



Larry's Pond Peter Majoy

Since we moved to Richmond in 1985, we have walked the Red Dot Trail (RDT) that surrounds Larry's Pond in the Morgan Reserve. We have delighted in the experience in all kinds of weather. Yesterday, November 30, I walked it at daybreak.

As usual, I stopped at the east end of Larry's Pond. The first dim evidence of dawn reflected from the pond surface as I gazed in the stillness and took in the beauty of water and woods as if I had always been there, momentarily undisturbed by the passage of time.

The trail entry point was a short distance away, marked by the first of many red-dotted trees. The darkness was ebbing in the early morn and I regularly paused to quietly embrace the vision of the pond from the various angles along the path where the edge of the land around me gave way to water and, in one brief second, the sudden squealing of ducks taking to flight, surprised as they were by my presence.

Straight path here, curved one there, buried rocks to walk around, and the inclined and rising trail comes to the brook, where someone was kind enough to build a small wooden bridge-way across. It was a reminder that the trail had been, ever since we enjoyed its inviting presence, the treasure of folk who lived here and kept it open and viable year-in and year-out. It was a symbol of community in the wilderness.

Last year, in eleven more days, there would be an ice storm few will forget. Damage to the RDT seemed minimal because those who traveled it over the past year stopped to pick up and toss branches to the side, chain saw large trees that fell across its meandering path, and keep traversable its inviting journey into nature.

I stopped at a small beach on the south side of the pond close to a small island set a hundred or so feet from the shore, and looked across to the north side beach area and partly visible homes overlooking this gift that has nourished many residents and visitors over the years. I continued on, passing a wooden bench, now collapsed, but which had served as a stopping point for snacks. Not far from the exit to Morgan Road, I slowed down to contemplate the personal meaning of the RDT to me. It is part of many memories of my having walked it in times of joy as well as sorrow, and in each instance was massaged by its embrace and thankful for its never ending openness to me. The RDT was and remains a personal space that moves one to appre-

ciate life as well as sense the potential loss or degradation of nature as we move ever so much more speedily into the grasp of global climate change.

Recently, I read Amy Seidl's book, *Early Spring: An Ecologist and Her Children Wake to a Warming World*. It was a great read because it was not cold scientific rhetoric but also a story set in her town, Huntington, Vt., where she lives in the north country with her husband and two young children. Often, I felt right there by being here in Richmond. One of the most important data-based parts of the book come from folk who have been keeping records, journals and diaries of weather and attendant effects on things like birds, insects, animals, and the cultural celebrations that are weather dependent. The conclusion these homespun observations reinforced was that major climate shifts were well underway. One reader, whose review is available online at goodreads.com, writes that "Her references to gardening and wildflowers and the tapping of sugar maples paints a bucolic picture, a paradise that is threatened by loss through the changes wrought by global warming – longer autumns, earlier springs, unreliable winter frosts."

The Red Dot Trail and Global Climate Change are now, as in Huntington, Vermont, two sides of the same coin. Beneath the socio-political debate and denial propaganda around global warming, including the recent so-called ClimateGate, there dwell personal and homespun data and perceptions that something is going on. Bill McKibben states it this way in his 1989 essay, "The End of Nature: the Greenhouse Experiment:" "The greenhouse effect is a more apt name than those who coined it can have imagined. The carbon dioxide and other trace gases act like the panes of glass in a greenhouse—the analogy is accurate. But it's more than that. We have built a greenhouse—a human creation—where once there bloomed a sweet and wild garden."

I will continue my travels along the RDT and feel the healing power of the natural world. While simultaneously sensing great change that will more swiftly affect my experience of nature's gifts like the RDT. I am also finding that more and more of us folk have begun the trek along a very bumpy road of awakening. Here we are in one of nature's neighborhoods, Richmond, New Hampshire. We are blessed by its abundance, variety and richness. The process of awakening calls to each and to all of us to do as much as we can individually, and communally, to honor and protect our earth, our air, and our water as if it were a matter of survival....which it is.



Larry's Pond—Picture by Theresa Majoy

Rooster Help Wanted
Marie Knowlton, Publisher

The Richmond Rooster is seeking to hire a volunteer Assistant Publisher. This position offers a wonderful opportunity to work with Richmond's longest running newspaper. The Rooster has been in operation for twenty years and has a long history of service to the town. The open position will assist the aging publisher with selection of article placement, first run editing and all around involvement in every aspect of running a monthly publication. You must be able to meet deadlines and be available during a specified time period. If you are interested and wish to learn more please give me a call at 239-6447.

Latest Update on Richmond 250 Cane
Pam Goodell

We have a new birth date for the oldest resident in Richmond. It is May 11, 1913. If you know of anyone older please call Pam Goodell at 239-4790. (Deadline to notify is January 31, 2010.) Whoever turns out to be the oldest will receive the Richmond 250 Cane for the 2010 year. It will be announced at the March Town Meeting.

For Town Elections
Annette Tokunaga

On March 9, 2010, the town elections will be held. The following offices will be on the ballot:

- One for Cemetery Trustee, 3-year term
- One for Library Trustee, 3-year term
- One for Moderator, 2-year term
- Two for Planning Board, 3-year term each
- One for Selectmen, 3-year term
- One for Supervisor of the Checklist, 6-year term
- One for Treasurer, 3-year term
- One for Trustee of Trust Funds, 3-year term

If you would like to run for any of these offices, please come to the Town Clerk's office. You must be a resident of Richmond and a registered voter to qualify for candidacy of any of these offices. The filing period begins January 20th and ends January 29th (3-5 p.m. on Jan. 29th only).

2010 Calendar
Town Clerk's Office

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk
Following are important dates to remember for the year 2010. They include dates that the Town Clerk's office will be closed as well as important deadlines.

- Jan. 1 CLOSED – New Year's Day (normally closed)
- Jan. 4 Dog Licenses Available
- Jan. 18 CLOSED – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan. 20 First Day of Filing Period for Town Offices
- Jan. 29 Last Day of Filing Period for Town Offices (3-5 p.m. Only)
- Feb. 2 Warrant Article Deadline
- Feb. ? Annual Budget Hearing (Pre-Warrant) – Ask Selectmen
- Feb. 15 CLOSED – Presidents' Day
- Feb. 22 Last Day for Selectmen to Post Warrant
- Feb. 25 Last Day to Register to Vote with Town Clerk (May Register to Vote at the Polls on Election Day)
- Mar. 9 Town Election Day – Clerk's Office CLOSED
- Mar. ? Town Meeting
- Apr. 29 Dog Licenses Expire
- May 27 Deadline for Late Dog Licenses
- May 31 CLOSED – Memorial Day
- July 5 CLOSED – Fourth of July
- Sept. 6 CLOSED – Labor Day
- Sept. 30 Deadline for Transfer Station Stickers
- Oct. 11 CLOSED – Columbus Day
- Nov. 11 CLOSED – Veterans' Day
- Nov. 24-25 CLOSED - Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 24 CLOSED – Christmas Break (normally closed)

Richmond Fire Department
Melanie Ellis

Winter has arrived and the snow has begun to pile up outside. Please take caution and care when driving out on the roads. Snow and ice on the roads are not the only hazards we have to be careful of. The snow and ice in driveways and walkways can be dangerous, not only for you but also for emergency personnel. Please keep driveways plowed and sanded so emergency vehicles can get into and out of driveways safely. Having sand or salt by walkways can prevent falls. Even with the snowfall we have had, the

~ ~ ~ **WANTED TO BUY** ~ ~ ~

We are currently looking to purchase many different items, including but not limited to:
Vintage Clothing ✦ Blue Decorated Stoneware ✦ Musical Instruments ✦ Cameras
Pottery ✦ Frames ✦ Tools ✦ Toys ✦ Vintage Photographs
and any old Telephones, Radios or Electric Fans
CALL DANNY WAHL at 603-239-7200

area ponds, lakes and rivers are still not frozen enough for people to be on. Please be aware of thin ice when snowmobiling or other outdoor activities bring you near water.

The Richmond Fire Department is always looking for volunteers. If you have ever been interested in joining the fire department, this would be a great time to do so. Even if you are not interested in the firefighting aspects, there are always other jobs that need to be done. The Richmond Fire Department meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Please stop in and see us.

Library News
Wendy O'Brien

Story Hours

There will be a brief story hour for younger elementary school-aged children at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 4. All are welcome. Children can also attend a story hour on January 9 at 11:00 a.m., focusing on "Snow," with Gwyn in the children's room. Snacks will be available!

Cut the Carbon!

The NH State Library has partnered with NHsaves to distribute Kill A Watt meters to public libraries throughout the state for patrons to borrow for free. The RPL has received two meters, which can be borrowed for two weeks at a time. They are easy to use and are a great way to make energy decisions in your home and ultimately help save you money. Drop by and check one out!

Volunteer Recognition Party

The party was once again a great success, thanks to Elaine Moriarty! Yummy food and drinks, games, gifts, and good friends all contributed to a wonderful time. Looking to join in the fun? We are always seeking volunteers—for once a year events such as the book sale, or for

small weekly commitments such as putting books away one evening a week. Just drop by the library, give us a call (239-6164), or email to richmondpubliclibrar@ne.rr.com.

Things From The School District
Neil Moriarty and Jim Carnie

Budget Process for FY 2010/2011

School Board Proposes \$31 million Budget

FY 2010/2011 At the November meeting of the budget committee, the committee voted to send to the school board a proposal to reach the average cost per pupil of the surrounding school districts. To reach the average cost per pupil would require a \$2.3 million dollar reduction (from the existing budget).

Upon receiving that request (from the budget committee) the board voted a \$31.7 million (actually set at \$31 million then raised to \$31.7 at the Dec. 15th meeting) budget; or about a \$.3 million dollar reduction from this current year. The default budget will be about \$32.4 million. The Budget Committee is meeting on December 17, 2009 to discuss the budget for FY 2010/2011.

SAU 38 Disappointing meeting Results

SAU 38 provides the administration services for the Monadnock District as well as Hinsdale, Winchester, and Surry. Our school board, at the December 1, 2009 meeting of the board, voted to make several proposals to reduce the cost of the SAU to our taxpayers. Our district pays 66% of the SAU and has a weighted vote that reflects our portion of the vote; however each attendee at the meeting has a portion of the Monadnock vote.

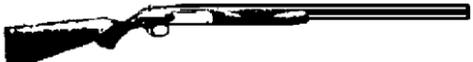
Unfortunately, our school board did not vote as one at the SAU meeting, and all our motions were

Inner Phoenix Somatics
WWW INNERPHOENIX.ORG

Somatic Wellness Consulting
Tui Na (Chinese Medical Massage)
Jin Shin Acupressure
Perinatal Massage

Aine A. E. deDanaan, LMT, NCTMB, MDiv
157 Fish Hatchery Road, Richmond, NH 03470
603-239-7472 • aine@innerphoenix.org

Tel. 603-239-4032 P.O. Box 143



TRADER JOHNS GUN SHOP
New and Used Guns Bought and Sold
Bows and Ammo
Hunting and Fishing Licenses

JOHN CORLISS, Prop. Rt. 10, Winchester, N.H. 03470

American Blind & Shade Co.
Your Wholesale Outlet

Vertical Blinds
Mini-Micro Blinds
Wood Blinds
Pleated Shades
Cellular Shades
Roman Shades

"Brand Name Window Treatments At Wholesale Prices"

JIM & CAROL ANN CLARK
www.americanshadecompany.com
e-mail: americanblinds@ne.rr.com
(603) 239-8112
(800) 556-8112

Serving MA, NH, VT
Free Shop at Home Service
Free Measurement Service
Free Estimates

FRANK'S SERVICE

79 Winchester Rd
Richmond NH 03470
603-239-4941

Inspection, Oil Change, General Repair
M - F 8:30 - 3:00
Saturday by Appt.
Keys Made

defeated. You can thank Mrs. Gene White and Bill Felton (both from Swanzy, both voted no each time) for these defeats. Given you care about the specific proposals put forth by our board, you can contact either of us or review the SAU minutes.

Our Business Manager Leaves

The MRSD Business manager, Mr. Earl Womack, has left SAU 38 effective December 15, 2009 (health reasons). A search committee has been formed for a replacement. In the meantime, Mr. Brian Gallagher of Municipal Resources Inc. will provide Business Manager service for us on a contract basis.

Monadnock Website in Rough Shape

The Monadnock website was subcontracted out for replacement, with very poor results. The contractor is slowly bringing the website back to a readable format. In the meantime, besides data being moved to other areas within the site, we have to put up with blind alleys and missing data. If you can't find something that you used to see, call the SAU at 352-6955.

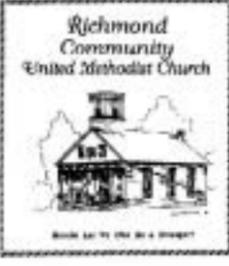
As always if you have questions, comments or concerns, feel free to call Jim at 239-4948 or Neil at 239-4031.

Master Plan Public Hearing

Peter Majoy

In the August Rooster appeared a flyer announcing the formation of a Master Plan Committee to help revise the current Master Plan. The September Rooster contained an article focused on a Master Plan Committee update includ-

Welcome to the Richmond Community Church



Richmond Community United Methodist Church

PASTOR SHINHYUNG AHN

Sunday Worship Services
9:00 a.m.

*We are a celebrational and compassionate people.
We champion the simple worth of all people.*

Come and join our Family!

ing meeting dates for the MP Committee. Notices were posted in three locations on September 29 as reminders regarding the meeting schedule for the MP Committee at Vets Hall.

All of the 20 member MP Committee met on October 1, and most met again on October 15 and 29. A discussion was had between the MP Committee and the Planning Board from which there came further input. The thought that went into the revised Master Plan came from across the Town of Richmond and is incorporated into the 73 page revision that has been restructured.

The Planning Board has set Tuesday, January 19, 2010, as the date for the public hearing on the revised Master Plan. We will meet at Vets Hall at 7:30 p.m. with the hope that we will have a large turnout of folk. An overview of the revision will be presented along with time for Q&A and further input.

Copies of the Master Plan Revision have been available for viewing at the town hall since December 14, 2009. The MP Revision has also been posted on the town web site. Go to www.richmond.nh.gov/, click on "Planning and Zoning," then under "Publications," click on "Master Plan."

We all owe a debt of gratitude to the MP Committee for the time and energy that each and every one put into revising this cornerstone document, which contains the vision for growth and development that guides both. In addition, graphic designer Andreas deDanaan donated to the town his time and effort in visually organizing the document to be a high quality publication.

Supervisor Of The Checklist Position

Melissa Herman

Chair, Richmond Supervisors of the Checklist

Are you interested in running for a town position as a Supervisor of the Checklist? There are three Supervisors of the Checklist. Since one is elected every even year for a six-

year term, there is one position up for election in 2010. The current office-holders are Alison VanBrocklin (2004-2010), who will not be running for re-election; Melissa Herman (2006-2012); and Beverly Hart (2008-2014).

The position calls for a six-year commitment; attention to detail; willingness to become familiar with the applicable state laws; willingness to receive training on how to use the ElectionNet data base system to update and produce checklists; availability for occasional short, in-town sessions as prescribed by state law (evenings or Saturdays); availability at the polls on election days; reconciling election day data with the Town Clerk. Since the number of elections varies from one in a year to four in a year, a Supervisor's time commitment can range from small to significant. Any hours claimed are recompensed at minimum wage.

As outlined by the Town Clerk in last month's and this month's Rooster, the filing period for electoral office starts on January 20th and ends on January 29th. Candidates for town office must be registered Richmond voters. Residents may register at the Town Clerk's office by noon on January 19th or at the next meeting of the Supervisors of the Checklist, which will take place on January 19th from 7-7:30 p.m. at the Civil Defense building on Route 119.

If you are interested in reading about the state laws governing the duties of the Supervisors of the Checklist and elections, you may stop by the Town Clerk's office to review the New Hampshire Election Laws handbook or the New Hampshire Election Procedure Manual.

Trustee of Trust Fund Position Open

Marie Knowlton, Secretary Trustees

The Trustees of Trust Funds will have an open position on the ballot this year for a three year term of office. Under state law the Trustees are responsible for the oversight of all the Capital Reserve Funds, Expendable Trust Funds and the Cemetery Perpetual Care funds. They normally meet three times a year. As an oversight committee, the Trustees maintain funds in an investment account and disburse funds only through authorization by the Board of Selectmen or by vote of the town. Each year one Trustee of Trust Funds position is placed on the ballot. This year my position is up and I have decided not to seek a third term of office. In 2009 the current Trustees developed a list of guidelines and job descriptions for future trustees to follow. Under the guidelines each Trustee takes a position as

Chairperson, Secretary or Bookkeeper and the positions are rotated every year. We also created sample agendas, which list the duties that need to be accomplished during the year. The Trustee of Trust Fund position is an interesting way to become involved in town government. A person who is good with numbers and banking would be ideal for this elected office. Please consider placing your name on the ballot for 2009 by filing with the Town Clerk during the open filing period beginning January 20.

Fast Energy Fact

Victoria Provost

Seal Sneaky Leaks: Seal electrical outlets in exterior walls of your house. Foam insulating gaskets (less than \$1 each) "act as a barrier, so conditioned air stays in, rather than leaking out," says Jonathan Passe of the EPA.

Love Your Library Volunteers & Etc

Elaine Moriarty

In April of 2008 I spent a Saturday at the Richmond Public Library for the purpose of recruiting much-needed "Love Your Library" volunteers. I never dreamed at the end of the day we would have 18 dedicated patrons signed up (in this small town yet.) Wendy had drawn up a list of jobs and these townspeople signed up for what appealed to them, from one hour per year to untold hours. I feel this is what has led to a high retention rate of volunteers.

It is a very diverse group from teenagers to senior citizens and each one is so appreciated. I feel it's important for the youngest ones to set examples for their peers and by being involved in community service, it creates character and a sense of future lifestyles. The in-betweens and seniors also contribute to a great deal of the success of the comfortable, casual, educational small white structure on the Winchester Road, and all the volunteers are admired for their gift of time. The Board of Trustees, Wendy and I are grateful for the volunteers' devotion, and are impressed by their continued service. We thank you.

We recently celebrated our second "Love Your Library" Volunteer Recognition Day. It was a carefree, fun afternoon, where all our volunteers got the chance to mingle with their peers. This party was filled with chatter, games, a cookie exchange, snacks, service pin awards and a multitude of friendship and laughter.

Some food for thought: There is another way a person can volunteer, if libraries are not on your radar

The Fitzwilliam Inn
ON THE COMMON IN HISTORIC FITZWILLIAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE



"Rustic Fare by the Hearth—Local Harvest to Table"

THISTLE & CROWN TAVERN

Hours: Thursday, Friday, Saturday 4–10 p.m.
Thursdays KJds Eat Free 4–6 p.m.
Open Mic Thursdays 7 p.m.
Saturdays -- Live Music 8 p.m.
603-585-9000

The Fitzwilliam Inn, On the Common | (603) 585-9000
62 New Hampshire Route 119 West, Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire 03347

Rick Lewis
REAL ESTATE
Principal Broker

Sales & Consulting
Representing Buyers & Sellers



Residential & Commercial
Including Land and Subdivisions

P.O. Box 631
Fitzwilliam, NH 03447
Rick@RickLewisRealEstate.com

Phone: (603) 355-0720
Home: (603) 239-8095
Cell: (603) 313-2008
Fax: (603) 239-7390

32 Monadnock Hwy., Rt. 12 South
Keene, New Hampshire 03431
OFFICE: 603.352.1972 x207
CELL: 603.313.2008
FAX: 603.352.0545
E-MAIL: frblais@worldpath.net

Fred Blais
Principal Broker



BLAIS & ASSOCIATES REALTORS
www.blaisrealstate.com

CRS R MLS

TIMBERWOLF EXMARK

GARY'S POWER EQUIPMENT
15-02 Warwick Road
Winchester, NH 03470
Gary Rokes
Phone/FAX (603) 239-4953 (800) 499-4953
garyspwreqip@adelphia.net

WHITE ECHO STIHL

screen. Each town has boards and other needs to be fulfilled if you have time to spare. Also if you researched agencies such as Monadnock Volunteers, you can surely find a niche that appeals to you, from the America Reads Program, to Habitat for Humanity, to running errands with or for senior citizens, to the hospital and convalescent homes, to The Community Kitchen. There are numerous places that will appreciate your service. I hope anyone who has any spare time will consider and is inspired to fill a need somewhere.

**Cheers for Chip
Russ Provost**

The fall Richmond roadside cleanup was held on Saturday, October 31st. Twenty volunteers picked up over 2400 pounds of trash, a couple of mattresses, and four tires. A special thanks to Chip Adams for providing a dumpster and hauling the trash off to the Keene Recycling Center. The next cleanup will be in early May of 2010. Full details will be in the April Rooster.

**Free Family Movie Night
Pam Goodell**

If you're looking to spend some quality time with your children, why not attend the next free family movie night at the Richmond Community United Methodist Church? (Route 119, center of Richmond) It will be held on Friday, January 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Popcorn and drinks are provided at no charge. The movie "Up" will be shown on large screen. It is a G rated movie, and is suitable for the whole family. The public is invited, and we ask that all children be accompanied by an adult. What a fun way to share some time together!

**Raise Money While Having Fun
Eleonore Villarrubia**

On Sunday afternoon, December 13, Immaculate Heart of Mary School sponsored a basket raffle in St. Joseph Hall. Despite the snow, the event was well-attended by area residents. Price of admission was one new scratch-off ticket, all of which went into the pot for the entrance prize. This treasure was won by six-year-old Mary Kate Vasilak, a first

grader at the school.

The main auction consisted of 40 baskets, each with its own theme. The most popular baskets (that is, those going for the highest amounts and which engendered bidding wars) were "Nothing to Wine About" (five different types of wines) and "Chocolate Lover's Dream Come True" (chock-full of all sorts of chocolate items). All of the baskets were cleverly named by the organizer, Julie McCann. There was "Hair She Is" with all sorts of hair care items, and "Sock It To Me" with many pairs of socks of different colors. Bidding was very competitive with one married couple bidding against each other and another pair of close friends upping the ante on several baskets by a dollar a shot. Single items included two pairs of handmade wooden swords, a life-sized doll and a beautiful heirloom crocheted bedspread made by someone's beloved grandmother.

The auctioneer was Brother Louis Marie, whose clever and endearing remarks added to the afternoon's fun. Brother was hampered by the limited room on the Hall's stage and was not able to perform his usual acrobatic feats, which we enjoy at the Blueberry Fiddle Festival, but he was in rare form nevertheless.

The children enjoyed the "Penny Sale" - individual items that they could purchase tickets for at twenty-five for a dollar and "vote" for that item by placing their tickets in the jar next to the item.

Every item was donated, so

the profits were substantial. Sandwiches and sweets were sold and iced tea and coffee were free. When I asked Mrs. McCann her opinion on the success of the event, her answer was "It was like a big family having lots of fun in their living room."



Park Place Veterinary Hospital



Winifred G. Morenz, D.V.M.
Small Animal Medicine and Surgery
For An Appointment Please Call
357-4049
Rte. 32 N. Swanzey, N.H. 03431

**Johnny Mercer is Celebrated
on DVD Documentary
Frank Behrens**

MERCER While watching the Warner Bros. DVD titled "Johnny Mercer: The Dream's on Me," I couldn't help squealing with delight as so many of my favorites were sung and discussed in the course of this 90-minute documentary. It was made in association with Turner Classic Movies and is quite enjoyable.

Just for the record, Mercer was a triple talent: lyricist, composer, and singer. He wrote the lyrics to over 1,000 songs, composed the music for many of them and for lyrics by other writers, recorded many of them, and so on and so on. Among the films he wrote lyrics for between 1933 and 1971 are "Gold Diggers in Paris," "Jezebel," "Follow the Fleet," "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," "The Harvey Girls," "How the West Was Won," and even "Koch."

Actor and jazz lover Clint Eastwood was so taken by Mercer's many accomplishments that he acted as Executive Producer of this film. With a studio as the barest setting, Eastwood discusses many of Mercer's songs with artists like Michael Feinstein, Cleo Lane, Maude Maggart, and Audra McDonald. Unfortunately, Eastwood puts his daughter in front of a microphone and might be the only one not embarrassed by the result. Never a good idea to include family, as witness "Godfather III."

On a second disc, Eastwood discusses Mercer's lyrics with John Williams and Jamie Cullum. Following that, the singers give studio performances of several songs, after which Nancy Gerard discusses Mercer as a painter. Clichés like "He's a singer's singer" abound, but what words can one find for "genius"?

Among the best of Mercer's output heard in the film are "Moon River," "That Old Black Magic," "Laura," "Blues in the Night," "Jeepers Creepers," and "One More For The Road." Several are shown in the original film settings,

some as they were performed on TV by Dinah Shore, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett and other interpreters, some by the guests in the studio. Just about all of them are classics.

The picture is in 16:9 widescreen format and there are English subtitles to follow the narration, discussions, and even the lyrics. This set is a very good buy.

VISIONS OF EUROPE As Acorn Media released in the past those lovely DVDs in the Visions shows that are inevitably shown during pledge weeks, I reported on each one. Now they all have been released in a boxed set of ten DVDs that holds 12 episodes under the title "Visions Europe."

In brief, the aerial shots of the different locales are breathtaking and the accompanying music appropriate. Counting the bonus footage that was not shown on TV, the running time is about 15 1/4 hours, all in 16:9 widescreen ratio. I will try to give a brief idea of the contents:

"The Great Cities of Europe"—London, Florence, Budapest, Cote d'Azur, Rome, Vienna, Prague, Dublin, and Paris.

"Greece" - Corfu, Crete, Meteora, Mikonos, the Peloponnese, Rhodes, Santorini, Thessaloniki, and other places "off the beaten path."

"Austria"—Bregenz, Hallstatt, Innsbruck, Salzburg, and Vienna.

"Italy"—includes four programs: (1) "Northern Style," (2) "Southern Style," (3) "Sicily", and (4) "Great Cities."

"Germany"—includes two programs: (1) "Bavaria" and (2) "Along the Rhine."

"France"—includes two programs: (1) "Provence" and (2) "The Riviera."

Each of these is perfect for some easy viewing or for playing with the sound lowered when guests are quietly mingling of an evening. Either way, it is all quite an eyeful.

**Live Free or Die—
More Than a Motto
By Nicolás Bosonetto**

Everyone knows the famous New Hampshire state motto, after all it's on our license plates. Some may even know General Stark is the source for this phrase. However, most people nowadays regard "Live Free or Die" as just another slogan devoid of meaning or essence. Nothing could be further from the truth - New Hampshire rightfully earned the motto by including Article 10 in the State Constitution:

Richard P. Drew LLC
Licensed Land Surveyor

Lot Staking Subdivisions
Boundary Plans

266 Tully Brook Road, Richmond, NH 03470

Phone: (603) 239-4701 Fax: (603) 239-7412

Email: rdrew@dishmail.net



Fairfield South
11 Old Turnpike Rd.
Richmond, NH 03470

Marsha & Gary Garone
(603) 239-6588

Devon Garone
Riding Instructor
ALL AGES ALL LEVELS

Home Repairs, Improvements,
Additions, and New Construction

Bryan Fine Carpentry

Focusing on Customer Satisfaction

David Bryan - 239.6932
Richmond NH

CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR!
5:00 Winter Special with CJ the DJ!
Christopher John Holman
(603) 852-6185
CJtheDJ.com
Lighting & Karaoke
*4 Hr Events, \$60 Additional Hrs
Special Available Through February*
CALL CHRIS TODAY!

“Whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought to reform the old, or establish a new government. The doctrine of nonresistance against arbitrary power, and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind.”

The last line clearly reflects the Founding Fathers’ mentality when they penned this article shortly after the Revolutionary War. As you see, resistance against arbitrary and discriminatory government actions is not our right – it is our obligation as good citizens.

Of course this is not an excuse to get your pitchforks and muskets and go after the selectmen when they don’t agree with you. Article 10 clearly identifies ‘other means of redress’ (meaning the court system) as the first means of fighting against a government that conspires to trample on the rights of its citizens.

So if you support Article 10 of our constitution and you support the fight against those who use the power of government for their own personal prejudices, you don’t need to display some crummy sticker on your car – “Live Free or Die” is already proudly displayed on your bumper.

Small Business Tip of the Month Avicoach

For small business owners, December signals both the end of an economically tough year and the start of a new business cycle filled with the prospect for growth and success. As they begin the business planning process, small business owners would benefit from identifying and tracking Key Performance Indicators or KPIs that reflect short and long-term business goals, and establish a measuring system to keep business owners on the right path to prosperity throughout 2010.

KPIs represent the ‘vital signs’ of a business, setting and measuring them throughout the year provides critical, objective data to help owners adjust their game plan and ensure the long-term health and profitability of their business. As an example, customer satisfaction can be an important KPI for many businesses, and can be measured by repeat business and referrals.

Typically developed to complement key short and long-term business goals that have the greatest impact on the

whole company’s performance, KPIs can also be set at the department level to monitor progress up, down and across the entire company. KPIs could include measuring and monitoring customer retention, sales effectiveness, brand loyalty in certain segments of the market, order fulfillment, etc.

KPIs are important to a business because they’re a reflection on how well they are succeeding with particular business goals. You can monitor the overall health of your business by tracking a few very important, yet insightful vital signs.

For 2010 create your KPIs and monitor these numbers on a daily, weekly, monthly basis. It will help you have a successful year!



What RPC (Rural Preservation Committee) Is About Jean Tandy

We’re not about history. Yet ironically, what does interest us is in constant process of becoming history, town history. Members of RPC are connected to Richmond through land and law. We are deeply devoted to both. We gradually joined as a group through our mutual fascination and concern with the moving parts of N.H. small town government: how collective town boards are able to act, within bounds of Federal, N.H. State, and Town of Richmond ordinance laws, in what sometimes require heroic efforts by ordinary working men and women, our neighbors, to keep our little democracy alive for the next generation. We are acutely aware of the impact on our town’s 900+ citizens from decisions made by our elected officials (usually taxes), but are also aware that unpredictable demands placed on our volunteer form of democracy, demands a response from our entire community in the form of public response...in the form of “Be Informed” of what is happening in YOUR Town. The act of citizens watching the actions of town government is an act of faith and responsibility in the form of government we have all chosen to live by. Our volunteer officials require informed support. The

act of citizens watching the actions of government officials was pointedly addressed in the N.H. Constitution as a question. “What are they up to?” In that single question, the shapers of N.H. Constitutional Democracy put the burden of a working small town government squarely on each citizen. The burden cannot be carried alone by those brave souls who accept our cries for them to accept public office in our names. We each own a share of that burden of responsibility. So here we are, a group of your neighbors as devoted to our town’s future as the Historical Society and our Town Archivist are fascinated with the town’s past adventures. We watch town government in action, we watch the effect official decisions will have on taxes, we watch for fairness in government and preservation of resources for future generations. We might be called the watch birds in our mountain forest town who are watching, watching, watching. But we know we are not alone. We are in favor of Richmond’s survival, as were the original fathers and mothers of this small community well over two hundred years ago. We hope you will join our mission to pay attention. What is required of us in our town today to keep us alive tomorrow? Once I noticed a bumper sticker under a Vermont license plate that said, “THINK LOCAL-ACT LOCAL.” That’s us.

Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes

Date: 5 October 2009 Selectmen’s Meeting. Attending: JC Boudreau and Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Dana Taylor, Road Agent, came in for a scheduled session with the Selectmen. Grading is under way. Winter Maintenance bids will be opened next week. Missing road signs are on order. Emergency Lane bridge work is in process on Tully Brook Road. Dave Marazoff, assessor from Cross Country Appraisal Group, was in to discuss exemptions with the selectmen and also the status of the revaluation. Vanessa Pickard came in with questions about getting a building permit for map 414 lot 015. The Selectmen signed a demolition permit to remove a shed. Bill Hillock and Sheri Reynolds were in to ask for a junkyard permit. The Board denied their request due to Article

3, Section 303 of the Richmond Zoning Ordinance and referred them to the Zoning Board. Chief Wood came in to discuss his future plans for the police department. Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, was in to clarify that the safety committee meetings are public. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Date: 12 Oct 2009 Selectmen’s Meeting. Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Mike Pearsall, Fire Chief, was in to see the Selectmen about a grant the State wishes to pursue. JC made a motion that a person renting a town building must be a town resident and be in attendance at the function. It was unanimously carried by the Board to accept this motion. Bidding for the winter maintenance on town roads began at 7:20. EW Blood submitted a bid for \$40,700.58 to plow town roads on the west side of town. Dan Firmin submitted a bid for \$36,000 or \$75 per hour by the hours worked with a minimum of \$30,000 for the east side of town. A bid was submitted by John Holman for \$32,992 for plowing the west side and \$29,992 for plowing the east side. Richard Pelto, Jr. submitted a bid for \$69,500 to plow all town roads. John Holman stated that he has seven loaders, six sanders and seven plow trucks. Sean asked him if he had any other commitments. Mr. Holman said that one of the pick ups and one loader is committed to other work. Sean

asked what kind of staff he has. Mr. Holman stated that he has five people, and could have more if needed. He also has a high lift wing plow and a low lift. Richard Pelto stated that he has four one-tons, two sanders and a loader. JC asked if he has a wing. Mr. Pelto said he would have a wing put on the loader if he gets the job. JC asked about his staff. Mr. Pelto stated that he has five people all of the time. Buddy Blood said that he has two one-tons, one two-yard sander and one six-yard sander and a loader with a backhoe. He also said he has a spare one-ton if needed, a hired truck. JC asked about his crew. Mr. Blood said he has two people plus one if needed. Dan Firmin stated he has two one-tons and a three-quarter ton high lift wing truck, two three-yard sanders and

one six-yard sander. He could have another three-quarter ton hired guy if needed. His crew is himself and another person if needed. The Board will review the bids, check references and make a decision.

Bids for plowing of town buildings began at 7:40. Bill Hillock submitted a bid for \$4,975 for the season. JC made a motion to accept the bid. Sean seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed. Rob Hart was in with a bid for shoveling the library, fire station and CD building of \$25 per storm. JC made a motion to accept the bid. Wes seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed. Mark Beauregard came in to discuss Planning Board issues. JC left at 8:05 p.m. Lloyd Condon came in to discuss the door to the Police Department. Sean and Wes told him to go ahead with the Police Department door, but to hold off on the library until they discuss it with JC and review the finances. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Date: 19 Oct 2009 Selectmen's Meeting.

Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Steve Boscarino, Tax Collector, was in to discuss the workshop he attended last week. He also discussed the potential to accept credit cards for tax payments. Dana Taylor, Road Agent, came in to discuss the winter maintenance bidding. Wes made a motion to go into executive session per RSA 91-A:3II(c). Sean seconded the motion. All were in favor. Executive Session was exited at 7:40 p.m. Wes made a motion to seal the minutes. JC seconded. All were in favor. JC made a motion to accept Dan Firmin's bid for \$30,000 minimum bid, \$75 per hour after that to a maximum of \$36,000 for the east side of town. Wes seconded. All were in favor. Sean made a motion to accept John Holman's bid for \$32,992 for the west side of town. Wes seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mark Beauregard, Health Officer, was in regarding a health inspection for a school. He spoke with the health officer from Winchester to possibly do the inspection for us.

Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, came in to discuss several issues. She asked about a property listing that was referenced in letters sent out by Cross Country Appraisal Group. Janel gave her a copy and one will also be available in the Selectmen's Office. Annette also discussed the safety update. John Boccalini and Terri O'Rorke were in to ask if the ditches were going to be cleaned on the town roads. JC stated that the Road Agent plans to do ditches this fall.

MONADNOCK TECHNICAL SERVICES
 157 FISH HATCHERY ROAD RICHMOND, NH 03470
 (603) 239-4327
 FAX: 239-8132

Lewis N. Whittum, PE
 DESIGN • BUILD • ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS
 HVAC • INDOOR AIR QUALITY • TAB

Ceremonies
from the Heart



Rev. Bonnie McCarthy, D. Div.
 Richmond, NH 603-239-4088
 www.ceremoniesfromtheheart.us
 ceremonies.heart@yahoo.com

Marriages/Civil Unions
 Life Celebrations
 Baptisms

Terri states that it has been four years since the ditches have been cleaned on town roads. Terri also asked about the road budget and where the money is being spent. Terri and John had questions about change of use for map 412 lots 019 and 030.

Yvon Brulotte came in with questions about obtaining a building permit for a 12 by 12 shed on map 405 lot 084-4. John Holman was in to ask about the status of the winter maintenance bidding. JC let him know that he was awarded the west side of town. Mr. Holman asked if there is a map of the roads he will be taking care of. He also asked if it would be possible to put the bidding out earlier in the future. Vanessa Pickard came in with new information for her building permit on map 414 lot 015. Lloyd Condon was in regarding the police department door and the library door. He was told to go ahead and make necessary repairs. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Date: 26 October 2009 Selectmen's Meeting.

Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, came in to update the Selectmen on a recent state safety audit. The retention meeting scheduled for tonight has been rescheduled until 16 November 2009. Steve Boscarino, Tax Collector came in to discuss a tax issue. JC Boudreau made a motion to adopt a policy to allow the Tax Collector to accept pre-payment of taxes pursuant to RSA 80:52-a. Wes Vaughan seconded the motion. Policy passed unanimously. Electronic payment of taxes was discussed and is being looked into by the Tax Collector. The selectmen agreed to meet with a representative from MCC on November 9th. Sandy Perry was in to discuss a ZBA matter. Vanessa Pickard came in to finalize her building permit for a mobile home on map 414 lot 015. The Selectmen signed permit #2009-017. Yvon Brulotte was in to finalize his building permit for a shed on map 405 lot 084-04. The Selectmen signed permit #2009-018. Alison VanBrocklin came in to discuss the holiday fair she is renting the

COPPER ANGEL BAKERY
 in Warwick, Mass.
 CATERING FOR THE HOLIDAYS
 WE WILL CREATE ONE DISH OR YOUR WHOLE MENU
 VERY AFFORDABLE SINCE YOU PICK UP AND SERVE
 1-978-544-1932
 Check out more at www.copperangel.net

Veteran's Hall for on November 14, 2009. The selectmen will help her get the hall ready to fit her tables for the holiday fair. The selectmen signed Intents to Cut for map 405 lot 086, map 408 lot 102 and map 409 lot 064. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Date: 2 November 2009 Selectmen's Meeting.

Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Peter Majoy, Jack Marsden and Charles Schroeder, Voluntary Energy Committee (VEC) came in to go over applying for stimulus funds that may be available for town energy issues and the action that will be required to be taken. Janel will work with them on this. Jack Marsden was given the "Citizen of the Year" award on 17th October 2009 by the Volunteer Energy Commission. Mark Beauregard came in to go over health issues and the procedures for inspecting schools. Bruce Barlow and Win Wright, School Board, were in to meet with the Selectmen and to discuss what is going on with the School Board. Discussed the 2010 budget. Wes Vaughan made a motion to give Southwest Regional Planning Commission permission to release mapping information to Sandra Gillis, Master Plan Committee, so that she can produce a variety of GIS maps which will be very helpful to the Master Plan. JC seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Date: 9 November 2009 Selectmen's Meeting.

Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Doug Ross, a representative from MCC, came in to talk to the Selectmen, Annette Tokunaga, Samantha Weaver and Steve Boscarino about the options of paying property taxes via eBill online. No charge to the town by the company. Confidentiality guaranteed. Fees may be charged by the banks. Selectmen were presented a draft of the agreement for review. The Tax Collector also requested that the Board consider allowing the town to accept electronic payment for taxes from mort-

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
 BOOKKEEPING • ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT

MELINDA HILDRETH HONKALA

TELEPHONE: 603.239.4063
melindahildrethhonkala@gmail.com

gage companies and financial institutions. JC made a motion that the town accepts electronic payments for the payment of real estate taxes and the treasurer opens a separate bank account for this purpose. Wes seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed. Mark Beauregard, Planning Board vice-chair, was in with a check for review fees and a bill. Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk, came in to answer a couple of safety questions for the Board. Sandra Perry, Zoning Board chair, was in to discuss a potential Warrant article with the Board. The article is to put an addition on the library for a conference room. The Board signed Intents to Cut for map 404 lots 035, 47, 48, map 405 lots 27 and 33 and map 409 lot 099. JC made a motion to waive the 15% Equalization Penalty on map 409 lot 100. Wes seconded the motion. This will correct a recent tax deeded property issue. All were in favor. The motion passed. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned.

Date: 16 November 2009 Selectmen's Meeting.
 Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan.

Read mail and signed checks. Dana Taylor, Road Agent, came in to see the Selectmen regarding road matters. Culverts, grading and aprons on gravel roads were discussed. Dana agreed to plow the lot across from the library. Salt was ordered today. Mark Beauregard, Health Officer, came in to see the Selectmen regarding a form that is required when he goes to the Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Discussed acquiring a file cabinet for Health Officer records here in the building. Bev will supply Mark with a key to the Town Hall. Peter Majoy and Kim Mattson were in to discuss the town's website. Attorney David Tower came in to discuss various legal issues with the selectmen. Terri O'Rorke was in to ask the selectmen to sign an application regarding the EMT intermediates giving HINI flu shots. The Board accepted resignations from Rick Lewis and Sandra Gillis as Zoning Board alternates. The Board signed an appointment form for Charles Schroeder for Zoning Board alternate. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

 **Gene White, Agent**
Archie D. Jennings Agency, Inc
 Personal & Business Insurance
 239-4971
 P.O. Box 13 30-02 Warwick Rd.
 Kulick's Country Mall, Winchester, NH 03470
 E-mail: arjenningsagcy@cheshire.net

Town Business Hours

Board of Selectmen: J.C. Boudreau,
Sean McElhiney, Wesley Vaughn
■ Mon. 7:00 —7:30 p.m. Town Departments
■ Mon. 7:30 —? p.m. Public Concerns

Town Secretary: Beverly Hart
■ Mon. 6 p.m. —9 p.m.
■ Wed. 8 a.m. — 12 noon, 1:00 p.m.- 5p.m.
■ Fri. 8 a.m. —12 noon, 1:00 p.m.— 4p.m.

Town Clerk: Annette Tokunaga
Deputy: Pamela Goodell
■ Mon. 9 a.m. —Noon, 1 —4 p.m., 6 —8 p.m.
■ Wed. 9 a.m. —Noon, 1 —4 p.m.
■ Tues. & Thurs. 9 a.m. —Noon

Tax Collector: Steve Boscarino
■ Mon. 7 p.m. —8 p.m.
■ Wed. 2 p.m. —4 p.m.

Planning Board: Richard Drew, Chairperson
■ Meetings held at Civil Defense Building
1st & 3rd Tues of the Month —7:30 p.m.

Transfer Station & Recycling Facility
■ Tues. 8 a.m. —4 p.m.
■ Thurs. 8 a.m. —7 p.m.
■ Sat. 8 a.m. —5 p.m.

Town Library: Wendy O'Brien, Librarian
■ Tues. 4:30 p.m. —8 p.m.
■ Wed. 9:00 a.m. —12 p.m.
■ Thurs. 4:30 —7 p.m.
■ Sat. 10 a.m. —2 p.m.

Fire Warden: Ed Atkins
EMERGENCY: POLICE/FIRE/RESCUE ■ 9-1-1
■ Selectmen —239-4232
■ Town Clerk —239-6202
■ Tax Collector —239-6106

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

Richmond Rooster Staff

■ Publisher: Marie Knowlton
■ Design/Production: Paul Clipper
■ Proofreaders: Doug & Kathleen Bersaw, Jean Tandy, Bob Weekes
■ Advertising Managers: Vicki Provost
■ Treasurer: Janel Swanson
■ Distribution: Melissa Herman; Denise Crowl
■ Contributors: Frank Behrens, Bob Weekes, Terri O'Rorke, Marie Knowlton, Russ Provost, Neil Moriarty, Elaine Moriarty, Wendy O'Brien, Melanie Ellis

Advertising Rates

■ Contact: Vicki 239-7058
■ Business cards (up to 3.5" x2") \$12/month or \$132/year, 1/4 page: \$30/month—\$330/year
Larger ads available

Subscription Rates

■ Yearly: \$15 —Town Residents: FREE
■ Stories printed are presented as fiction and are not intended to be considered as being historically accurate as to their content. Public notices committee reports, articles, press releases, and letters to the editor are usually printed as received

Deadline is the 15th of each month.

The Richmond Rooster welcomes comments and article contributions

E-mail therichmondrooster@yahoo.com

Thanks to the 4 Corners Store for their support
Join Rooster Chat:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/therichmondrooster>

SEE THE ROOSTER ONLINE

<http://therichmondrooster.org>

The Richmond Rooster

59 Bullock Road
Richmond, NH 03470
Address Service Requested

**BULK RATE
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 35
WINCHESTER, NH 03470**

**OCCUPANT
CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT
RICHMOND, NH 03470**