virtually every corner of the world? Well, to tell the truth, there are those who believe that these garden favorites are an abomination – and those folks are known as either "garden snobs" or "gnomophobes". In 2013, the very prestigious Royal Horticultural Society of Britain rescinded a ban on using these statues in the Chelsea Flower Show, a decision which created both delight and horror, depending on which side you stand. Since this show is the epitome of class and good taste and has been around for over 100 years (having been started in 1913), the decision was a big deal and gave gnomes the attention they are due, as good luck charms and adorable garden ornaments.

Garden gnomes first made their appearance in ancient Rome as protectors of gardens from evil spirits and to ensure a good harvest. They are descended from Roman gods, such as Priapus, the fertility god, who was a protector of livestock and gardening and was a randy chap. The Swiss physician, Paracelsus (1493 -1541), described gnomes as creatures having magical power. Gnomes were one of the four elementals or nature spirits who would come out at night to help plants grow. During this time period, gnomes were depicted as ugly hunchbacks and were painted in bright colors. And, around the world, folklore, myths, and fairytales (especially German ones) presented gnomes and dwarfs as creatures with power to help humans in their farming efforts.

Certainly a good reason to have one in your garden!

The first gnome statue of modern times, complete with red hat, was made by sculptor Phillip Griebel. It was an instant hit, and people from all over Europe wanted that iconic gnome for their own. In the 19th century, Sir Charles Isham brought several of Griebel's gnomes to England, and the tradition of gnomes there – which were called “Lampy” - became entrenched in the gardens of the UK. After WW1 and WW2, there was a decline in popularity of gnomes, perhaps due to troubling times and a decline in leisure pursuits. Walt Disney, in 1937, released “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” and, although the dwarfs were not gnomes, they looked enough like them that garden gnomes saw a resurgence in popularity. And, that remains through today.

I've seen gnomes in biker dress, skeleton gnomes, evil gnomes, gnomes showing their backside, and lots of others. These mass-produced gnomes do not have the appeal of the earlier, handmade ones, but allow more people access to these decorative garden accents.



Herbie among the valerian, a known soporific

Have you ever heard about traveling gnomes? It became popular in the 1990's, when a community in France, named “The Garden Gnome Liberation Front”, started stealing gnomes and taking them to the far corners of the world. A Canadian woman had her gnome go missing for eight months, only to be returned with a travel diary recounting his adventures from Vancouver Island to the Baja Peninsula

in Mexico. And who remembers Travelocity's marketing of “Where is my Gnome”? Instagram and Twitter have an official profile for this Roaming Gnome; you can follow his travels all over the world.

I had a chance to take charge of a traveling gnome. The Herb Society of America had a gnome which they sent to various units across the country. “Herbie” came to Massachusetts and visited our unit's garden at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in Wellesley. It was great fun to take photos of him in the gardens, and then send him on his way to the next stop.

Gnomes have generally been depicted as male, with long white beards and sporting a pipe. Since they were supposed to be a help in the garden, they are often accompanied by shovels or wheelbarrows. But, modern gnomes are displayed in all manner of dress, vocation or avocation, gender and age, and are a sweet addition to your landscape. Make room in your garden, and a gnome might just make your day.



Herbie with Pomona, the goddess of fruit trees, gardens, and orchards

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Town Business Hours

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William Daniels, Doug Bersaw, Andrew Wallace

Mon. 9 AM – Noon

5:30 – 7 PM for business

7 PM – ? for public concerns

Wed. 9 AM – 1 PM

Thurs. 8 AM – 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: Karen O'Brien

Tues. 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Wed. 9 AM - Noon & 1 PM - 4 PM

Thur. 8 AM - Noon

For Tues. appointments (5 PM, 5:30 PM, 6 PM), call or email the clerk.

Tax Collector: Steve Boscarino

Deputy Tax Collector: Ann Dea Whipple

Mon. 6 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 9 AM – 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 – 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

Fire Permit: Buzz Shaw, 239-4238

Selectmen – 239-4232

Town Clerk – 239-6202

Tax Collector – 239-6106

Road Agent: Elton "Buddy" Blood, II – 400-3629

Vets' Hall Maint.: James Nolan, 239-3353

Zoning Compliance Officer: Richard Drew

[Phone number area codes are 603, unless otherwise noted.]

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

Cheshire County Municipalities and their Wetlands Protection Ordinances

How Well Does Richmond Protect its Wetlands Compared to its Neighbors?

Municipality Name	Wetland Buffer (feet)
Dublin	100 feet
Fitzwilliam	prime wetland: 100 feet, other wetlands: 75 feet
Harrisville	septic tank/leach field: 100 feet
Jaffrey	75 feet
Keene	30 ft. - 75 ft.
Marlborough	100 feet
Marlow	75 feet for septic
Richmond	75 feet – March 2022 ballot results could reduce protection to only 25 feet!
Rindge	50 feet
Stoddard	50 feet
Sullivan	50 ft.
Surry	individual sewage disposal systems: very poorly drained soils or jurisdictional wetlands: 100 ft., poorly drained soils: 75 ft.
Swanzey	leach field or dry well: 125 feet
Troy	25 feet
Westmoreland	75 feet

Source: NH Office of Strategic Initiatives Wetlands Protection Ordinance table online at

[wetlands-protection.xlsx \(live.com\)](https://www.live.com/wetlands-protection.xlsx)



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