

The Richmond Rooster

Something to Crow About

April 2023

A Stormy Election

Fran Heap

March 9th's "Meet & Greet the Candidates" at the Veterans' Hall devolved into a storm of controversy, as residents opposing the Planning Board's proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance took their anger out on the seated candidate, Lloyd Condon. Screaming, rude interruptions, and even menacing created a hostile atmosphere, distressing to the more civilized members of the audience, to say nothing of the candidates, themselves.

A storm of a different nature started Monday, March 13th, and carried on through Tuesday's election, dumping a foot and a half of snow on Richmond. Despite the efforts of both moderators from Richmond and Fitzwilliam to postpone elections in the face of the impending Nor'easter, moderators from other towns within the Monadnock Regional School District overruled them with a majority vote. Please commend our Town Administrator, Town Clerk, Moderator, and the Supervisors of the Checklist who worked very long hours to pull off this election under severe weather conditions, power outages, and telecommunication failures.

RICHMOND ELECTIONS

(Unofficial Results as of this Printing)

Winning Candidates

Select Board – One 3-Year Slot

William Daniels

Planning Board – Two 3-Year Slots

Kim DeMasco

Lisa Traeger

Library Trustee – One 3-Year Slot

Rebecca Haskins

Cemetery Trust – One 3-Year Slot

Jerald Merrifield

Trustee of Trust Funds – One 3-Year Slot

Stillman "Tim" Rogers

Failed Zoning Ordinance Proposals

Extensive changes and additions to Article 6,

Wetlands Conservation District,

as well as related definition changes.

(Planning Board Amendments 1 through 6)

All 6 Amendments Failed



Lisa Traeger & Kim DeMasco are all smiles, despite the Nor'easter raging around them. Photo by Walden Whitham.



New England Grit & Character: check out the snowfall on Lloyd Condon's hat!

Photo by Walden Whitham.



A storm dumps 18+ inches of snow on Richmond. Photo by Alan Conklin.



Intrepid voters and their dogs linger outside the Veterans' Hall on Election Day. Photo by Alan Conklin.

Way to Go, Jeff!

At Richmond's 2023 Town Meeting, Jeffrey Taylor, owner of Windswept Mountain Christmas Tree Farm, received a proclamation from Governor Sununo. The proclamation was delivered by State Representative Rhodes and commended Jeff, now in his mid-seventies, for more than 50 years of service to the Town of Richmond. Jeff has been a member of the Conservation Commission, Parks & Recreation, and the Agriculture Commission, as well as working for the police and fire departments. Jeff, congratulations!



A happy and surprised Jeff says thank you while Moderator Walden Whitham looks on. Photo by Mark Lanen.



Jeff receives proclamation from Representative Rhodes. Photo by Pam Bielunis.



A SPECIAL "THANK YOU" TO THE RESIDENTS OF RICHMOND

I wish to express my sincere gratitude for the recognition and honor bestowed upon me at the Annual Town Meeting.

It came as a total surprise, and I am especially humbled that the Town dedicated the Annual Town Report cover to this "Old Farmer". I and my wife, Sue, sincerely appreciate the "Thank Yous" and good wishes expressed to us by the residents who attended the meeting and the e-mails that have been forthcoming. We are very appreciative to those who planned and organized this unexpected honor.

The Town of Richmond is a very special place, and there are so many other folks who volunteer their time so unselfishly which makes us proud to be part of this wonderful, rural, community.

With great friendship to all,
Jeff and Sue Taylor



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Richmond Doughnut Bakery!

Ruth Blais Thompson

(with shared memories from Ricky Fadden)

Area Board Gets Request

RICHMOND — A public hearing will be held Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. in the Richmond fire station on a request filed by George Blais and Richard Fadden for permission to operate a commercial bakery in a general residence district in Richmond.

The petitioners propose to operate a bakery in the former Southwick place on the southwest side of Richmond Four Corners, Route 119.

Donald F. Holm is acting

In 1968, a commercial doughnut bakery opened at the Richmond 4-Corners. I know this because my Dad, George Blais, and his good friend, Richard 'Dick' Fadden, went into business together to start it. They named it "B&F Bakery" for Blais and Fadden. They both wanted to find a way they could open a business which would take up a minimal amount of their time,

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From a friend on Athol Road

with no public storefront, so they could both maintain their full-time work. My Dad ran the 4-Corner Store with my Mom, and Dick worked for NE Phone Company. I'm not sure how they decided on a doughnut bakery, but Dick's son, Ricky, thinks it might have been because doughnuts were becoming more popular at that time. In 1967, there was only Jean's Pastry and Sunrise Doughnuts in Keene. So, they bought the big old colonial apartment house across from the store and figured, by renting out the upstairs and having a bakery on the first floor, they could do well.

NOTICE

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, TOWN OF RICHMOND, N.H.

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held, Dec. 21, 1967, at 7 p.m., at the Richmond Fire Station, concerning a request by George Blais and Richard Fadden, to operate a commercial bakery in a general district of zoning in the Town of Richmond.

Applicants propose to operate a bakery in the former Southwick Place located on the Southwest side of Richmond Four Corners, Rt. 119 in the general district.

Dec. 12, 1967.

Donald F. Holm,

Acting, Chairman Board of Adjustment

Ricky and I have always stayed in touch through the years; he's a little older than me and remembers the details much better than I: *Both our Dads went to a wholesale bakery supply company called "Rohtstein's" in Malden, Massachusetts to take a week-end course on how to use their products. The class was held only for Rohtstein customers. They bought all the flour, cream and jelly supplies from Rohtstein's and would travel there about once a month.*

Eventually, they found a "baker" who was visiting relatives in the area, but was from Texas and spoke mostly Spanish. He claimed to have experience in the doughnut business, so they offered him the job, including living space on the second floor of the building above

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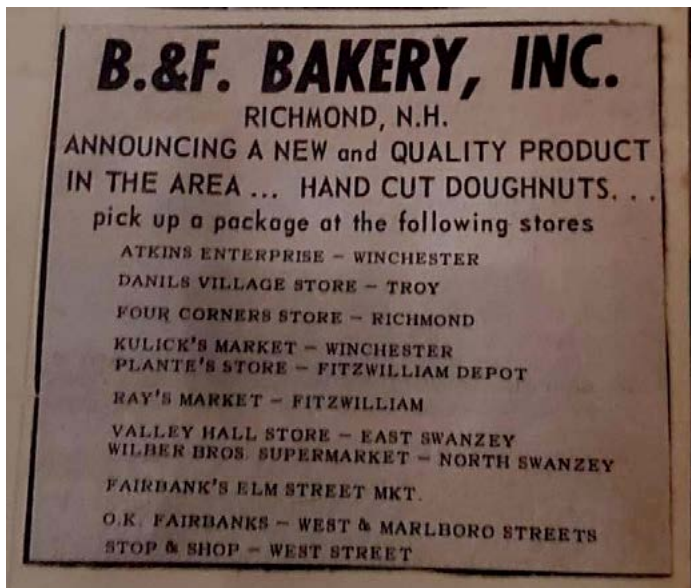
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the bakery. He didn't have transportation, so our Dads had to handle all the sales and delivery of the doughnuts to grocery stores in all the area towns, including: Winchester, Troy, Fitzwilliam, East and North Swansey, and Keene. The best part for us kids was that our families got the overruns and experimental products!"



I asked some longtime Richmond friends about their memories of the doughnut shop, and this is what they shared. Sue Carrier Taylor from Richmond remembers:

My Mom and I worked for your Dad. Your dad would get upset with me because I couldn't get the hang of filling the jelly doughnuts and would blow some of them up! I did like dipping the chocolate-covered ones, though.

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Rae Hammond Carrier told me, "They were the best doughnuts!" Donna Brewer remembered, "Oh, yes. He and Dick Fadden would be covered in flour! The doughnuts were very good!"

That baker they hired accrued a very large long distance phone bill calling his home [*Back then, we had to pay for long distance*]. Eventually, between the baker's very high phone cost and his homesickness, he left. My Dad and Dick couldn't find anyone to take his place whom they could afford, so they decided to close the bakery.

Ricky Fadden remembered:

What do you do with many, many pounds of various doughnut ingredients? Have the biggest fried chicken party ever! It's amazing how much fried chicken can be cooked in a doughnut Fry-o-lator. Amazing how tasty doughnut flour makes on chicken. They sold deep fried doughnut battered chicken to everyone that came and sold it all at cost to cover the expense of the chicken and the pastry supplies that couldn't be returned. Our families each had enough doughnuts in our freezers to last very long time.



Richmond's Got Talent!

[Editor's Note: Readers, this event schedule assists Richmond residents possessing a special talent or enthusiasm to share. Performers, musicians, artists, hobbyists and the like, submit your event information no later than the 10th of the month before your event, and we will add you to our Richmond's Got Talent schedule.]

Friday, April 7, 2023 – 6 PM to 8 PM

Lenny Solomon (guitar, harmonica, vocals) will perform at Four Star Brewery in Northfield, MA.

Saturday, April 22, 2023 – Noon to 1 PM

Lenny Solomon (guitar, harmonica, vocals) will perform in celebration of Earth Day at the Monadnock Food Co-op in Keene.



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Genealogy Presentation Rescheduled

Learn how to track your ancestry. The Richmond Historical Society is pleased to invite you to "Our Family Trees" by Richmond's own Suzen Perry.

The event is slated for Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 6:30 PM at the Vets' Hall. Refreshments will be provided.



The Richmond Agriculture Commission Needs You!

The Richmond Agriculture Commission is in need of members. We have two positions open due to resignations, plus one alternate position. For more information, please contact Karen O'Brien at karen@greenwomansgarden.com. While we still have enough members to continue, we are in danger of being unable to complete the work necessary to make us viable. Please consider joining and making sure agriculture is alive and well in Richmond.

Additionally, our plans for a Spring Fling (June) and a Harvest Festival (October) are underway. If you have produce, goods, or other items for sale, think about requesting a booth at one or both of these events. Our Farmer's Market is on hold due to lack of participation by vendors, so this is our only way to showcase our farmers, gardeners, and Richmond residents. For more information, email karen@greenwomansgarden.com.

Sour Cream and Cheddar Biscuits Terri O'Rorke

*Here's a quick and easy biscuit recipe,
perfect for an Easter dinner!*

Ingredients

Batter:

2-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
2 teaspoons sugar
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
1/2 cup cold butter, cubed
1-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
3/4 cup 2% milk
1/2 cup sour cream

Topping:

6 tablespoons butter, melted
1-1/2 teaspoons garlic powder
1 teaspoon

Directions

Preheat oven to 450°F. In a large bowl, whisk the first 7 ingredients. Cut in cold butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs; stir in cheese. Add milk and sour cream; stir just until moistened.

Drop by 1/4 cups two inches apart onto greased baking sheets. Mix topping ingredients; brush over tops. Bake until light brown, 12-15 minutes. Serve warm.

Yield: about one and a half dozen.



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Library News

Wendy O'Brien

Library Calendar for April

Saturdays, 10 AM-Noon: Drop-in Knitting Circle

Wednesdays, 10 AM: Storytime

Tuesday, April 11th, 6 PM: Book Group, *Florence Adler Swims Forever*

Tuesday, April 25th, 6 PM: LEGO Club

Special Earth Day Events

Thursday, April 20th, 6 PM: Program, "Keeping it Clean and Green" with Karen O'Brien:

Learn hands-on how to make your own less-toxic products for home and garden. We will explore "green" ways of having a clean home and an environmentally friendly yard. All participants will make two cleaning products and receive handouts with recipes included. Spaces are limited and preregistration is required. There will be \$20.00 fee per person for supplies.

Wednesday, April 26th, 10 AM: April Vacation Program, "How to Be an Animal Adventurer":

*Join Susie Spikol, a naturalist at the Harris Center for Conservation Education and author of *The Animal Adventurer's Guide: How to Prowl for an Owl, Make Snail Slime and Catch a Frog Bare-Handed*, for this special morning event. Sharpen up your wild-life-watching skills and tune into the secret world of our local New Hampshire animals. Perfect for elementary-aged children.*

Book Club: *Florence Adler Swims Forever* by Rachel Beanland

Our Tuesday Book Club will be meeting on April 11th at 6 PM to discuss *Florence Adler Swims Forever*. This winner of the National Jewish Book Award for Debut Fiction in 2020 focuses on a single summer that begins with a shocking tragedy, where the three generations of the Adler family grapple with heartbreak, romance, and the weight of family secrets (Goodreads.com).

LEGO Club: Mars Challenge

On Tuesday, April 28th at 6 PM, we will be visiting an amusement park. Come build roller coasters with us! Legos are provided.

Free COVID Tests Available

We are pleased to be a distribution point for free COVID tests from the NH Department of Health and Human Services.

New Titles

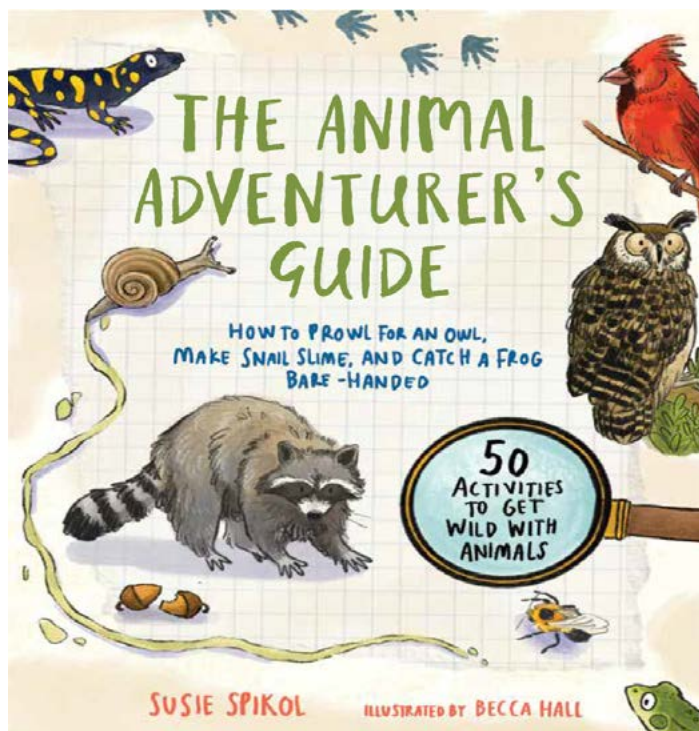
Look Closer, David Ellis

Index, a History of the, Dennis Duncan

Storm Watch, C. J. Box

The Last Kingdom, Steve Berry

Secret Keeper of Jaipur, Alka Joshi



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Tuesday 3-7
Wednesday 9-12
Thursday 3-7
Saturday 10-2

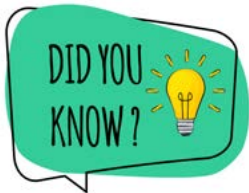


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Town Clerk Tidbits Karen O'Brien

Just a few random notes – some things are not evident!

If you have come in to the office for a marriage license or home birth, the official vital record can be printed after all the pertinent information is sent to the State. For a marriage, this means the officiant must send in the paperwork to the clerk so it can be inputted to the State. For a home birth, the green and purple forms (which the person attending the birth should have filled out and given to you) need to be brought into the Town Hall along with the baby. I can then enter the data for the birth. Once the State has the information, you can then come in to get the certificate printed, usually about ten days after the State has received the information. You do not automatically get a certificate of marriage or birth until you request and pay for one. First copies are \$15.00 and subsequent copies (of the same document) are \$10. Marriage licenses can be done by any clerk in the State. Sometimes, folks find it easier to get a license in a bigger town office, as their staff might have more manpower than we do.

Dogs are on my mind right now and will be until we finally license all those canines. Remember, if you renew or register for a new license for your puppy, your name will be placed in a drawing of “doggone goodies”. So, don't delay – come in today! And, if

you're 65 years young, let me know since your first dog licensed when you become a senior is only \$2.00.

It has come to my notice that some of the vital record certificates I have issued may need the town stamp added. It appears that I neglected to stamp some with the official seal. If that is the case, please let me know so we can correct that omission. Many official uses for the certificate may not need the stamp, but some will (like the registry of deeds). So, please contact me so we can take care of this.

A reminder about inspections – you are required to have your vehicle inspected within ten days of renewal or when you purchase a new-to-you vehicle. But, did you know that you can get your vehicle inspected up to three months before your birthdate (and renewal)? My own birthday is December, so I usually get my inspections done in October when the weather is better and, then, I'm not rushed at the time of renewal (holidays, etc.).

I've heard some chatter on Facebook about getting dump/transfer stickers. You can come into the Town Hall when I have office hours and get one. Proof of residency or ownership of land in Richmond is a must. The cost is \$20.00 for the first vehicle, and \$1.00 for subsequent ones at the same address. Only residents can acquire stickers – not friends or family who visit occasionally. You can also purchase your sticker at the dump itself when it is open. Or, Richmond stickers can be purchased at the Winchester Town Clerk's office. It is open Monday 7 AM–4 PM, Tuesday-Thursday 7 AM–5 PM and Fridays 7 AM–1:30 PM. You need to show your car registration which reflects residency in Richmond.

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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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Design/Production/Co-Publisher: Renée Murphy
Consultant: John Boccacini
Proofreader: Lew Whittum
Treasurer: Renée Murphy
Distribution: Wendy O'Brien
Social Media/Staff Photographer: Debra Carroll
April's Contributors:
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Email - therichmondrooster@gmail.com

Rooster Online: <http://therichmondrooster.net>

Town Administration

Selectmen: William Daniels, Doug Bersaw,
Andrew Wallace

Selectmen Meeting at Town Hall – Mon. 5:30 P.M.
Public is welcome to attend. Please call 239-4232 for an appointment if you have an item for the agenda.

Town Administrator: Susan Harrington
Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Thompson
Mon. 9 AM – Noon, 3 PM – 5:30 PM
Wed. 9 AM – 1 PM
Thurs. 9 AM – Noon

*For town business outside of the above hours,
please call 239-4232 for a Monday evening appointment.*

Town Clerk: Karen O'Brien

Deputy Town Clerk:

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 239-6202 or email the clerk.*

Tax Collector: Steve Boscarino

Deputy Tax Collector: Mary Rogers

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

Building Maint.: James Nolan, 239-3353

Zoning Compliance Officer: Richard Drew

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

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