



"People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote — a very different thing." –Walter H. Judd

**Taking place at the Veterans' Memorial Hall:
Elections & Referendum – Tuesday, March 8th,
11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Warrant – Saturday, March 12th, 9:00 AM**

Election Candidates:

Select Board – One 3-Year Slot

Doug Bersaw

Renee Murphy

Planning Board – Two 3-Year Slots

James Butterfield

Kim Demasco

Douglas Smith

Library Trustee – One 3-Year Slot

Barbara Rogers

Supervisor of the Checklist – One 6-Year Slot

Susan Lanen

Cemetery Trust – One 3-Year Slot

Jerry Mills

Trustee of Trust Funds – One 1-Year Slot

Carol Jameson

Trustee of Trust Funds – One 3-Year Slot

Write-in candidates only

Moderator – One 2-Year Slot

Write-in candidates only

Referendum –

Synopsis of Zoning Ordinance Proposals:

- Reduce protective wetland buffer size from 75' to 25' (Planning Board Amendments 1 & 2)

Annual Budgets:

- Town of Richmond at Town Meeting;
- Monadnock Regional School District at Town Elections.

2022 MS-636 Proposed Budget Summary

[Editor's Note: For a breakdown of the budget articles, please see the following page.]

Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 12/31/2022
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$829,012
Special Warrant Articles	\$2,194,000
Individual Warrant Articles	\$65,000
Total Appropriations	\$3,088,012
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$2,353,526
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$734,486

**FEBRUARY 9TH PREWARRANT HEARING
NOTES OF INTEREST:**

Operating Budget Appropriations

The suggested increase from \$12,000 to \$21,600 for Budget Item 4195 (Cemeteries) is for tree removal, top soil, and grave stone repair. Solid Waste Disposal has also gone up. Modest salary increases for employees are included.

Special Warrant Articles

Special Warrant articles includes bonding two million dollars for two lane bridges on Tully Brook Road and Whipple Hill Road, as well as \$85,000 for road repair to Whipple Hill Road and Cross Road. The Tully Brook Road bridge replaces a red-tagged culvert and will serve 12 households. The proposed Whipple Hill Road bridge replaces the prior bridge, which was also red-tagged. The town plans to enter into a \$24,000 fixed amount annual lease of a John Deere Wheel Loader.

Individual Warrant Articles

The end of the DeLuzio Ambulance contract in July 2022 is poised to cost Richmond at least \$65,000 more per year. It is not known at this time whether Richmond will ally itself with Troy and Fitzwilliam or with Cheshire County for ambulance services.

Richmond Historical Society

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Summary of Budget Articles (Voting to take place on March 12th)

Article 04 – Bridge Replacement	\$2,000,000
Tully Brook Road and Whipple Hill Road two lane bridges	
Article 05 – John Deere Wheel Loader	\$24,000
Long-term lease \$177,380.58 payable over 84 payments towards purchase of wheel loader. \$24,000 to be appropriated first year.	
Article 06 – Whipple Hill & Cross	\$85,000
Roads Repairs Asphalt repair and road reconstruction	
Article 07 – Town Administration	\$279,284
Article 08 – Ambulance, Fire and Rescue And Emergency Management	\$100,251
Article 09 – Highway, Streets and Sanitation	\$307,060
May be offset by Highway Block Grant	
Article 10 – Health and Welfare	\$17,774
Article 11 – Culture and Recreation	\$49,576
Article 12 – Police	\$75,067
Article 13 – Road Reconstruction and Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund	\$20,000
Article 14 – Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund	\$20,000
Article 15 – Municipal Buildings Capital Fun Reserve	\$20,000
Article 16 – Public Safety Equipment	\$7,208
Addition to Public Safety Radio Communication Equipment Expendable Trust Fund	
Article 17 – Public Safety Equipment	\$17,792
Addition to Fire Department Equipment Fund	
Article 18 – Ambulance Services	\$65,000

From a friend on Athol Road

A Message from the Town Moderator Walden Whitham

As we approach the Town Election on Tuesday, March 8th from 11 AM -7 PM, and the Town Meeting on Saturday the 12th at 9 AM, both at the Vet's Hall, this moderator would like to express respect, thanks and appreciation to the many poll workers and vote counters who have answered the call to ensure we have safe, efficient and true elections in Richmond. Most volunteer their services. Many have done so even during the past two years when concern for their health and that of their loved ones could have given them pause.

The Covid numbers are currently moving in the right direction, yet we are still experiencing active cases here in Richmond at the time of this writing. There are still too many daily deaths in New Hampshire and they are higher than a month ago across the country.

Although absolute protection does not seem to exist, this moderator is compelled to follow the best healthful recommendations for the safety of these workers and the voting public. They are not new nor surprising:

- Wear a mask (or two)
- Practice physical distancing
- Use hand sanitizer.

And thank your poll workers for their service.

PROPOSED WETLAND AMENDMENTS ONE AND TWO:

A Clarification from Richmond's Land Use Assistant Kim Mattson

The Planning Board would like to make the public aware that, although the wetland setback reduction amendment on the ballot states, "Proposed by the Richmond Planning Board," the Board did not initiate placement of these amendments on the ballot. The Selectmen requested these be added to the ballot, and the Planning Board is the only vehicle to place amendments on the ballot to change Zoning Ordinances.



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Winter at the J.W. Herrick Barn

February 2022 brought its share of snow, as evidenced by the partially submerged pump handle to the left of the barn. John Lewis, the proud homeowner, writes, "John Herrick built the house in 1843 and he lived there with his wife and mother-in-law until his wife died and he moved to Keene in 1864. It is marked on the 1858 Smith and Morley map of Richmond as 'J.W. Herrick'."



Photo by Alan Conklin

Aunt Yvette's Visit Ruth Blais Thompson



My mom and dad bought the Richmond 4-Corners Store in May of 1964. That following winter, my dad's oldest sister, Aunt Yvette, and her son, Jeffrey, came to visit us at the store from their New York home. Dad must have snapped this photo of her and Jeffrey, so they would have a souvenir of their visiting Richmond, NH and the 4-Corner store! That seems kind of funny now, when I think back on where they lived, coming to our little town. I love this photo because, not only does it capture our old iconic store, but, also, the pink 1957 Chevy Nomad Wagon that my parents always parked in the same spot out front and the old directional sign, fire pole, and the telephone booth which used to sit on the common! As kids, we loved that phone booth. We would always check the coin drop, in case someone forgot to take their dime. We would pile inside in the winter, while we were all waiting for the school bus to pick us up, just to stay warm. And, of course, we would call the operator just for fun!



It was during this visit that my Aunt Yvette mentioned an idea to my dad. She said that a local laundromat near where they lived in New York was selling all their older model washers and dryers and she thought it would be a great idea for my dad to turn the garage next to the store into a laundry mat to make extra money. Dad and Mom agreed, bought three washers and two dryers, and went to work on getting the garage ready. Mom recently told me it did so well that, within three years, they had paid off the loan they took to buy the equipment. Recently, while going through old photos, I

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found the newspaper clipping Mom and Dad had saved of the Grand Opening of the new Richmond Laundry Mat on October 30, 1965. That is me in the red coat; my brother, Fred, in the middle; and Carol "Thompson" Nardino on the left in that big 'ole snow bank!



TRUE BREW REVIEW

Kevin Ellis

Hi, there; my name is Kevin Ellis. I moved to Richmond a little over two years ago, but have lived in the Monadnock Region my whole life. I was first introduced to craft beer about 15 years ago when Heady Topper changed the entire way I viewed beer. I realized there's so many more styles than just a typical, mass-produced light lager that we're all used to. There's art, craft and imagination that goes into every craft beer recipe and execution.

I'm so happy that we now have ten local craft breweries in our area which bring a caring approach to the beer community. While the big guys fight amongst themselves on Super Bowl commercials over who has less calories, our local breweries care for one another and help each other out when they can. A phrase that comes to mind when I think of our local brewery scene is "a rising tide lifts all ships". That is something I can get behind and support, and that's why I wanted to share with you this beer review and many more to come from our local breweries. I hope you enjoy them and help support these local businesses when you can.



Artwork done by Channele Anderson

Guavamelon from West LA Beer Company
7% ABV

Kettle Sour with Guava, Watermelon, Lime and Sea Salt

Reviewers: Kevin Ellis and Jane Lescynski

We drank this beer during Winter Storm Kenan. While it might have been windy and single digits outside, we were enjoying this beer inside our warm and cozy home, dreaming of warmer weather and trying not to think of the snow we were inevitably going to have to shovel. The beer poured a beautiful peach color with some slight haze. The head on top was snow white and stuck around for about a minute or so until it sank back down. Luckily, we were able to sneak in a few good sips





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before it left us. I always enjoy a beer with some sort of head on it, even if it fades away faster than a memory. It just adds a little extra to the overall experience.

The aroma was what you might expect from the name. Lots of ripe tropical fruit including - you guessed it - guava and watermelon. There was also a nice amount of lime, almost like it was freshly zested.

The flavor followed the nose almost to a "T". Large amounts of the fruits hit you like a wave of freshness and instantly make you wish you were at the beach. There's a bit of tartness to it, but, if you can deal with a Sour Patch Kid candy, then you can handle this. The carbonation is nice and zippy and leaves you with a clean and dry finish.

Overall, this was a perfect beer for the cold and nasty winter day. We both really enjoyed the fruit combination and the overall freshness of the beer. We gave this beer an 8 out of 10. We hope you enjoy it as much as we did. Cheers!

A little about the brewery: West LA has been around for a little over 2 years. The owners, Eric, Dave and Ryan, are a good group of guys who care about beer. The brewery is very laid back and inviting, and there is usually beautiful artwork from local artists hanging on the walls. In the warmer months, there is a nice patio to enjoy and usually a live band playing on the weekends. Known for their sours, IPA's and other hoppy offerings, their sleeper beer style is their imperial stouts. A favorite of Jane's! Lastly, they do a great job of helping promote local artists by using their artwork for their can labels. A great idea I wish more breweries would adopt!

Deer Path Suzen Perry

After a leisurely lunch of quinoa salad and clam chowder, I went for a walk into the woods surrounding our yard and home. Familiar with the path I took, due to several trimmings and laying down of logs last spring, I sprinted over the crusty snow and ice on this frozen day, until I found the deer path.

Curious to where it and they went, I followed the footprints. A path to follow; how convenient, and I didn't have to do any clearing work. Some branches

low I broke, but being fairly supple from gardening, housework and bending to pet our cat, Selkie, I easily navigated along the dead and living branches that deer had also brushed by. Passing wet areas now solid with ice where groups of fuzzy green antler-like mosses grew, I enjoyed this alternate route I was taking. The path ended too soon, though, at an opening by the road that leads to our home. As I crossed over our lane past our property line, I stopped. I could see where the graceful creatures continued. That was enough. Perhaps someday I'll ask the person whose yard they passed through, if I might walk on to see where they wander. But would this be bringing attention to a hunter?

Turning around, I decided to follow the path to the other end of our land. So, through the woods I crunched, on surfaces where freezing rain coated yesterday's snowfall. Some snow was lighter, softer and quieter, as I "pluffed" along, a sound my steps made.

I followed an arched path the deer had created in the densest area of our woods between our open garden area and the stone wall to the south. Town land sits on the other side, fairly barren from a violent cut of the larger trees four years ago. Dry branches littered the open area like bones.

Blue-eyed grass in spots and low blueberries grew when we wandered there last year. Ever assertive dewberry skirted the ground, hopping like strawberry stolons or periwinkle runners, and grabbed the soil and re-rooted. The stems had small thorns all over them and stretched remarkable lengths. In warm weather, they catch my feet as I wander through an open area we call "the meadow", between the yard and forest where we don't mow. Seedlings of sweet birch, oak, maple and beech trees grow. Some I pull.

My hands are finding more difficulty adjusting each late autumn into winter, as my body rests from working with tools, pulling weeds and dead-heading. Sometimes with my thumb nail and index finger, I snip off flowers, for lack of a pruner. I kept them warm in my pockets, when my fingers chilled through the gloves.

The tracks spread out after I climbed over our west wall, a wall that may have once held back domestic animals, like sheep. A second, more distant wall

A Friend On Granite Hill Road

separates our land from another's deeper into the forest. Some hoof prints went one way, some a different route. Which way shall I go? The day was becoming dim as the sun sank low into the branches reaching for the sky.

I turned to head home, past old disintegrating cans and broken bottles piled in a ditch, past the stump where we put freshly caught mice from our cellar for some bird or beast that comes in the night. I swerve around the clothesline which sits waiting to be useful again in the spring. I passed the towering yew bush nibbled by deer, glad that they prune it for me, at least the lower branches. I passed by my she-shed, where tools and seeds are stored, then stepped onto the gravel path that leads to the porch.

A bright fire welcomed me as I entered the house. I pulled off my gloves, reached out my hands, and warmed up by the wood stove which sits in a room we call "the Cozy."

Spring will come soon enough, and I'll wander about trimming, digging up lawn and planting seeds of native plants, long lost to plows over the centuries. I garden for nature, to encourage the life which once prospered here, often resting to draw, paint or write what I see as a successful venture. Many interesting beings, small and large, return to visit and surprise me with their stamina as they flit or scurry about. They thrive in this old place, which once was a farm, then a yard for a growing family and now a haven for wary migraters as well as those tough enough to bear the cold winter months.



Original painting by Suzen Perry

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Vetiver, the Plant that Never Dies

Karen O'Brien

Chrysopogon zizanioides

(formerly *Vetiveria zizanioides*)

Common Names: KhusKhus, Vetivert, Akar Wangi
During an herbal adventure in Morocco, I was introduced to the fascinating plant known as "Vetiver". At a Women's Co-operative we visited, they were busy experimenting with the planting of vetiver on the hillsides to help prevent erosion of the soil. They were pleased with the results they had experienced so far with this tough, tenacious plant, and hoped to continue to enjoy positive effects.



Vetiver Grass

Vetiver is a dense, clumping perennial grass with thick aromatic roots. It is related to lemongrass, citronella and palmarosa, and is one of the very oldest plants on earth. Vetiver is extremely adaptive and can grow in all soil types. The preferred type of vetiver is sterile, and as such is non-invasive or crop encroaching. This tropical plant, hardy probably only to Zone 7 or 8, has many

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uses: agricultural, medicinal and decorative. I have a plant in my greenhouse, and it thrives, although it gets some browning, without much care. It grows in a very deep pot, but I have never tried to check out its roots.

Criss Juillard, who runs a vetiver farm in Morocco, gave an engaging introduction to this seemingly innocuous grass to our group of herbalists. Extensive research has been conducted on the effectiveness of vetiver to reduce soil loss, conserve moisture, protect crops, and even control pollution. It helps trap top soil and is one of only a handful of plants which can grow uphill, making it invaluable as a steep bank stabilizer. In Madagascar, hedgerows of vetiver filter sediment, allowing natural terraces to be stabilized behind it. Vetiver improves soil texture and retains soil moisture prior to reforestation efforts - critical in arid or marginal areas. It has been used for wind erosion in China and in many areas around the world to stabilize irrigation canals, riverbanks, ponds and even sea dykes against storm and flood damage. This amazing plant can even reduce the flow of heavy metals into water and reduce contamination - nitrates by 94% and phosphates by 90%. In Vietnam, floating rafts of vetiver help clean piggery effluent ponds. Is it any wonder then, that the King of Thailand has given vetiver an exalted status in his country? In Mali, it is known as *"the plant that never dies,"* which seems to be an exaggerated claim. But vetiver can tolerate long periods of drought or flooding, can withstand overgrazing and trampling by cattle, and can even resist fire and earthquake. Its massive root structure can extend from three to nine feet in its first year of growth alone. Certainly, this is a plant to be respected and studied.

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Vetiver roots are the most used part of the plant, although the chopped leaves make a good mulch. The essential oil of vetiver, a resinous oil that is deep, earthy and exotic, has been used since the time of Babylonia and is used extensively today in the perfume industry. It is often used in haute couture perfumes; it is the bottom note in fragrances such as Coco, Miss Dior, and Opium. Vetiver takes a long time to evaporate from the skin - known as "persistence" in perfume. It is an excellent fixative in potpourris, etc., and the oil improves with age. In aromatherapy, it was traditionally used for someone going into shock, as it is said to center and ground, as well as calm and restore. Vetiver is also anti-nematode, antibacterial and antifungal. Rats and insects do not like it, and, so, it is used as a repellent to keep away bugs in strawberry plantations and mice out of grain.



Ball Made Of Vetiver

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Vetiver Hearts

Additional uses for vetiver have been developed throughout time - some practical, some more whimsical. Many Asian artisans craft handbags, wall hangings, placemats, lampshades and fans out of the woven roots of vetiver. Some households use woven blinds of vetiver to cool and perfume their homes. The blinds are dipped or sprayed with water, and as the water evaporates, the temperature in the room cools and is scented with a fresh and cleansing odor. Others burn vetiver to protect the home, create harmony or to overcome black magic. Others, still, use vetiver for love spells, to break hexes or to attract money. Placing a root of vetiver in the cash drawer supposedly increases business and prevents thievery. A tea made from vetiver works wonders for hangovers or is useful for cramps. In India, it was placed on funeral pyres as a symbol of reincarnation, perhaps as an acknowledgement of this plant's ability to transcend its environment and appear indestructible. Vetiver is a plant that seems to persist no matter what gets thrown at it, earning its name of "the plant that never dies."

FIREHOUSE NEWS

Cold Weather Safety

Ren Doyle, RFD Spokesperson

Greetings from the Richmond Fire Department. With the extreme cold we've had recently, we'd like to remind our residents to make sure you are using space heaters or alternative heating methods safely. Space heaters should be used in rooms that are rated for their size and should be kept clear of obstructions and flammable materials (such as blankets and curtains.) Additionally, space heaters should not be used with extension cords or power strips. Many fires have been started as a result of overheating or overloading an extension cord or power strip. Heating appliances should be plugged directly into a circuit protected wall outlet.

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If you use a generator during a power outage, the running generator should be kept outdoors, away from doors and windows to prevent carbon monoxide from entering the living area of your homes. Make sure to test your smoke and CO alarms monthly and check the dates to make sure that they are not too old; most combination detectors have a five to seven year lifespan and they may no longer work properly.



Doug Bersaw, Bill Daniels, Chief Ed Atkins Richmond FD, Andrew Wallace, Chief Adam Dubriske Fitzwilliam FD. Photo by Renée Murphy

The Richmond and Fitzwilliam Fire Departments are recipients of a recent grant to replace our old and nearly outdated self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA.) What are commonly called "air packs" are what provide firefighters breathable air to conduct operations in conditions that would cause death without the air packs. This includes fighting fires in homes, vehicle fires or other types of calls deemed immediately dangerous to life/health (IDLH), such as a hazardous material incident. Our SCBA was quickly approaching the end of their serviceable life, and we are thankful that we were able to team up with our neighbors to the east and receive federal and state funding to replace the expensive, but necessary, equipment. Over the next several weeks, we will be training on our new MSA air packs and their features so we can continue to be as proficient as possible when responding to emergencies in and around Richmond.



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And more good news...recently at a meeting with the Board of Selectmen, the Town of Richmond received two Automated External Defibrillators (AED) from the Danny Baker Memorial Fund. Danny Baker was a resident and selectman of Fitzwilliam and was an active member of the Fitzwilliam Fire Department. We lost Danny last year, and a memorial fund was established in his honor to raise money for local communities to better handle sudden cardiac emergencies. The Richmond FD thanks the Danny Baker Foundation for this thoughtful contribution to our community.

As always, we thank our neighbors, friends and families for your support and continue to serve our community with pride

News from the Desk of Pam Bielunis

[I claim to be retired, so, in addition to tutoring a high school student and helping an elderly man, I have my favorite jobs of wife, mother, and "Babci." And, I wear a few hats in town. . .]

Supervisors of the Checklist

The MRSD Deliberation Session was held on Saturday, Feb 5, 2022 at 10AM at MRHS. In general, there were few in attendance from all towns. Richmond was represented by three residents—two of them were our selectmen.


There is one meeting left for residents to register to vote or make any changes before the Richmond Town Election. Supervisors will be in session at the Veterans' Hall on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 10 - 10:30 AM. The Town Election will be held on March 8, 2022 11 AM - 7 PM at the Veterans' Hall. Also, Tuesday, May 31,

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2022 is the last day for a voter to change his or her party before the State Primary Election on September 13, 2022.

Kathleen Whitham has decided not to continue as a supervisor, so we have an opening of a six year term. Thank you, Kathleen, for your service as a supervisor. Susan Lanen is running for the position. Please come out to vote on March 8th and support her.

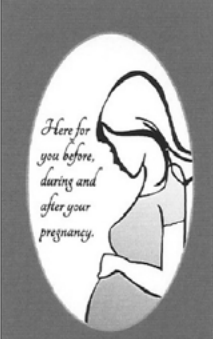
Welfare Administrator:

Our tax money is used to help fund local agencies who support our residents as well as local resident needs. I continue to work with residents who need assistance with a variety of welfare-related issues. These include, but are not limited to helping with budgeting tasks and referring residents to agencies which fund a variety of financial issues. In addition, there are resources for other needs such as rides, small household repairs, internet costs, and food options. One point to mention is that, when applying for assistance in town or with other agencies, a good deal of paperwork is required for proof of income and expenses, in addition to the application. No application can be processed without all necessary paperwork. I am in the process of reviewing the limits for assistance as it has not been updated since April 2015. Please contact the Selectman's office to obtain an application or call me at 603-239-6498.




I keep a list of residents who wish to help an individual/family in need on a short term, temporary basis. This might include bringing in wood, cooking a meal, taking trash to the dump, etc. These residents are known as Richmond's Rays of Sunshine. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact me and indicate what tasks you would be willing to help with and what days you would be available.

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Richmond Meals on Wheels Program:

The Richmond Meals on Wheels Program celebrated its first anniversary on February 1, 2022. Our dedicated drivers have provided 1,355 meals to our residents. I would like to thank these special people who make this program possible: Alan Conklin, Cay Dilello, Fran Heap, Roxanne Hubert, Pam Goodell, Carol Jameson, Mark Lanen, Susan Lanen, Karen O'Brien, Suzen Perry, Tim Stillman, Mary Silver, and Alison VanBrocklin. If you are interested in receiving meals in Richmond, please contact me, and I will help you get the process started with Home Health and Community Services. We are a "Grab and Go" town where the meals are picked up at the Veterans' Hall for the week every Monday at noon. If someone is unable to pick up meals, they can be delivered by our volunteers. *Please let me know if you know someone who could use some help. Contact me (Pam Bielunis) at 603-239-6498 or email pjb327@msn.com.*

TOWN CLERK TIDBITS

Karen O'Brien

Now that the holidays are over, we can get down to the business of day-to-day living. March is always a good month, where we can finally see that the long, cold days of winter are more or less behind us. With the longer daylight hours, we can count on spring coming before too long. And March brings us Daylight Savings Time (March 13th), the wearing of the green with St. Paddy's Day (March 17th), and the first day of spring (March 20th).

With March, we also have important town business – that of our town election and town meeting, where we exercise our right to participate in the governing of our town. It is a right that many choose not to take part in, which is sad, as town government is one of the best and purest assets to living in New Hampshire, where we can vote, have our say in the workings of the town, and affect real change. And it can't happen without all of you.

The upcoming election has a couple of contests. So, please, make sure you take time to vote on March 8th, from 11 AM – 7 PM, and, then, come to the Town Meeting on Saturday, March 12th and see

your officials in action, taking care of the business of Richmond. Remember, it's YOUR town, but we need you to chip in and let us know what you want this place to be – for now and in the future. If you can't come to vote, then ask for an absentee ballot AS SOON AS POSSIBLE; make sure to follow the instructions and get it back before March 8th. EVERY vote counts.

March also reminds me that April is not far off, and, with April, comes the renewal of the licensing of dogs. Licenses are due by April 30, so, please, do not delay and get your dog licensed soon. State law requires dogs to be vaccinated against rabies and licensed in the town in which they reside. Thanks to those of you who have already done so. You can obtain a license (with updated rabies info) through the EB2Gov website (on the Town Clerk Section of the town website), mail in your check or stop by and say, "Hi", and take care of this very important business. Let's work together to make the Town of Richmond the very best it can be!



Community Volunteer Transportation Co.: Get a Ride or Give a Ride

Right down the road, someone needs a ride to somewhere essential. CVTC's vetted, volunteer drivers continue to give rides to people who need a ride to doctor's and social service appointments, grocery shopping, and the pharmacy. Drivers wear facemasks, sanitize the cars between trips, and request riders sit in the back seat.

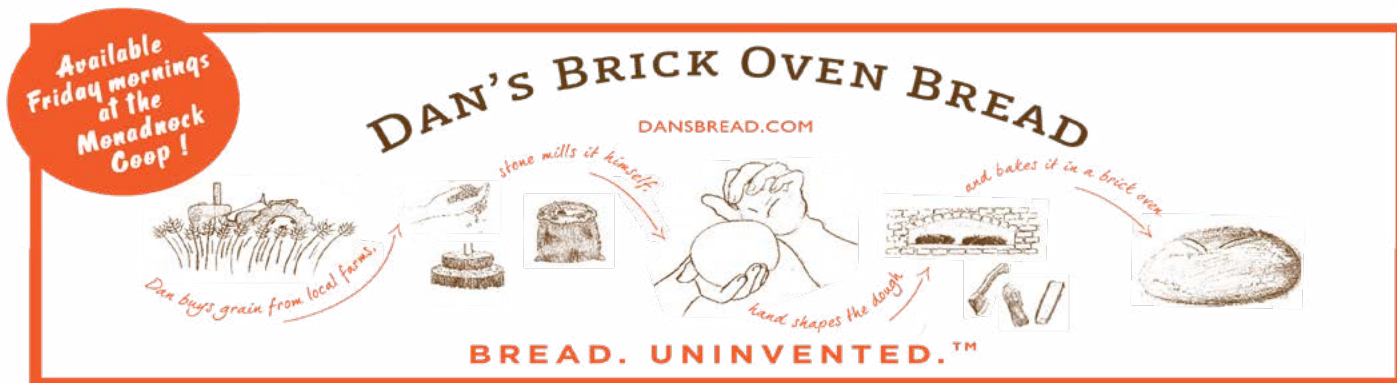
If you are someone who needs a ride, call CVTC. You can keep your appointments, stay independent, and live at home in peace. Here is what one rider recently told us: Just want to thank you for all your efforts towards making a stressful situation into a comfortable escapade. Both drivers were expedient in all regards and provided much appreciated diversion and calm in addition to transportation.

This space donated on behalf of:

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Email CVTC at volunteerdriverprogram@cvtc-nh.org or call CVTC at (603) 821-0569. We will return your email or call promptly.

To learn more, visit CVTC on facebook at Community-Volunteer-Transportation-Company-676246082461179, or go to our website at www.cvtc-nh.org. Our office is located at 375 Jaffrey Rd., Suite 3, Peterborough, NH 03458.

Richmond Agriculture Commission Speaker Series



Imagine the bees are buzzing, the warm wind is blowing, and the hot sun is shining down. It's summer! Lovely. But, if you haven't tended your fruit trees, it might be too late! March is the perfect time to prune, inspect, spray and prepare your home orchard for the season ahead. Join Jeff Taylor March 13th at 2pm at his tree farm, 23 Fitzwilliam Road in Richmond. Jeff is a NH certified arborist who planted his first trees in 1973. He now has 60 fruit trees and is also owner of *Taylor's Invasive Plant Control and Windswept Mountain View Christmas Tree Farm*. Inclement weather location: Veterans' Hall, 150 Old Homestead Hwy, Richmond, NH 03470 *The Agriculture Commission of Richmond* presents seasonal lectures and demonstrations on various homesteading topics. On April 10th, 2pm at Veterans' Hall Nancy Frye will present an

overview of apiculture and how you can get involved.

For information on these lectures and more: Check out the Richmond Town Website; *Windswept Mountain View Christmas Tree Farm* Facebook page; and the *Agriculture Commission of Richmond* Facebook page. Windswept Farm phone number: (603) 239-4005 Email: Commission Secretary, Liz Ehrman: Liz.Ehrman@icloud.com

Volunteer Highlight: Bridget Van Valzah Wendy O'Brien

In the fall of 2021, Bridget Van Valzah, a senior at Monadnock Regional High School, wanted to work towards her senior Capstone Project at the Richmond Public Library. These projects are very involved, including 45 hours of volunteer or career related work, written weekly summaries of work accomplished, an interview of their mentor, and a final presentation which the student must pass to graduate. We





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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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were so pleased that Bridget selected the Richmond Public Library ("RPL") as her volunteer opportunity.

For the past few months, Bridget has come every week and worked a variety of projects, including planning a new Young Adult area in the Library, revitalizing the Library's Teen program, assisting with story time preparation for younger children, and assisting with photograph identification and scanning in the Town Archives. She also put together an exhibit for the Town History Tales wall on the "60 Years in Schoolhouse #6," a retrospective of the Library's move to and occupation of the old Schoolhouse.

As Bridget was wrapping up her project in early February, she took some time to answer some questions



about her work. When asked, "What led you to choose the RPL for your volunteer work?," she responded that she loved to read, had considered becoming a librarian, and had previously volunteered at the Fitzwilliam Public Library and wanted to expand her knowledge of libraries. Her favorite activities at the RPL were working with the historical documents and photographs in the Town Archives and preparing for the new Young Adult space by weeding the adult non-fiction collection. Having grown up in Richmond, Bridget has special memories of the summer parties behind the Library at the Pavilion and of days at the Town Beach at Cass Pond.

Bridget has been accepted at several colleges for the fall and is currently deciding which one to attend. She is considering either a psychology or a business psychology major. Bridget has been a wonderful addition to the Library's group of volunteers, and we truly appreciate all the great work she has done. The newly planned Young Adult space will be a testament to her hard work and dedication. We wish Bridget the best of luck for the future!

Richmond Public Library

19 Winchester Road, Richmond, NH 03470

library@richmondnh.us Tel. 239-6164

Tuesdays & Thursdays 3-7pm

Wednesdays 9-noon

Saturdays 10am-2pm

Catalog:

opac.libraryworld.com/

opac/home.php Library

name: Richmond Public.

No password required.



Library News

Wendy O'Brien

Library calendar for March

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

Every Wednesday, 10 AM: Storytime

Special Events

Tuesday, March 8th, 6 PM: Book Group, *The Book of Essie*

Thursday, March 17th, 5:30 PM: Teen & Tween Pizza Night/ShamROCK Crafts

Book Club

Join us on March 8th at 6 PM to discuss *The Book of Essie* by Meghan MacLean Weir. Goodreads.com has this to say:

A debut novel of family, fame, and religion that tells the emotionally stirring, wildly captivating story of the seventeen-year-old daughter of an evangelical preacher, star of the family's hit reality show, and the secret pregnancy that threatens to blow their entire world apart.

We should have a lot to talk about! Copies are available at the Library.

Teen & Tween Pizza Night/ShamROCK Crafts

This month's teen pizza night is on **March 17th at 5:30 PM**. We'll have pizza at 5:30 PM and start crafting at 6 PM. What is a ShamROCK? Hmm...you'll have to come by to find out!

Titles

Once There were Wolves, Charlotte McConaghy

The Newcomer, Mary Kay Andrews

Violetta, Isabel Allende

Quicksilver, Dean Koontz

Razorblade Tears, S. A. Cosby

Be Pinch Proof!

Check out a

Green

Book



Here's a quick, easy and satisfying dinner recipe!

Shrimp, White Bean and Feta

Terri O'Rorke

Ingredients

2 Tbsp. olive oil
small onion, thinly sliced
1 garlic clove, thinly sliced
1 tsp. Italian seasoning
Salt and pepper to taste
14 oz. can diced tomatoes
8 oz. large shrimp, peeled, deveined, tails removed
14 oz. can cannellini beans, drained and rinsed
2 C. (packed) baby spinach
1/4 C. crumbled feta cheese

Directions

1. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the onions and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened and just starting to turn brown in some spots, 4 to 5 minutes. Stir in the garlic, Italian seasoning, ½ teaspoon salt, and a few grinds of black pepper, and stir until the garlic is softened, about 1 minute.
2. Pour in the tomatoes and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat to medium and simmer, stirring occasionally, until the tomatoes are slightly thickened, 2 to 3 minutes. Add the shrimp and beans and cook, stirring occasionally, until the shrimp just start to turn orange, 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in the spinach and continue cooking, stirring occasionally, until the spinach is just wilted and bright green, and the shrimp are cooked through and opaque, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove the skillet from the heat and sprinkle the feta on the top. Cover until the cheese is warmed through, 2 to 3 minutes.
3. Serve immediately.

Serves 2 and takes about a half hour to put together!



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Three Happy Tails: Examples of How the Future of Animal Sheltering is Moving towards a Need for More Complex Medical Care

Jacques Du Preez,

**MHS Director of Development and Marketing
Speedy**

Last summer, a tiny, semi-feral orange kitten was making his way across a road when he was hit by a car. Thanks to the quick action of a Good Samaritan, he was scooped up and brought to a local vet hospital for help. It was determined that one of Speedy's front legs was badly injured. The veterinarian was able to stabilize Speedy, and the decision was made to transfer him to Monadnock Humane Society for further care and socialization. Upon arrival at MHS, medical staff discovered that the nerves in Speedy's shoulder



Speedy recovering

had been damaged. Only time would tell if he would regain use of the limb. Speedy went to foster care to work on his social skills, while waiting to determine the viability of his leg. After several months, Speedy still had not regained use of his limb. MHS veterinarian, Dr. Michele Martino, decided that the best thing to do for Speedy would be to remove the leg. Assisted by MHS vet tech, Starr Royce, Speedy came through his surgery successfully and healed with flying colors. Not only that, but Speedy's time in foster care had done the trick for him behaviorally. He had become an affectionate cat who loved head scratches by his trusted people. While in foster care, he caught the eye of friends of his foster family, who ended up adopting him. He will be spending his life in a warm, loving home.

Bastian

When Bastian arrived at Monadnock Humane Society on a transport, it was noted that he had a limp in one of his rear legs. The medical staff took x-rays and were surprised to discover that Bastian had a now healed, bullet wound, which had shattered his femur. This injury, which had gone untreated, had healed incorrectly. After multiple consultations with Veterinary Orthopedists, it was clear that the femur could not



be surgically repaired. Bastian was put on anti-inflammatory and pain medication which seemed to make him comfortable. He was soon adopted out to a wonderful family who were informed of his condition and managed him well. Unfortunately, after time, the pain medication was no longer enough to keep Bastian out of chronic pain. Current life circumstances of the adopters did not allow them to provide Bastian with the advanced care he would need. They made the heartbreaking decision to return him to MHS where he would be able to get the help he needed. Left with no other options to reduce his pain, he went into

surgery for amputation of his leg. Luckily for Bastian, that leg amputation led one of the veterinarians who assisted with his procedure to fall in love with him. She took him home the night of his surgery, and he never left. He is one lucky dog, living life to the fullest, without pain, and with a veterinarian as his full-time guardian.

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surgery for amputation of his leg. Luckily for Bastian, that leg amputation led one of the veterinarians who assisted with his procedure to fall in love with him. She took him home the night of his surgery, and he never left. He is one lucky dog, living life to the fullest, without pain, and with a veterinarian as his full-time guardian.



Bastian recovering

Orion

Fearing the worst for their sweet cat who hadn't eaten in days, Orion's family surrendered him to MHS desperate for help they could not afford. He was in bad shape, with a swollen jaw, it was feared he may have been attacked by a wild animal. He was very weak on intake, and the MHS medical team was not sure if he would survive. His medical examination revealed that his jaw



had been fractured. This explained his inability to eat, and the amazing vet team jumped into action. His jaw was wired back together. The next 48 hours were touch and go for Orion. Staff members took turns making sure he had round-the-clock care. They went

***Richmond Community
United Methodist Church***

PASTOR SHARON SARGENT

Sunday Worship Service
10:30 am

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above and beyond to make sure he had late night meds and visits. Not only did Orion survive, but he is now thriving in foster care. With his bottom jaw wired, he is able to eat, and is gaining weight. He is a wonderful cat who loves everyone he meets. As he continues his road to recovery, he will be safe and comfortable. We are so glad that we were able to save this lovely boy, thanks to his previous owners, and the love of our medical team.

These three stories are great examples of how the future of animal sheltering is shifting towards the need for more complicated medical care. Continued collaboration between the community and local veteri-



narians is key. Emily Kerylow, MHS Director of Shelter Operations shared, "We have always had pets come to us with medical needs, however, since the pandemic began over two years ago, we have seen a significant increase in these cases. This may be the trend moving forward, and we are planning for that. Thankfully, the (local) veterinary community has always been supportive and is helping us treat these medical conditions..." Emily is also grateful that we currently have such a wonderful veterinary team, care staff, group of loyal volunteers, devoted foster families, and generous donors. Without them none of these success stories would be possible.

A community minded approach is needed for



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Monadnock Humane Society to continue to provide excellence of care to the animals who walk through our doors in need. As we move forward with the support of our community and people like you, we expect the future to be bright and full of hope!

January 24, 2022 Meeting of Board of Selectmen

Selectmen present: William Daniels and Andrew Wallace

Absent: Douglas Bersaw

Public Present: Loreal Schmidt

Meeting opened at 5:33 pm

Daniels moved; Wallace 2nd Board voted to approve the manifest dated January 24, 2022 for week of January 14, 2022-January 20, 2022 in the amount of \$540,111.51 for payroll/accounts payable. The manifest includes the monthly stipend payroll/payables. It also includes a payment to Monadnock Regional School District in the amount of \$502,400.00. This amount is a total of 4 installments at \$125,600.00 each.

A letter of resignation from Deputy Tax Collector, Ann Dea Whippen was received. Her last day will be on January 31, 2022. We thank Ann Dea for her time in Richmond and wish her all the best.

Board reviewed the Cheshire County Sheriffs log for December of 2021.

Daniels moved; Wallace 2nd; Board initialed BTLA A-9 for the Richmond Community United Methodist Church. Wallace moved; Daniels 2nd; Board approved Intent to Cut for Map 402 Lot 077-727 Old Homestead Hwy. Owner – Rule.



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Daniels signed applications for payment from trust funds. One request is for \$6,503.51 to be withdrawn from the Fire Department Equipment Fund to replenish the General Fund. Invoices are from FireMatic Supply Co invoice #768830, #770061, and #770062. The 2nd request is in the amount of \$22,205.18 to be withdrawn from the Bridge Improvement Fund to replenish the General Fund for Quantum Construction Consultants, LLC invoice # 2973.

Letter from the State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration. Per RSA 21-J:3 and 21-J:1 1-a, the Municipal and Property Division must perform an Assessment Review process at least once every 5 years. The last assessment review for Richmond was in 2017. Harrington to follow up.

Board discuss the dates of the 2022 Pre-Warrant Meeting and Town Meeting.

Board reviewed notes from the Broadband Committee's meeting on January 13, 2022.

Zoning Compliance Officer, Richard Drew, submitted Zoning Compliance Reports for the following properties:

Map 407 Lot 093-353 Fitzwilliam Road. Owner-Hebert. More than 2 unregistered vehicles. Letter request for property owner to contact the Selectmen for an appointment within the next 14 days.

Map 408 Lot 089-190 Fitzwilliam Road. Owner-Taillon. Owner was granted permission in April 2021 to move an existing 8'X16' shed from the front of the property where it is in the setback. The shed was left in the front and another shed was constructed in the rear of the property. Owner does not have building permits for two sheds. One shed must be removed or a permit applied for. And the shed in the front yard MUST be moved to a location that complies with the building setbacks. Letter requests owner to contact Select board.

Map 411 Lot 030-255 Athol Road. Owner-Kohler, property currently rented by Thurber. Letter is requesting a follow up visit to verify if tires and various vehicles have been removed from the wetlands as requested by the Town to be completed by December 1, 2021. Letter request for Thurber to contact the ZCO within the next 10 to 14 days.

Map 201 Lot 048-75 Fitzwilliam Road
 Owner-Sweeney. Letter is a follow up on to a Cease and Desist operations in the Wetland Conservation Commission. The issues that are remaining un-addressed:

- The east driveway entrance is in the Wetland Conservation District and is not permitted by the New Hampshire DOT
- The shed/car port to the north of the house is in the Wetland Conservation District and does not have a building permit
- The pipe and drainage ditch leading into the wetlands and brook are not permitted
- The town has not received any information that you have contacted a Wetland Scientist to address the filling of wetlands that is prohibited by New Hampshire DES and the Town of Richmond. Letter request for property owner to contact the Selectmen for an appointment within the next 14 days.

Appointments

Road Agent, Buddy Blood met with the Board to discuss more figures a building at the Highway Shed. Buddy states getting estimates for insulation is difficult, most companies want to see the building before they will give an estimate even with the dimensions that Buddy had provided.

Phone in Appointment

Fire Chief, Ed Atkins, contacted the Board to discuss ambulance services for 2022.

Walk in Appointment

Mr. Filipi stopped in to drop off an Occupancy Permit approved by the Fire Chief, Ed Atkins for Map 405 Lot 039 Sub 003. 436 Old Homestead Hwy. Daniels moved; Wallace 2nd; Board approved Occupancy Permit. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Susan Harrington

February 7, 2022 Meeting of Board of Selectmen

Selectmen present: William Daniels, Douglas Bersaw, and Andrew Wallace

Absent:

Public Present:

Meeting opened at 5:35 pm

Wallace moved; Daniels 2nd; Board voted to approve the manifest dated February 7, 2022 for week of January 28, 2022-February 3, 2022 in the amount of: \$ 10,580.61 for payroll/accounts payable.

Bersaw moved; Wallace 2nd Board voted to approve Tax Abatement in the amount of \$47.12 for Map 202 Lot 034. Owner-Marchant. Interest was charged in error.

Daniels moved; Bersaw 2nd Board voted to

sign letter to PSNH requesting information that is needed to complete the utility values for tax year 2022.

Daniels signed application for payment from Trust. A check in the amount of \$478.00 has been issued to the Treasurer of N.H. to pay for a Wetlands Application for the Tully Brook Road Bridge Replacement Project.

Town Clerk, Karen O'Brien submitted a copy of RSA 289:6 Cemetery Trustees. Per RSA 289:6 the board may recommend to the appointing authority the names of no more than 2 persons who may serve as alternate members shall be appointed to one-year terms.

Welfare Administrator, Pam Bielunis, submitted a revision of the Town of Richmond Welfare Guidelines and allowed amounts that were effective on April 1, 2015. Harrington to contact Bielunis for an appointment to meet and discuss with the Board.

Board will meet with Avitar Associates of New England and the New Hampshire Department of Revenue for a startup meeting.

Board discussed warrant articles.

Appointments

Realtor Fred Blais met with the Board to discuss Map 402 Lot 032-Owner-Cyr.Mr. Blais told the Board the State of New Hampshire has stated the property does not have sufficient site distance. Mr. Blais was told by Richmond's Zoning Compliance Officer, Richard Drew that there is an RSA that states you cannot excavate 50 feet near a cemetery. The Board referred Mr. Blais back to Mr. Drew to discuss the details of the RSA.

Walk in Appointment

Suzan Perry met with the Board to discuss the South Cemetery property. Map 202 Lot 031 and 032. The Board states they have not made any decisions regarding the property.

***** IMPORTANT DATES *****

- Pre-Warrant Hearing at the Veteran's Memorial Hall 150 Old Homestead Hwy in Richmond, NH 03470 on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 7:00 pm.
- Town Election on Tuesday, March 8th from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Veteran's Memorial Hall at 150 Old Homestead Hwy in Richmond, NH 03470.
- Town Meeting-at the Veteran's Memorial Hall 150 Old Homestead Hwy in Richmond, NH 03470 on Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Harrington

[Editor's Note: At the time of this printing, the MRSD budget articles had not been finalized and are subject to change.]

Monadnock Regional School District Proposed Budget Article Summary

Article 1 Operating Budget **\$33,326,507**

Article 2 Middle-High School Renovations **\$1,193,000**

Article 3 – Costs included in Collective Bargaining Agreement with Monadnock District Education District ("MDEA")

2022/2023 School Year	\$384,696
2023/2024 School Year	\$365,835
2024/2025 School Year	\$369,610

Article 4 – Transfer of Health & Dental Expendable Trust Fund Balance to General Fund **\$ TBD**

Article 5 – School Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund **\$63,347**

Article 6 – Special Education Expendable Trust Fund **\$1**

Article 7 – Before & After School Expendable Trust Fund **\$1**

Article 8 – District Vehicle Expendable Trust Fund **\$50,000**

Article 9 – School Grounds Expendable Trust Fund **\$40,000**



RICHMOND NEEDS YOUR VOTE ON MARCH 8, 2022

Veterans' Hall, Rte. 32N

Selectman	3 Years	Renee Murphy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planning Board	3 Years	Douglas Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planning Board	3 Years	James Butterfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Library Trustee	3 Years	Barbara Rogers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Supervisor of Checklist	6 Years	Susan Lanen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cemetery Trustee	3 Years	Jerry Mills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trustee of the Trust Funds	1 Year	Carol Jameson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trustee of the Trust Funds	3 Years	Francesca Heap	<i>Write-In</i>
Moderator	2 Years		<i>Write-In</i>

Show Your Support to Keep Richmond's Water Clear and Clean

**Vote No to Amendments 1 and 2
(Zoning Articles 2 and 6)**

A 75 Foot Wetland Setback is not Much to Ask for Clean Water!

Think of the Possible Consequences

Town Elections: Tuesday, March 8th, 11 AM to 7 PM

Town Meeting: Saturday, March 12th, 9 AM

Paid by concerned citizens of Richmond, NH

Setback, Smetback Fran Heap

If you enjoy fishing, hiking, hunting, or nature photography, chances are you already know these activities would be pretty boring without inland wetlands, such as ponds, streams, bogs, vernal pools and the like, to say nothing of the flora and fauna supported by them. What you might not know, if you aren't a regular *Rooster* reader, is that wetlands are groundwater recharge areas and are critical to clean drinking water.

A setback is a defined distance of land to its adjacent wetland. As a general rule, the larger the setback, the greater the protection it offers to the wetland. (Slope and soil type also factor in). In Richmond, the Zoning Ordinance defines the setback width as being 75 feet. Voters rejected last year's effort by the Selectmen to reduce that setback to 25 feet. The Selectmen have ignored the expressed will of the people, so the 75 foot wetland setback is at risk once again this March.

"Setback, Smetback", you mutter as you roll your eyes, "What does it matter if the setback is 25 feet?" Well, let's consider this example. (*Readers, please refer to January 2022's Rooster for the distance recommendations used*). Your neighbor wants to lay in a paved driveway 26 feet from a wetland on the edge your land. Take a look at what happens your wetland, depending on setback distances:

Current Setback of 75'

Because your neighbor plans to conduct this activity within the 75' setback, your neighbor must seek a variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustments ("ZBA"). **Any** deviation from the Zoning Ordinance, not just those concerning wetlands, requires a variance. The ZBA is empowered to conduct its own site visit and to accept recommendations from the Conservation Commission when making its decision to issue the variance. The ZBA may add protective conditions to the variance, like requiring silt fencing, gravel, hay bales, ditching, berms, etc. to limit damage to the wetlands by your neighbor's activity.

Reduced Setback of 25'

Because your neighbor will be conducting this activity outside of the 25' setback, he/she installs the paved driveway. Your wetland is less than the 30' distance recommended from heated runoff coming off the paved surface. Algae may grow and deplete oxygen in your wetland. Worse yet, your wetland is significantly less than the 98' distance recommended to remove driveway pollutants, such as gasoline,

motor oil, antifreeze, salt. As a result, your once pristine wetland might become contaminated, degraded to the point of no longer being able to carry out its life-sustaining functions.

As you can see from this example, setback width matters. Reducing the setback really means reducing local oversight – at a cost to valuable wetlands which could so easily be protected when sensible mitigations are part of a ZBA variance.



Asking for Your Vote

I have been a Richmond Selectman for four years and my term expires in March. My family have made their home in Richmond for 35 years and I have worked for the town in various capacities. Over the years I have served as Town Moderator, Monadnock District Budget Committee member for Richmond, Trustee of the Trust Funds, Planning Board member and Selectman. I have a lot of experience and am fairly well versed in the laws and regulations of the town and state. Many people have asked me to serve again for three more years.

I think that I have served the town well and the stability and common sense approach to the prudent governance of the town under the current board speaks for itself. Taxes have been cut and the plans we have developed for town road projects that we have undertaken are showing positive results.

I ask that you please give me your vote of confidence on March 8th and please vote yes on the Zoning Ordinance change. It strikes a good balance between your property rights and the protection of valuable wetlands. This change is approved by the Selectmen, the town Zoning Officer Dick Drew, and the entire Conservation Commission.

Douglas Bersaw

Selectmen Candidate Renée Murphy Asks for your Vote

On Tuesday, March 8, 2022, you will find my name, Renée Murphy, on the ballot running for Selectmen. While my husband and I are new to town (2019), we plan to make this our home for a very long time and want to be an active part of keeping it a wonderful town.

I am honest, fair, hard-working, and have always valued participating in community service. I love to learn and approach problems and solutions with an open mind.

I am running for Selectman because living in a community that values individual responsibility and personal freedoms while caring about the well-being of the land and its inhabitants is very important to me. I want to ensure our town is a great place to live for everyone in Richmond, and that the voter's voices are respected. As a business executive, I've used my managerial, organizational, and fiscal skills to help companies succeed. As a member of our Select Board, I will use this experience to help Richmond continue to thrive and flourish for all of us.

I hope you will consider me for Richmond selectman when you place your vote on the 8th.

Thank you for your consideration,
Renee Murphy

Planning Board Candidate Jed Butterfield Writes to Citizens of Richmond

When you open your Town of Richmond ballot on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, you will find the name of James E. Butterfield listed as a candidate for the Planning Board. I have decided to place my name on the ballot after serving several years as an alternate. As an alternate, I have attended most all the meeting and participated in discussion, deliberations, and voting on issues before the board, representing elected members who were not in attendance. The minutes of the board will highlight and document my attendance and participation.

In my time on the Planning Board, I have become educated regarding with the laws, rules, and guidelines governing the use of property in town and the procedures and routines of the board. I have attended and participated in public hearings, and I have done site visits to walk boundaries and become familiar with the properties of owners who have brought requests and applications before the board. I have taken my role seriously and strived to work with applicants to help protect their rights as property owner as they work to achieve their intended purpose for their property, while maintaining the common good of all of us who live in town. There is a balance and common ground between these two purposes which I believe can and must be found with patience,

understanding, common sense and knowledge of the laws voted into existence by the citizens of Richmond.

After having lived in Richmond for 27 years, and having recently retired from my work in area schools as a teacher and principal, I would like to continue my work on the Richmond Planning Board as an elected member. I am asking for your support and your vote on March 8. Thank you for your time and for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jed Butterfield

Selectman's Race

On Tuesday March 8th the Richmond voters will be asked to vote for a selectman for a 3 year term. Doug Bersaw is the candidate I not only support but encourage the voters to support as well. I have had the pleasure to serve with Doug for the past 4 years and have found him to have a strong devotion to the town of Richmond and its citizens. The loss of his knowledge and commitment would be a huge handicap to the board. With Doug's help taxes have gone down and services up for the past 4 years. Doug has been a resident of the town for over 30 years and served the town in a number of capacities. Please join me in continuing this trend by voting Doug back in.

Bill Daniels

ReElect Douglas Bersaw Selectman

I have had the privilege of working with Doug for the last three years while serving this community as Selectman. During this time the board has worked very hard to keep the municipal tax rate in check while still addressing the needs of the town and planning for the future. He has been an important part of these efforts and he brings a wealth of knowledge that is extremely valuable to the board. Doug also serves as the Selectmen's representative to the Planning Board and a member of the Monadnock Regional School District Budget Committee. His fiscal responsibility and commitment to the Richmond taxpayers is appreciated not only by those of us in the Selectmen's office but by many in our community where he has lived for over 30 years. I am happy to endorse him for another term as Selectman.

Thank you,
Andrew Wallace - Selectman

To Voting Residents of Town of Richmond: Endorses Renée Bochman Murphy for Selectman

I am writing to endorse Renée Bochman Murphy as the next elected Selectman for our Town. I met her approximately six to eight months ago. Renée was immediately personable, friendly and seemed like she had lived in Richmond all of her life. I was truly

impressed with her willingness to step up and serve the community by volunteering. Renée has many talents and areas of expertise to offer the community which is coupled with the willingness and drive to serve.

Renée embraces Richmond's character and shares the desire to maintain and protect the rural nature of our town. Renée comes to this office with no agenda and an openness to reach out to everyone. She is refreshing and embodies a "live and let live" philosophy. I am thrilled that such a salt of the earth person is willing and able to take on the responsibilities required to be a good Selectman. Renée Bochman Murphy is truly qualified with a fresh and positive attitude.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathryn D. McWhirk

Renée Murphy for Selectmen

I received an invitation and attended one of Renée Murphy's gatherings to get to know both her and Kevin. But, my first time meeting Renée was at a Selectman's meeting on Valentine's Day, observing business as usual for Richmond. Renee Murphy is fresh and new in town. She works with no agenda and she carries no ax to grind.

Renée's letter prompted my interest with her commitment to individual responsibility and personal freedoms, caring for the land and its inhabitants. These few words (though not in this order) told me that Renée was determined to be respectful to all Richmond residents. Caring for lands echoed her dedication to keep our natural resources and personal space well-protected to ensure a clean future for Richmond.

Looking over her qualifications as a business executive, her managerial, organizational, and fiscal skills helped companies succeed. Towns are very similar to companies, and Renée's skills will be instrumental in the Office of Selectman.

Renée would serve as an excellent civic leader and could devote sufficient time to municipal issues. She would be available to carry out the day-to-day operations of our town.

Please, check off Renée when you're at the polls on March 8, 2022.

In ending, I would like to thank both Renee and Kevin for their service to our country.

Kim Mattson

Open Letter to Richmond: Maximum Wetland Buffer Makes Sense

Buffers, setbacks, and the like are methods of protecting something valuable that is vulnerable to damage or destruction, wetlands in this case. Here are a few points to consider:

1. The greater the buffer, the more protection it provides up to a point. Usually, buffers, even large ones, are considerably smaller than what would be necessary to insure 100 percent protection. In other words, most buffers are compromises between complete protection and other

considerations such as construction of structures.

2. The width of a buffer can be a misleading estimate of its ability to protect. For example, if the buffer is between a structure and a wetland, narrow buffer is going to be trashed by new construction and the narrow buffer's minimal ability to protect will be reduced even further by this inevitable damage. Much of the construction of a new structure, especially the foundation, has to be done from the outside. In other words, the excavation equipment, concrete pouring and much of the construction activity will be done on the buffer itself and the impact will reduce the buffer's effectiveness. A narrow buffer may be no buffer at all in this case.
3. Given 1. and 2. above and the fact that once damaged, wetlands recover very slowly if at all and very rarely do they recover completely, it makes sense to use the maximum buffer size that is practical under the circumstances.
4. In situations where a wider buffer poses hardship, there are remedies. The easiest remedy is a variance granted by an appropriate authority, perhaps a zoning board of adjustment, that can evaluate the cost and benefit of reducing the buffer in that situation. A generous buffer provides greater protection and a variance process allows for exceptions where they make sense.

Keep in mind that protection of natural features like wetlands can have benefits for everyone, not just the owners of those features. Wetlands can absorb carbon dioxide reducing the rate of climate change. They are the breeding and rearing grounds of many of the species we enjoy, species that are important to the maintenance of a larger web of interdependent plants and animals. Once damaged their recovery is slow and rarely complete within a human lifespan. Protecting natural environments protects all of us.

Shaun Bennett

Email: 119and32@gmail.com

[Editor's Note: Shaun Bennett's letter refers to the proposed reduction of Richmond's wetland setback from 75' to 25'. The Selectmen's repeat proposal to change the Zoning Ordinance will appear on the ballot during the March 2022 elections.]



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Town Business Hours

105 Old Homestead Highway, Richmond NH 03470

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 Whippen

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>

Question:

When is your vote no longer your vote?

Answer:

When the Selectmen keep making you do it over and over!



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