



**Local Energy Committee
Citizen Volunteer of the Year Award**

**Citizen Volunteer of the Year:
Jack Marsden of Richmond, NH**

Each year, the Local Energy Committee (LEC) Working Group acknowledges citizen volunteers, municipalities, and officials along with staff throughout New Hampshire for their contribution to the reduction of energy and greenhouse gas emissions. This year, the Citizen Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Jack Marsden of Richmond, NH, a member of the Volunteer Energy Committee.

From Pete Majoy, Richmond Voluntary Energy Committee: "For over a year now, we have been involved in an energy audit of our five municipal buildings, an arduous, data-driven activity under the very involved and watchful eye of Jack Marsden, one of our generous volunteers. Aid in this task has come from Clean Air-Cool Planet and the very knowledgeable and helpful people there. Our goal is to eventually apply for federal stimulus money when the application process is finally decided upon.

"As a result of Jack's hard work, along with great support from fellow committee member Charles Schroeder, we got to the point where we selected the largest building in town, Vets Hall, for an energy efficiency assessment. We recommended to our Board of Selectmen that Margaret Dillon of S.E.E.D.S. be hired. They agreed with our suggestion. Ms. Dillon was here several weeks ago for over four hours, and her assessment report, which includes several high tech components such as infra-red photography, will be ready some time near the end of November. Following the report, there will be two more steps in the process: (1) pricing what needs to be done to make Vets Hall energy efficient; (2) applying for stimulus funds.

"In the meantime, we were informed that for all the intense and time consuming work Jack Marsden did to get us to the point where we could hire Ms. Dillon, he was chosen for the "Citizen Volunteer of the Year" award from New Hampshire's Local Energy Committee Working Group, a collection of state agencies, private businesses and nonprofit companies. The award was announced on October 17, 2009 at the Office of Energy Planning (OEP)

conference. We are ecstatic that Jack was chosen from among all the nominees across the state. Ms. Christa Koehler of Clean Air-Cool Planet presented him with the award at a gathering on Thursday evening, October 29, 2009, at the Vets Hall. The spirit of this award celebrates the incredible volunteer work of all folk in our town and across the state."

Congratulations to Jack Marsden

**Richmond Public Library
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, December 7. All are welcome.

The older elementary school-aged group will be reading "The Invention of Hugo Cabret" by Brian Selznick. Extra copies are available at the library for pick up. The discussion will be led by Wendy on Saturday, December 12 at 11:00 a.m. in the non-fiction room. Younger children can attend regular story hour also on December 12 at 11:00 a.m. focusing on "Holidays," with Gwyn in the children's room. Snacks will be available!

Bake Sale and Raffles

Our bake sale and raffles were a huge success, greatly supporting the purchase of books and materials for our children's room. Thanks go out to the members of the Bake Sale Committee who put such an effort into baking, setting up, taking down, and maintaining the table throughout the day. Special thanks also go to Elaine Moriarty for coordinating the sale, as well as Deb Watson who provided a gingerbread house, and Marie Juhlin and Elaine for providing a "Baker's Basket" for our raffles. The BIGGEST thank you goes out to all of you who baked for the sale—we had an overwhelming response. We couldn't have done it without all of you!

Volunteer Appreciation Tea

There will be a volunteer appreciation tea hosted by our Volunteer Coordinator, Elaine Moriarty, on Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 p.m. This is a chance to thank all of our wonderful volunteers for all of the hard work that they do. New this year, the tea will include a cookie exchange.

Meeting Room Addition

We are currently seeking the community's support to create a meeting room addition to the library for use by



community and library groups, as well as an expanded archives space. We do not currently have space for any library programming beyond the small adult book group (which is held in the Fiction section) and children's story hour (held in the very crowded children's room). All other programming for the library currently must be held off site at the Veteran's Hall or the Pavilion. While free of charge from the town, it means that volunteer coverage must be sought for the library, or the library has to close during the program. Ideally, it would be wonderful if we could sign families up for library cards during the program and have them take out books right then and there! A dedicated meeting space would allow for greater library offerings, including a knitting group, multi-age children's programming, and more extensive adult programming.

The new meeting room would also be important for the various committees and boards of the town. The Civil Defense Building is in constant use and committees are vying for space. In addition, it is currently very awkward for patrons to have the monthly library board meetings going on while they browse for materials. If the library board ever has to discuss sensitive issues, there is no space to hold executive sessions.

And last but not least, the archives needs a heated space for volunteers and researchers. The current basement access is less than ideal, and there is no interior access to the library's restroom. Additional physical space is needed for the town's historic materials.

Our town library and archives are very special places for so many of our residents. During this economic downturn, we have seen a huge increase in computer usage as people search for jobs, as well as a substantial increase in circulation of materials, as many residents do not have the funds they once had to purchase materials on their own. We know that times are difficult for many. But as our community continues to thrive and grow, we need additional space to accommodate all its various activities. We urge you to support this item on the Town Warrant in March.



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Filing Period Opens
Annette Tokunaga

The weatherman predicts a dusting of snow tonight. If we are fortunate enough, we have prepaid our winter's supply of heating oil or stacked our firewood. Our arms ache from raking leaves that even now continue to fall. The air is brisk, the wind mischievous. Winter is coming and we brace ourselves for the long haul.

The town election and meeting may feel a long way off, but the filing period to run for office is not. Filing begins January 20, 2010, and ends January 29, 2010. The Town Clerk's office will be open on January 29th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., for those wishing to file for candidacy. The following offices will be on the March 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. You must be a resident of Richmond and a registered voter to qualify

for candidacy of any of these offices. If you would like to run for any of the above offices, please be sure to come to the Town Clerk's office during the filing period.

Things From The School District
Neil Moriarty and Jim Carnie

School Administrative Unit (SAU) 38 Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010/2011

Your school board finance committee is pushing for a reduction of about \$180,000 in this proposed FY 2010/2011 budget. The school board itself will discuss this after the Rooster deadline.

Monadnock Regional School District Budget for FY 2010/2011



Carol Oxx sells raffle tickets for the GingerBread House at the annual Richmond Holiday Fair.

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~ ~ ~ **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

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The administration has developed a FY 2010/2011 budget of .02% increase (over FY 2009/2010) before the announced 25 percent increase in health insurance premiums. Suggested budget cuts are passing back and forth between the budget committee and the school board.

Major Employee Resignations at SAU 38 Announced

The SAU has announced three major resignations. 1. Earl Womack, our Business Manger, will be leaving at the end of this calendar year. 2. Our Superintendent, Ken Dassau, announced he would be leaving in June 2011. Judith Bischoff, Director of Student Services (mostly linked to Special Education) will also be leaving in June 2011.

Stockwell Lawsuit Settlement Announced—The Amount Is Still a Mystery

Dan Stockwell, past principal of the high school, had sued the district (and the SAU) over retirement benefits that he alleged were promised him but were denied by the New Hampshire Retirement Board. He therefore looked to the Monadnock Regional School District and/or SAU 38 to fund this portion of his retirement.

The parties agreed to an out of court settlement; however, the amount given to Mr. Stockwell was not announced. The Keene Sentinel article implied that the amount would not be announced. However, school district money (read: tax dollars) spent must be accounted for as to what it was spent on; i.e., if money was allocated for salaries, then later transferred to pay Mr. Stockwell damages, that money was not spent on salaries, and should be so reported. The school board finance committee has added this topic to their agenda.

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

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December 24, 2009
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Moderator Appointed
Melissa Herman, Chair,
Supervisors of the Checklist

As of October 21, 2009 the new Town Moderator is Douglas A. Bersaw. Following his appointment to the position at the Supervisors of the Checklist's meeting on September 30th, Mr. Bersaw was sworn in by Deputy Town Clerk Pam Goodell to fill out the term of William Watt, who resigned. As stated in RSA 669:62, the Supervisors of the Checklist are tasked with filling this position by appointment, should it become vacant. Mr. Bersaw's term of office will run through the March 2010 Town Election and Meeting.

Can You Help?
Terri O'Rorke, Richmond Rescue Captain

The Richmond Rescue Squad has been a vital part of town for 30 years. It was founded in 1979 by a group of volunteers who saw a need in the town and stepped forward to fill it.

Throughout the different communities, Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) are trained and ready to help those who are in need of assistance, be they friends, neighbors, family members or even strangers. Whether it's a cardiac issue, a motor vehicle accident or just a simple lift assist, when the residents of Richmond dial 9-1-1 they know that help will arrive.

What would happen if no one responded and

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answered that call for help?

After 30 years of emergency response for the town, the Richmond Rescue Squad now finds itself in need of help. We need more people willing to train and be available to respond to these emergency calls. Could that be you? Being an emergency responder is a truly rewarding experience. If you would like to learn more about "answering the call" please contact Terri O'Rorke at 239-4595 or Buzz Shaw at 239-4238. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—HARD WORK—LONG HOURS—NO PAY** Just a great sense of self-satisfaction!

**Meadowood County Area Fire Dept
Chief Robert S. Crowell**

In your mailboxes you will have found our annual fund drive letters. With the help of your donations to our fund drive, we are able to provide trained fire, dive and rescue personnel and specialized equipment to any fire department that requests our help. We also are able to provide training on nights and weekends to local firefighters. This helps meet the schedule of a volunteer department when it's unreasonable to ask volunteers to take time away from their families and work.

Unfortunately, our costs are increasing as well as everyone else's. We continue to rely on your generous donations and support. The members of the Meadowood County Area Fire Department thanks everyone for their support. It is people like you who make Meadowood possible. MCAFD wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Opening Thistle & Crown Tavern
at the Fitzwilliam Inn
Jane Goodale**

"Come with me," I said, as I led hordes of costumed children and adults up the stairs to the unfinished third floor of the Fitzwilliam Inn. "I've been a housekeeper here for 20

years," I lied as they entered the dim hallway of the haunted house, "but I'm afraid it's a bit dusty on the third floor....so please watch your step." After Penny, a ghost from the 1800s, sat up in bed and screamed, I could see that we had captured the tour's attention. In the spooky red light of the banquet room, I suggested that someone lift the blue lid sitting on the dinner table because there was candy underneath. Few children volunteered, perhaps deciding that candy was not worth "it," whatever the scary "it" was going to be. At one point a father volunteered to lift the blue lid, from under which popped a human head! Startled, the father dropped the lid, hitting the mysterious head and eliciting a real "Ow!" before the head sunk mechanically beneath the table top for the next round.



Terri O'Rorke is helped by granddaughter Chloe at the Holiday Fair.

In the coffin room there really was candy, this time it was a bowl of lollipops resting on top of a corpse. Again, there were few takers, children or adults. Instead there were arguments between adults, "Go get a lollipop," "No you go get a lollipop," and parents trying to reassure their children, "It's not real, it's not real, get

a lollipop honey." After two and a half hours of screaming, head popping, the drone of an accordion playing, and corpse posing, we shut the doors to the third floor. Our first haunted house was a success, with over a hundred visitors, and the evening's Halloween party brought in another hundred with live music and dancing in the dining room, and merriment in the tavern.

We plan to continue bringing new life to the inn in the way of food, drink and entertainment. We have officially opened the Thistle and Crown Tavern for dinner and drinks on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. We are starting small, with three nights per week, and an intimate flair, as Zoë, Rachele, and I are currently the entire staff, with hopes to expand over time! The Tavern is a warm, intimate space, a romantic and social environment to enjoy friends and family. Come enjoy our northern comfort eats by the blazing hearth. Rachele is cooking stews, roasts, bar snacks, homemade bread and desserts, all made with as much food from local farms as we can find. The Tavern

menu will be hearty and affordable, and will change daily, so feel free to call and ask for a description of the evening's fare. We are excited to bring back the warm and lively atmosphere that the Fitzwilliam tavern was known for years ago. On Saturday nights we will have live music, and keep your ears open for dances, open mic night, and other upcoming events. **Thistle and Crown Tavern Hours:** Thursday 4-9 p.m., Friday 4-9 p.m., Saturday 5-10 p.m., Call 603-585-9000. See you soon!



**What Makes Richmond A Community?
Kim Mattson and Jean Tandy**

community, n [L. *communitas*, a community, fellowship, from *communis*, common.] a society of people having common rights and privileges, or common interests, civil, political, or ecclesiastical, or living under the same laws and regulations. [Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary]

It's a given that we live under the same laws and regulations, and that our town's people have identified common needs. To respond to survival cries for help, systems, devised by neighbors co-operating to help neighbors, have methodically been put in place. When, (not if), a medical emergency happens, dial 911 immediately and within minutes our Richmond Rescue Squad arrives to assess the situation. The squad is composed of our neighbors, trained in an INTENSE 120 hour course as Emergency Medical Technicians, plus 10 hours of ER time. They are experienced professionals who volunteer hours from their private lives to keep you and your families safe. Consider joining the Rescue squad.

If you witness a fire bursting out in buildings, woods, or a vehicle, call 911. Richmond's trained, experienced fire department will take charge. They know the town's roads and geography and will find AND FIGHT the fire. They are volunteer neighbors devoted to your safety. Each end of summer this crew of dedicated fire-fighters offer up a chicken barbecue for the community. The food is country BEST. You can enjoy getting together with neighbors and support team efforts. They take care of us awake, asleep, on

their own time. The fire department is always looking for more dedicated volunteers. Could that be you?

Emergency, car accident, intruders, other mischiefs? call 911 for our own Richmond Police. They're trained for community safety. They have honored our people. When communal efforts have made our lives safe, we can freely become involved in other pursuits and ideas. Camping or hiking with your kids? Perhaps delving into town history? There's a story of how Richmond's ancient records were rescued from generations of mice in the Town Hall attic back in 1975. One of the two-member Records Rescue Squad still devotes endless hours to Richmond's history. Maybe it's time we figure how to make a safe haven for the invaluable gift this volunteer has created and built on during the past 34 years.

We have barely scratched the surface of the value of our neighbor's dedication and downright devotion to keeping our town law abiding, safe and a peaceful rural place where ideas are born and can flourish without censure. We all need to recognize that as time moves on, new volunteers need to step up and carry on town traditions that have kept Richmond alive and peaceful for generations.

You know well that your taxes are the heartbeat of our small community. Help guide how your hard-earned money is spent. Speak out along with neighbors at pre-warrant and March 2010 Richmond Town Elections and Town Meeting about your local concerns, or lack of. Your involvement is essential to a vital, aware community. RPC submits this column in response to our mission statement: In order that current and future generations may enjoy Richmond's extraordinary natural beauty and rich, rural character, the Rural Preservation Committee uses positive, proactive means to educate and organize citizens, institute environmentally-friendly zoning ordinances, and strengthen local governance through support and accountability.

**What is Christmas?
Elaine Moriarty**

It is tenderness for the past,
Courage for the present, hope
for the future. It is a fervent
wish that every cup may
overflow with blessings rich
and eternal and that every
path may lead to peace.

—Agnes M. Pharo

Welcome to the *Richmond Community Church*

Richmond Community United Methodist Church

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WHITE ECHO STIHL

Gardens Ready For Winter
Judith M. Graves

Looking out the window on this crisp Indian Summer day, the garden looks so dreadful. The few corn stalks that didn't get bundled and tied to the front porch posts stand sentinel over a ground of brown vines from the squash and pumpkins. Best part about it is the giant sunflowers hanging their heads in heavy seed pods around the edge of the entire garden. Each year this planting is done purposely for the birds to feast on. There is little that is more enjoyed than the blue jays bouncing on these sunflowers, enjoying the newly developed fresh seeds when the ground is white with snow.

Within the next few days the garden will be raked and leveled ready for spring. We roll back the wire around the posts that protects the garden from the wild animals, or from a ball that gets pushed in a soccer match between our two chocolate labs, and we feel ready to let winter come in.

The container herb gardens have all had the perennial herbs clipped back to about three inches and covered with heavy leaves and pine needles on top to hold them down. The herbs came inside to be used for winter in many dishes and potpourris for the holidays.

Geranium plants have been pulled out of the ground, tied together with string and hung to dry out. Next spring they will be back in the ground to thrive again for the summer months. Of course a few clippings were rooted into soil to be given as gifts to someone to enjoy during the winter in a window sill.

Our trees and shrubs were surrounded with wire and filled in with heavy layers of leaves and pine needles. God gives us all the materials we need to get the gardens ready for their heavy white blanket they will soon receive. We planted two new Rose of Sharon trees this past fall and have protected them well in hopes they will survive the

winter months ahead. The blueberry bush that I got for Mother's Day did so well this summer, and we hope will make its roots settle in for the cold months as well.

So our gardens are ready for the next season. Are yours? With this chore also is the putting away of all the garden implements, oiled and cleaned and ready to start anew in the spring. Patio furniture and garden statues as well are tucked away safely. The yard seems so bare and sad somehow in the brown and dried apparel.

I was able to purchase end of season sales on pottery planters, bags of potting soil, and garden implements. These will be placed under several gardeners Christmas trees as gifts this season, and we are still able to dig in the dirt even when the snow is trickling down. To someone who loves to garden as I do, a bag of bulbs, garden gloves and potting soil, this allows me to laugh a bit as I am still able to dig in the dirt

Each season in the garden is busy. Now the birdfeeders are hanging as the birds are scouting out where they will eat this winter. If you do start to feed the birds know that they depend on the food being there for the cold time ahead or they may die if you don't continue feeding. My bird bath now becomes a feeder as well for the

many large birds that come to eat. Here I toss in stale bread pieces, 1/2 apples cut spread with peanut butter, or whole sunflower seeds. Occasionally the chipmunks and squirrels will come to this feeder and eat, but the dogs usually don't allow this. They will bark from the window even to chase them away and if we open the door it is like a mad dash over the snow into the woods to be sure they don't come back...well, not too soon anyhow.

Our small bird feeder has a long tube in the center of a wire cage just large enough for the small birds to get inside to feed. We also have a feeder that allows light birds to feed but closes if a larger one lands. The suet cages are ready for the woodpeckers and the birds do enjoy it as well to oil their feathers.

Enjoy New England seasons. Each is unique and special and I feel privileged to live where we have them all.



Sandra Auwil shares her angora bunny with 11 year old Daniel Brunk.

How To Turn The Past Into A Present
Bob Weekes

It's that time of year when we dig deep and come up short for original ideas for holiday gifts for friends and family. May I suggest a place you may never have thought of going...for gifts you never thought of giving?

The Historical Society of Cheshire County maintains a Museum Store in its lobby on lower Main Street in Keene that comes alive at this time of year. The Society has a wide variety of books on local history as well as other items with an historical connection that make thoughtful and rewarding presents for the discerning gift giver. Not only do they enrich one's appreciation of the history of our Currier & Ives corner of New Hampshire, they become permanent items on our book shelves to be enjoyed by and shared with others long after the holidays have passed (and gifts of a more transient nature have stopped functioning, gone out of style or become obsolete).

The Society has just released its latest publication, *Monadnock Moments*, *Historic Tales from Southwest New Hampshire*, by its Executive Director, Alan Rumrill. It is a gem that contains 100 historical vignettes, many paired with wonderful old photographs, that will fascinate anyone with an interest in the people who shaped the land around us. Or there is *Perley, the True Story of a New Hampshire Hermit*, by Sheila Swett, which has become a *Monadnock Region* best seller now in its fourth printing in its first year of publication. And dozens more...plus aprons, tote bags, toys and note cards, all with a connection to local history.

And there's one more plus. When you purchase one of these wonderful gifts you are also helping to support the work of the Historical Society of Cheshire County, the only county-wide society in the state of New Hampshire. The HSCC operates two museums in Keene and maintains an

extensive library of artifacts and documents that support historical and genealogical research, and also works with town historical societies to help strengthen their programs as well. The Society is an extraordinary cultural asset, one that deserves our support.

And by your support, you'll be turning the past...into a present!

H1N1 Public Inquiry Line
Richmond Rescue Squad

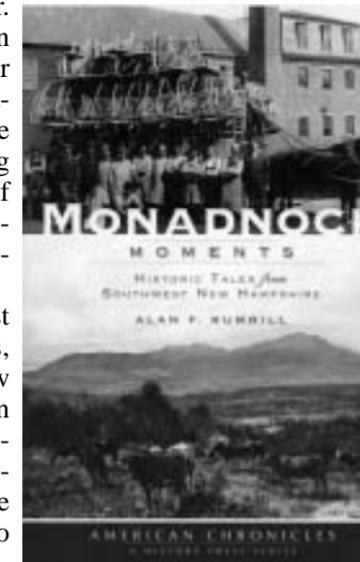
The NH Dept. of Health & Human Services is announcing the activation of NH's H1N1 Flu Public Inquiry Line. DHHS is urging residents with questions about the H1N1 influenza virus, the H1N1 vaccine, and any other questions related to H1N1 to contact 2-1-1 NH by dialing 2-1-1.

"We understand that people are concerned about H1N1, particularly with the delay in vaccines being made and shipped from private manufacturers. But we want to assure the public that the vaccine will be coming," said DHHS Public Health Director Dr. Jose Montero. "We want to encourage everyone, in the absence of the vaccine, to take common sense preventative measures to avoid becoming sick with H1N1 or any other illness. This includes washing your hands frequently, covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze and staying home from work or school if you are sick."

DHHS has been working with 2-1-1 NH, (a program of United Ways of NH in partnership with Public Service of NH, the State of NH and Exeter Hospital) to be ready to respond as the State's public inquiry line for all

questions regarding H1N1 influenza. Initially the public inquiry line will be open for H1N1 related questions from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information on H1N1 flu, visit



Excerpt from
"Conjurer Ballo" in
Monadnock Moments

"Visitors traveled from a fifty-mile radius around Richmond to have Ballo tell their fortunes. He made his powers seem even more mystical by wearing a wizard's robe and writing out his formulas with geometrical figures that no one else could understand. Ballo predicted important events, led bewildered owners to their missing farm tools and told young couples the direction of their future years. James Ballo's most amazing forecast, however, was the prediction of his own death..."

The 1773 home of "Conjurer Ballo" in Richmond's Quarter Lane, now the home of Joe and Ruth Weekes.

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www.dhhs.nh.gov or the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu.

**You Should Come
Jill Bosonetto**

Unique and original Christmas gifts available at bargain prices!

Come to our Basket Auction/Merchants Raffle on December 13th, 2:00 at the St. Benedict Center. Themed gift baskets! Treasures for all ages! Refreshments available! Door prizes! All proceeds benefit the Immaculate Heart of Mary School.

Creole Eggplant Casserole

Eleonore Villarubia

- 3 small or 2 large eggplants
- 6 stalks celery w. leaves
- 1/2 bunch green onions
- 1 green bell pepper
- 1 red bell pepper

- 1 large regular onion (or 2 small)
- 1 handful chopped parsley (can use dried if you prefer, but a smaller amount)

- 1 lb. diced ham - small dice, or grind in food processor
- 1 lb. shrimp, peeled
- 2 bay leaves
- 4 garlic cloves or 1 tsp. garlic powder

- 1 tsp. ground thyme
- 1/4 - 1/2 cup olive oil
- Italian flavored bread crumbs, about 1 and 1/4 cup
- 2 eggs, beaten
- Italian cheese, fresh grated
- Butter
- A blended seasoning like Tony's Creole or Old Bay
- Salt & pepper

Set a pot of salted water to boil. Use big enough pot for the amount of eggplant you use.

Peel the eggplant, cut in half lengthwise and dice in about 1 inch pieces. Put the diced eggplant into the boiling water and cook until soft. Drain in a colander in the sink.

While the eggplant is cooking, dice all the other seasonings. Soften in a large pot in the olive oil. Add the bay leaves, garlic, and thyme after the greens have cooked a bit.



Helena Blais sells her handmade wares at the Holiday Fair.

Boxwood Tree Workshop

December 10th & 11th
6:00 to 8:30 PM
in Mindful Books
Gathering Room
in Jaffrey

The Vintage Rose Boutique & Botanicals

Cost \$35.00
Includes all materials
& refreshments

Reservations Required
593-3553
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Process the ham with the metal blade of a food processor, or dice VERY FINE.

Add the ham to the cooked greens and stir. Add the peeled shrimp, stir to mix with the ham and greens and cook until the shrimp are tender.

Now add the cooked eggplant to the other ingredients & stir well.

Add the breadcrumbs and stir well; adjust the seasonings to taste.

Add the beaten eggs and stir to mix.

Place in a casserole dish, spreading a thin layer of breadcrumbs over the top and a nice thick layer of grated Italian cheese on top of that. Dot all over with real butter. Bake covered at 350 for 1/2 hour or freeze for future use. YUMMY!

NB: This is a time-consuming item, but well worth the effort.

Renewing Your Registration

Annette Tokunaga

Registering your vehicle can sometimes feel complicated and confusing. As your town clerk, I strive to make each and every visit here as seamless as possible. With that goal in mind, I would like to explain the process for one type of motor vehicle registration: RENEWALS

What is a renewal? You need to renew your registration when your most recent registration is about to expire or has expired within the last 12 months, when it is for the same vehicle and when there is no change in ownership.

Your name must be on the registration in order for you to renew.

Only one owner needs to come to the town clerk's office. This is regardless of how many owners are listed on the registration. Multiple owners can be hard to locate on

the new registration forms. Look at the left-hand side of the form, to the lower right of the barcode. A complete list of owners is in that spot. The first owner is printed in bold print above the signature.

You must bring the original registration, not a copy. You must bring the registration that is about to expire or has expired within the last 12 months.

If coming to the office is not possible or convenient, you can do renewals by mail. Just call (again, you must be the owner), and we will assist you through this process.

Registering vehicles can be complicated. Save yourself an extra trip; if you are not sure what to do, what to bring, or who should come, please call first (239-6202). Both Pam and I are here to help you.

Christmas Service

Lois Ray

A Christmas Eve Worship Service will be held at the Richmond Community United Methodist Church at Richmond Four Corners on Rte. 119. All are invited to attend this Worship Service of Carols and Candles, which will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will include special Christmas music.

Picture This

Bob Weekes

Profiling is frowned on by the political-correct at airport security, traffic checkpoints and other places where one might look for shortcuts to connect a potential perpetrator with an antisocial act. But after spending another morning as part of Richmond's volunteer Roadside Cleanup team, I cannot resist commenting on the picture in my head.

You see, dear folks, the contents of the trash pickup bags do tell a story about our litterbugs, be they residents of Richmond (heaven forefend) or those of a neighboring state who travel Route 32 South from the Four Corners toward the border (which was the particular path we chose to clean up). I'll have to put demographic profiling aside as the collected evidence gives few of those clues other than that the litterbugs must be old enough to drive. But the trash does tell us something about their

psychographics...the habits and attitudes of those who consume...and then assume... that others have the responsibility to clean up after them.

The "evidence" collected along the road shows that these people...

...drink while they drive. Not just coffee and soft drinks, but lots of beer and hard spirits in bottles and cans of all sizes.

...smoke while they drive. Cigarette filters last a long time, perhaps longer than the smokers will. In the meantime they toss their empty cigarette packs and butts, presumably still lit, into our beautiful woods.

...patronize fast food establishments outside of Richmond's borders. This enables them to eat and drink their way into Richmond where they decorate our roadsides and stone walls with food wrappers and plastic, cardboard and Styrofoam containers proudly identifying their points of purchase.

The foregoing is a portrait of who these repeat offenders are. Pretty picture, no?

AdviCoach Tip of the Month

What is the Number One Danger to your Company?

The lack of, or a poor business plan.

The Business Plan - Just For Start-Ups After All.

The single most critical component that determines your company's success or failure is your business plan. Creating a proper business plan forces you to think and plan strategically. It outlines your goals and identifies how you are going to achieve those goals and what is required to do so.

Ultimately, Companies Do Not Fail Due To Lack Of Money.

The bottom line is that poor cash flow is merely a symptom of poor business planning. Successful business owners recognize the critical importance of ongoing and consistent



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reviews of their business. Yet, more than 60% of business owners don't have an executable plan.

Key Components Of The Business Plan.

We all know what the key components of the business plan are, but few of us actually take the time to map it out and get it on paper. Basically, your plan should include a company overview with its history and current status; your strategic objective; description of products and/or services; analysis of the competition; marketing plan; and financials, including a projected income and sales forecast.

How To Use Your Plan Effectively

A business plan can be a functional outline. It does not need a lot of detail for implementation. The plan should be used as a decision-making tool to guide the implementation process and keep you on track. It should be a work in progress and updated on a periodic basis. The most important part of your business plan is your marketing plan. From the award-winning Richmond, N.H. office of AdviCoach, Ann Connor is the AdviCoach 2009 Coach of the Year. For more information Call 603-239-3693.

Penguins Fascinate in Feature Film
Frank Behrens

PENGUINS When "March of the Penguins" came to town, I went with my wife to our local theater and was dismayed to see the evening showing had drawn an army of tiny tots. Expecting the worst, I was amazed at how quiet they all were (a few adults could be heard, however) as they sat enthralled by one of the most charming documentaries ever filmed. ("Microcosmos" comes very close.) It is now available as a DVD reissue from Warner Bros, but this time as the first part of a double feature.

The first DVD holds "March" along with a cartoon and a short feature about emperor penguins. The 80 minutes of the feature film just speed by, and Morgan Freeman's narration is in a way dispensable.

I wonder if the children asked themselves actually WHY the funny little birds march so far inland, only to make the females march all the way back to the sea to get food as the males ever so carefully keep the chicks between their feet and densely feathered bellies. There must be some survival value to all of this, but (to quote an old poet) what can be the use of it is more than I can see.

The second DVD holds a straightforward documentary titled "On the Wings of Penguins." With considerably less

charm than "March," this Nova-like 69-minute film is about attempts all over the world to protect penguins from various disasters. Except for a few giggles at the comical movements of the birds, children will be a little bored with this one. But what an experience the first film is!

1915 My only major complaint about the Archeophone Phonographic Yearbooks is that new ones do not appear quickly enough! This series is dedicated to the popular hits that were recorded in a specific year by single singers, vocal groups and orchestral groups.

Among the many in the series is "1915: They'd Sooner Sleep on Thistles." Here are 25 vintage recordings by such artists as Alma Gluck ("Carry Me Back to Old Virginny"), Morton Harvey ("I Didn't Raise My Boy to be A Soldier"), American Quartet ("On The 5:15"), John McCormack ("It's a Long, Long Way to Tipperary") and of course Al Jolson ("Sister Susie's Sewing Shirts for Soldiers").

As always with Archeophone CDs, there is a booklet crammed with information and photographs about the year, the artists, and the songs. I am only sorry to notice that their art department has given the track listings on the jacket in a nearly unreadable orange print on a white background. Save that for the artsy European booklet designers, please!

Teachers of history and sociology, consider the great educational value in a series such as this!

STAN KENTON Lovers of jazz as it was 50 years ago will instantly recognize the sound of Stan Kenton's orchestra. DRG Records celebrates that sound with a CD titled "Stan Kenton Rarities." It holds 20 tracks, 18 of which have never been released before now, of such numbers as "All I Need is You," "Tangerine," "Sentimental Serenade," and "Ghost of a Chance."

The last two tracks, "Walking Shoes" and "Love For Sale," are performed before an audience. This will be a popular addition to any jazz collection.

One negative: The copious program notes are almost impossible to read with their black print against a brown textured background. Again, I ask the four winds, "Why?"

Definitely Definitions
Terri O'Rorke

On Oct. 23, 2009, the "Richmond 12" were granted immunity by Judge Mangones in the lawsuit brought against the town by the corporation known as the Saint Benedict Center. On Nov. 2, 2009, the attorney representing the SBC, Inc. filed for an appeal of the judge's decision. I wanted to understand fully what the definition of the word "appeal" was so I turned to Black's Law Dictionary.

APPEAL - a proceeding undertaken to have a decision reconsidered by a higher authority, especially the submission of a lower courts or agencies decision to a higher court for review and possible reversal.

Holiday Boxwood Tree Workshop
Jessica VanDerKern

A boxwood tree is an arrangement of freshly snipped pieces of boxwood arranged in a container to resemble an evergreen tree and decorated for the holidays. These trees are about 12 inches high and fit on just about any table. They will last throughout the holidays and then dry naturally to be saved and enjoyed again next year.

This year, join Jessica VanDerKern of the Vintage Rose for her fourth annual holiday boxwood tree workshop. The event will be held in Mindful Book's new Gathering Room. Due to overwhelming popularity, there will be two classes; one will be on Thursday, December 10th and the other will be on Friday, December 11th. Both classes run from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Materials and decorations will be provided as part of the \$35 cost, but you are more than welcome to bring your own special mini decorations.

Hot tea and coffee service will be provided, as well as delectable desserts. Afterwards, enjoy private shopping in The Vintage Rose and 10% off any purchase. Call or stop in today to reserve a place for you and your friends or family. Call 593-3553 or visit The Vintage Rose at 27 Main Street, Jaffrey, NH.

Richmond 250 Cane
Pam Goodell

In Richmond's Bicentennial year, 2001, the Richmond 250 Commission established the procedure of giving a Richmond 250 Cane to the oldest resident in town. Our most recent recipient has passed away, and we now need to find the next person qualified as the oldest Richmond resident to pass the cane to.

We know of a resident whose date of birth is January 15, 1915. Do you know of anyone else who lives in town who is older than this? If so, please call Pam Goodell at 239-4790. This notice will also be in the January Rooster. Deadline for notifying Pam is January 31, 2010. The cane will be presented to the next recipient at the March Town Meeting 2010.

Court Update
Russ Provost

Saint Benedict Center (SBC) v the Town of Richmond and the Richmond 12 Update

The Court will conduct a Trial Management Conference in this case at the Superior Court in Keene on February 16, 2010, at 11:00 a.m.

Counsel and Parties shall report for jury selection on March 1, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

Jury trial shall occur during the week of 03/01/2010 through 03/08/2010.

Please note this is the #1 civil case but backup to criminal jury trials.

A number of motions have been filed by both the SBC and the Town of Richmond. The Judge has made rulings on these motions. Full details on the case, the motions, and the rulings can be found at www.sbcwatch.blogspot.com.

(The photos spread throughout this issue were from the Richmond United Community Church annual holiday fair, Saturday November 14, 2009. Photos by Marie Knowlton.)

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>

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Deadline is the 15th of each month.

The Richmond Rooster welcomes comments and article contributions

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