



**DON'T MISS CANDIDATE NIGHT THURSDAY MAR 6TH AT 7PM VETS HALL  
TOWN ELECTIONS AND MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008  
POLLS OPEN AT 11:00AM AND CLOSE AT 7:00PM  
TOWN MEETING STARTS AT 7:00PM  
SEE YOU THERE! (TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE CLOSED)**

## Firehouse News

*Deputy Chief Sean Brewer - Richmond Volunteer Fire Department*

In 2007, the Richmond Volunteer Fire Dept. and Rescue Squad answered 85 calls for emergency services. Due to some technical difficulties and lack of communication on all parties involved, this article has been absent from your Rooster in recent months. Hopefully we have taken care of these problems and will be able to bring this article to you monthly once again.

The following is an excerpt from the October 2007 Firehouse News article that never made it to print: On behalf of the Richmond Fire Dept., I would like to thank everyone who came out to support us at our annual chicken barbecue and parade. The following is a list of people and organizations who helped make the day a success; Wayne Snow Logging, Four Corners Store, Richmond Public Library, Richmond Historical Society, Donna Brewer, Heather Mountford, Deb Duffy, Christy Bailey, Tammy Pearsall, Richmond Police Dept., Swanzy Fire Dept., Troy Fire Dept., Meadowood County Area Fire Dept., and once again, thank you to all of our guests that came out on such a beautiful day. We also want to congratulate the winners of our raffles once again; Marty Wyman - Suzuki Vinson ATV, Janel Swanson - 50/50 and the winner of the cord of wood donated by Wayne Snow was a guest of the ShirRoy Camping Area whose name I cannot find anywhere, sorry.

The Board of Officers and current membership have been working on updating all of the equipment that we currently use. With a considerable donation from the Irene Baker Estate, we purchased a brand new medical response truck (25 Rescue 1), an OHRV with trailer, our first thermal imaging camera and our first hydraulic rescue tool (jaws of life). We were also able to purchase various other small hand tools and equipment that we needed. In the last five years the Richmond Fire Dept. and Rescue Squad have upgraded all of the apparatus. The amount of your tax dollars that we have spent on the six pieces of apparatus that we currently have, most towns will spend on one.

Our newest acquisition is a 1986 Mack Pumper/tanker. This truck, which was put into service in December, carries 2500 gallons of water, has a pump capable of 1000 gallons per minute and has all of the equipment to be a first due attack piece. However, this truck, designated 25 Engine 1, will be our second due engine. This truck will primarily be our water supply to our attack engine, 25 Engine 2. This '86 Mack replaces a 1978

International four wheel drive engine that carried only 500 gallons of water and had a pump capable of only 750 gallons per minute.

As of January 1, Joe Thibodeau has retired as Fire Warden for the town of Richmond. Joe started as Deputy Warden in 1980 then became Warden in 1992. Thank you for your many years of service Joe! Taking over as Fire Warden is Ed Atkins. In his short time as Warden, Ed is already getting the job done. Ed had applied for, and the Richmond Fire Department has been awarded a grant for some new forestry equipment. The grant will be used for portable fire pumps and small diameter hose.

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## Opportunity To Help Neighbors

*Eleonore D. Villarrubia*

On the night of January 26, the home at 500 Whipple Hill Road went up in flames. The house and its contents were a complete loss, including the tools with which the owner earned his living. Bill Pulsifer and his friend, Liz, are literally homeless and without any belongings at this point.

Bill is working on cleaning up the remains of the house and hopes to be back on his property in a trailer home soon. In the meantime, they need help from their friends and neighbors in Richmond. Any amount of cash, clothing, perhaps even food, when they return will certainly be appreciated. You can send checks to their address, as their mailbox is still standing, and Bill is there every day, weather permitting.

Richmondites are not wealthy, but we all have more than they do now. Here is our chance to be good neighbors. May God bless all of us in Richmond, especially Bill and Liz in their time of need. Thank you.

## Candidate for Selectman

*Wes Vaughan*

My name is Wes Vaughan and I am running for Selectman in the Town of Richmond. I have been a resident of Richmond for over 18 years. I live on Whipple Hill Road with my wife, Deb, and our two children Susan and Brian. My wife had, until recently, served the town for years as a deputy town clerk. For the past 12 years I have owned and operated Comtrek, Inc. an IT consulting business.

There are many reasons why I want to serve as your town selectman. The main reason is that I have always loved the rural charm of Richmond and want to help keep it that way.

As a selectman, I will treat all citizens with the respect they deserve and I will uphold the laws and regulations the town has in place. I believe that everyone living in town, and those who wish to move to Richmond, must follow these laws and regulations.

I want to give back to the town that has given my family such a great place to live. I look forward to serving the citizens of Richmond as your next Selectman and I urge all voters in Richmond to come to the Town Meeting on Tuesday March 11th. Thank you for your support.

## Office of Town Moderator

*Douglas Bersaw*

I am the Town Moderator. Having lived in Richmond for 20 years, I know many people, both long term residents and more recent immigrants to the town. I have often been asked over the years to contribute my time to serve the town in some fashion. Several years ago I

served two terms as Trustee of Trust Funds. Then, two years ago, the office of Moderator was vacant and no one signed up to run. On a write-in campaign I was elected. I have run one town meeting and overseen numerous elections, including a recount and the recent Presidential primary. I will run this year's town meeting as well. Then my term in office will end.

The two primary responsibilities of the Moderator are to chair the Town Meeting, which is the legislative assembly of our town government, and to oversee and to protect the integrity of the electoral process in the town. In addition to the annual Town Meeting there will be three more elections in 2008. They are: the Town Elections in March, the State Primary in September, and the National General Election in November. The office of Moderator requires no where near as much work and dedication as that of Selectman or Planning Board Member, nor is it a full time or part time paid position as is that of Town Clerk or Tax Collector or Police Officer. This is however a position for which remuneration is granted as the services are rendered. I have never taken any, rather I have offered my services, such as they may be, to the Town of Richmond, *gratis*.

The office of Town Moderator is not a "political" office in the sense that it should be used to advance any personal, social, or political agenda. In fact all duties of all town officials, no matter what their position, should be discharged for the common good of all the inhabitants of Richmond regardless of who they are. However, should you desire to know more about me I will make some statements for the record.

I have lived in Richmond since 1988 on the east side of town at 139 Tully Brook Road in a home which I designed and built myself (with assistance) in 1988 and 1989. I have been married for 26 years to Kathleen O'Mara and we have four daughters, two of whom are married and two of whom live yet at home. I am the founder and President of Blessed Sacrament Community Inc., a NH Corporation dealing in real estate. I am founder and President of Loreto Publications Inc., a Catholic religious publishing company headquartered here at my home. At the age of fifty-five I have an extensive business background in sales, marketing, business management, publishing, and the restaurant field, as well as many years experience in teaching and public speaking.

Politically I have been all over the map. In 1976 I was a delegate from Massachusetts to the Democratic National Presidential Convention in NYC. For some years I was an Independent voter. Currently I am a registered Republican, and I have been very much involved in the campaigns of Dr. Ron Paul and Pat Buchanan for the presidency. I have served the Town of Richmond as the Trustee of Trust Funds. I am a Roman Catholic and have spent the better part of my life being deeply involved with the work of Saint Benedict Center. I currently attend Mass and other religious worship services there and have always done so since the early 1970's.

## Wanted to Buy

We are currently looking to purchase the following items as well as many other antiques & collectibles.

Call Danny Wahl ~ 603-239-7200

- ~ Vintage Clothing
- ~ Old Photographs
- ~ Frames ~ Tools ~ Toys
- ~ Blue Decorated Stoneware
- ~ Old Radios
- ~ Old Telephones
- ~ Old Electric Fans
- ~ Musical Instruments
- ~ Cameras
- ~ Pottery

I am offering to serve the town of Richmond for two more years, to the best of my ability, as I have so far. I would be appreciative if you would give me your vote of confidence and re-elect me as Town Moderator in the upcoming town election this March.

Thank you very much and may God Bless you.  
Douglas Bersaw 139 Tully Brook Road - 239-8827

## To The Residents of the Town of Richmond

**Jim Carnie - MRSD School Board Member**

The upcoming election for MRSD School Board Member & MRSD Budget Committee Member has never been more important for this town. With Surry having withdrawn from the cooperative school district there will only be 14 existing members on the School Board. Swanzey currently has 6 of those members, (or about 43% of the total vote). Five of the Swanzey members have voted together on almost every major money issue this last year. Both they and their Budget Committee members have been meeting regularly with the Swanzey selectmen to put forth a united Swanzey position. This is not illegal, because it does not constitute a quorum of either Board, but it does make any opposing position extremely difficult to advance, even if all the other towns are in agreement.

At the same time, in this town, there has been a movement afoot to discredit both your School Board Member and Budget Committee Member. For example, there was a recent move to remove Mr. Moriarty as the legally elected Chairman of the Budget Committee. This move was led by Jim Ells, Jen Gomarlo, and Jon Kenyon, (all from Swanzey), and all closely affiliated with the Kids First

Monadnock Group, and their website. These same people really want to influence this years' Richmond/ MRSD elections, with their simplistic, "Just Throw Money at It" attitude.

Last year Mr. Hoefer in his recommendations to the district, supported almost every warrant article. His suggestions, recommendations, and predictions have proven to be an extremely inaccurate measure of the voters' desires. At a recent school board meeting he went to great lengths to praise the Facilities Committee for putting forth a 37 million dollar addition/renovation proposal, and to recommend to the full Board that they support Full Day Kindergarten. I don't believe that there has ever been a spending proposal that Mr. Hoefer hasn't liked. He never reasons these issues out. For example: the State does not mandate full day kindergarten because if it did it would have to fund it. Several years ago when Monadnock moved from NO kindergarten to half-day kindergarten, the School Board felt that this was the best educational balance that would be accepted by the district. At that time several educational studies put forth the position that at that early age a substantial number of students may be better served educationally, because of attention span issues, by half-day kindergarten— rather than full day kindergarten.

On the other issue of the proposal for a 37 million dollar proposal for renovations/additions to the HS/MS, (the dirty little secret is- that it seems that certain members of the School Board do not want the public to know that this proposal is even on the table). That is why, in my opinion, the discussion before the full school board was moved to take place after the deliberative session. Don't tell the public about a building proposal at the same time as you're trying to sell two union contracts and a budget that is up 29%! Mr. Hoefer and his website supporters never probe or question the motivation behind any of these proposals or issues. Facts are NEVER used, only hyperbole.

In addition to the upcoming elections, four major issues are to be determined at this year's March vote. First: the overall or default budget choice. Second: the teachers' contract. Third: the support staff contract. Fourth: the roof and related maintenance articles. 1. The overall budget is up about

JON TATTERSALL  
Master Electrician



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*Licensed Land Surveyor*

**Lot Staking      Subdivisions**  
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## Warrant Article

*Dick Drew*

“The Town of Richmond, meaning the government and all its boards, commissions, employees, and contractors, shall obey all Zoning Ordinances, Subdivision Regulations, Site Plan Review processes, and all State Regulations and Laws in the conduct of its business of governing, maintaining, and improving the Town of Richmond. The Town shall be exempt of all fees except review and postage fees for plans, plats, and applications. During emergencies or disasters the Town may act in whatever manner necessary to protect the public safety and welfare. This however does not relieve the Town from its obligations to act in a responsible manner regarding Federal, State, and Town laws, rules, ordinances, and regulations.”

This is the warrant article that I wrote for the town’s consideration at the next Town Meeting. I felt this was necessary after my experiences with the Selectmen regarding several projects which they have undertaken during the last two years.

The “salt shed” was built in 2006 because we are no longer able to use the gravel pit on Mill Road. The “shed” was built in a good location and on Town owned land. However, the driveway was built/widened in the Wetland Conservation District (within 75’ of a wetland) and a wetland was filled in to extend the culvert under the driveway. Both of these would require Zoning Board approval and State approval for the filling of wetlands if a private citizen had undertaken this project. I believe that we need to protect our wetlands to the fullest extent allowed by our regulations.

I sent a letter to the Selectmen, the Zoning and Planning Boards, and the Conservation Commission regarding the wetland issues and the Selectmen responded by meeting with the Conservation Commission and myself on site to discuss this. The Selectmen hired Carl Hagstrom, Wetland Scientist, to delineate the wetlands which he did in December of 2006. The flagging marking the wetland is no longer there and no action as to permitting has been taken.

In addition, the building permit was finally submitted in July of 2006. If you are building something I assure you that you will need a permit prior to construction and not after.

The new parking area around the Veteran’s Hall was

constructed almost up to the stone wall on the west side which is the property line between the Town and our abutters land. The Zoning Ordinance regarding driveways and structures says that they must be 25’ from the lot line. I approached the Selectmen about this and was told that the contractor built the parking area the way that he wanted. Apparently the Selectmen are going to let this situation remain because there has been no removal of gravel or restoration of the area near the property line.

I believe that the Town, which is the enforcer of our rules and regulations, should be setting the standard for compliance and not ignoring them. Perhaps a Zoning Compliance Officer could help the town government comply as well as the public.

## Candidate for Library Trustee

*Tracey Tryba*

Hi, my name is Tracey Tryba and I am running for Library Trustee as the Treasurer. I have lived in Richmond for the past six years along with my husband, Anthony Marinello, and our three exuberant dogs. I love living in Richmond and enjoy the peace and quiet afforded in such a rural environment. Anthony and I relish the simple beauty of our town and the wonderful outdoor opportunities that it provides to us. We are frequent visitors to the Town Library and consider it one of the most valuable assets to our town.

I have several years experience in positions with financial responsibility, including my four years as Executive Director at the Windham County Humane Society and my current position as the Business Manager of Stonewall Farm in Keene. I have extensive knowledge regarding all aspects of financial reporting, transactions and compliance issues. In addition to my experience, I also received my Bachelor’s degree in Economics from Bentley College in Waltham, MA.

I hope that you will vote for me as Library Trustee and give me the privilege of serving our Town and the Library for years to come! Thank you!

## Mike Hoefler for School Board

*Mike Hoefler*

As a candidate to represent our town on the Monadnock Regional School District School Board I urge you to come out and vote on March 11th.

I have been involved with Richmond since 1977, when I began attending YMCA Camp Takodah. By 1994 I was the full-time Camp Director, a role I enjoyed for six years. My family have been full-time residents since 2001.

Like many Richmond families I am deeply concerned about the quality of our public schools and how that will affect our three children. Will there be an accredited middle / high school for them by the time they graduate from elementary school? I certainly hope so, but we all need to work together to make that happen.

In the time that has past since we last elected our

school representatives we have not passed a district budget, innovative educational programs have been attacked, and our High School has been put on probation and is in danger of losing its accreditation. Unfortunately our current representatives often find themselves in the middle of such controversies (sometimes working actively against the district), unable to do more than criticize. They lack the leadership or ideas to build consensus and bring the district forward.

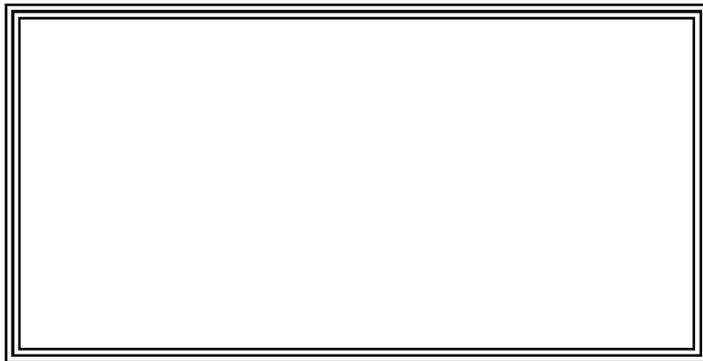
My background will allow me to represent Richmond with integrity and respect. I am a past president of the Keene Elm City Rotary, currently serve on the Board of the Cheshire YMCA, and took part of the Leadership New Hampshire program in 2005. I believe in balancing the need to keep taxes as low as we can with the needs of our children.

The MRSD School Board needs to work on its relationship and communication with the towns of the district. As your representative I will work hard to do just that. The board needs to aggressively work with the teaching staff and administration to tackle the probation issue head on and take steps to ensure that this never happens again.

I will also work to help create a vision of what the Monadnock Regional School District should look like in 2020 and take action to make that vision a reality.

I hope you will support my candidacy on March 11th and help bring Richmond "Leadership for a Change."

Mike Hoefler 30 Honey Hill Road Richmond NH



## Planning Board Candidate

*Richard Drew*

My wife Alicia and I have lived in Richmond on Tully Brook Road for 10 years. I have been on the Planning Board as an alternate or elected member for all but six or so months of those 10 years. As a Licensed Land Surveyor I believe that professionals who live in a town such as ours should lend their expertise to the town as much as possible.

I have helped to write the Master Plan and am now helping to re-write the Subdivision Regulations to bring them up to date with current laws and also to make them easier for the public to use.

I think the process of improving or subdividing your property should be guided, not hindered, by the Planning Board. It is your property and you should be able to

develop it as you wish within our laws and regulations.

I hope that you will support my candidacy for Planning Board member by voting for me at Town Meeting. Thank you.

## Full Time Police Yet Another Vote

*Neil Moriarty*

I guess, without looking it up, Richmond has debated a full time police department for about 10 years. 10 votes 10 Defeats! Given it even passes in 2008, it surely will not receive a mandate type of victory from the small amount of Richmond voters (about 150 of 600 plus) that attend the town meeting. A vote for full time police officer will surely be challenged in 2009 (if it passes in 2008).

I ask you, with Richmond's track record on this issue, who will apply for this job?

The town has not seen an increase in crime. No matter how detailed the Chief's Activity Report gets - it does not show that Richmond has a crime issue. Richmond is made up of mostly homeowners, with few renters, and practically no transit people. Richmond's demographics are not going to trend to a high crime rate anytime soon. Isn't the low crime rate one of the reasons you moved here?

Today, after overhead and transportation, every dollar for police protection goes directly to police patrol (and court appearances). Today we pay no holidays not worked. We pay at one scale - no overtime rate. We don't pay for personal days. We don't pay for vacation days. We pay for no health or dental coverage. We are not responsible to train the officers. Our patrolmen are self backed up by the many officers dividing the patrol hours. We are not relying on one person to provide police for Richmond.

A full time chief for Richmond would require us to pay for his/her vacation two weeks 80 hours (to start); eight holidays (64 hours), a few personal days (24 hours). The chief would require training days ?? Hours. Health and dental are about \$17,000 (family plan from LTC) for our chief. \$17,000 at \$30 per hour would pay for 567 patrol hours!

Our new chief would more likely than not want to work the day shift - who patrols at night? Who patrols when the chief is on holiday, vacation, personal day, or at training? Is it no one? Is it the state police - which do that now for free? Will our chief want to work with no subordinates? Are there any town in New Hampshire that just have a chief and no Indians? Will we be required to hire some part time officers in the future? Will the new chief want more secretarial support or he/she going to take care of that personally?

The first full time employee for any town should be the Selectman's Administrative Assistant (AA). While I am not advocating that we hire an AA; we need the person that is going to give the direction first before we hire a police chief or any other full time employee for Richmond.



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## “The Pledge” Warrant Article

*Barbara Hull Richardson*

### State Rep Cheshire County, District 5

Sixty-one percent of registered voters cast ballots in New Hampshire’s presidential primary. Record numbers voted in each primary. A total of 63,650 people registered at the polls. Independents make up the largest group of registered voters at thirty-nine percent. Republicans have thirty-one percent and Democrats thirty percent.

We in New Hampshire have strong economic growth, a diversified economy and a low unemployment rate. However, we face many difficulties including the effect of national economic problems. Our ever increasing property taxes are driving some residents from their homes. The number of foreclosures in our state in 2006 was twice as many as in 2005 and in 2007 was twice the number in 2006. The New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority’s December 2007 study suggests that the real estate market is not yet one half way through its downward price adjustment. The poorest property owners, whether victims of sub-prime interest mortgage deals, or just unable to continue their mortgage payments, are in a difficult position.

Our tax structure is not based on the ability to pay. New Hampshire is sixth in per capita income in the nation. In the last three years our state has moved from 12th place to 9th place in the percentage of millionaire households in the nation (4.6% in 2005 to 5.9% in 2007). The poorest twenty percent of our state’s population pays eleven percent of their income for state and local taxes. The richest five percent of our residents pay two percent of their income. In our current system, where the poorest pay the highest burden of taxation, over sixty percent of revenues raised in New Hampshire come from property taxes. Despite the unfairness of our tax structure, many persons running for office take “The Pledge” stating they will not consider any broad based taxes.

There will be town warrants for both Richmond and Fitzwilliam voters as well as for most other towns in New Hampshire that state: “Resolved: we the citizens ... believe in a New Hampshire that is just and fair. The property tax has become unjust and unfair. ‘The Pledge’ perpetuates a burdensome property tax by preventing discussion of any alternatives. We urge our elected officials to reject ‘The Pledge,’ have an open discussion covering

all options, and to adopt a revenue system that relieves the property tax burden.”

Polling data shows a strong majority of New Hampshire voters do not want candidates to take the Pledge. Thirteen of the fourteen towns that voted on this resolution last year passed it. As always I welcome your suggestions or concerns. My telephone is 239-8346.

## Road Agent Warrant Article RSA

*Terri O’ Rorke*

TITLE XX TRANSPORTATION CHAPTER 231  
 CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGE DISTRICT HIGH-  
 WAYS Repair of Highways by Towns Section 231:62  
 Highway Agents 231:62-a Terms of 2 or 3 years. I. At any annual town meeting under an article in the warrant placed there by petition or by the selectmen, the voters may vote, by ballot, to determine if they are in favor of having a 2 or 3 year term for each town highway agent. If a majority of those voting on the question vote in favor of a longer term, at the next annual meeting after the vote of approval, the town shall choose, by ballot, or the selectmen shall appoint, one or more town agents for the designated term of years.II. After a 2 or 3 year term for town highway agent has been established, at any annual town meeting held the year before the end of the 2 or 3 year term, under an article in the warrant placed there by petition or by the selectmen, the voters may vote, by ballot, to determine if they are in favor of continuing to have a 2 or 3 year term for each town highway agent. The voters may choose to return to a one year as provided in RSA 231:62 or to increase the term from 2 years to 3 years as provided in paragraph I or to reduce the term from 3 years to 2 years as provided in paragraph I.

## Vision vs. Decay:Our Public Schools Blind Sided by Denial

*Pete Majoy*

Churchill said that “We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.” Had he lived in the Monadnock Region, my guess is that he would have looked in the eye of each and every purportedly overtaxed troll and reminded them that

time and tide have run out on their fiscal excuse for inaction regarding Monadnock Regional High School and Junior High/Middle School.

Materialism runs two parallel courses. On the one hand, many of the “haves” guard their precious wealth with disdain for the public sphere, the oft referred to “commons” like our public schools, our parks, our forests, lakes, streams and ponds, and anything that smacks of taxation to protect, upgrade and improve this fundamental treasure trove which we all share in common or should. They snort the over used and many socially dysfunctional tenets of “fiscal conservatism”, i.e., the selfish “penny wise and a pound foolish” withdrawal from social responsibility while investing in only themselves, private enterprise, and the stock market.

On the other hand, many of the “have-nots”, often those who “have” but pose as “have-nots”, define the needs which the “commons” require be met as unfair trespassing on their skinny wallets. Both groups are “takers” or what Churchill refers to as those who “get”. There is no vision here, no capacity to see the big picture, no real care for the future, just an implosion of selfishness masked as fiscal responsibility and purported concern for the real “have nots” whom, in principal, they don’t support in the first place. Ultimately, both monied tribes refuse to “make a life by what we give.”

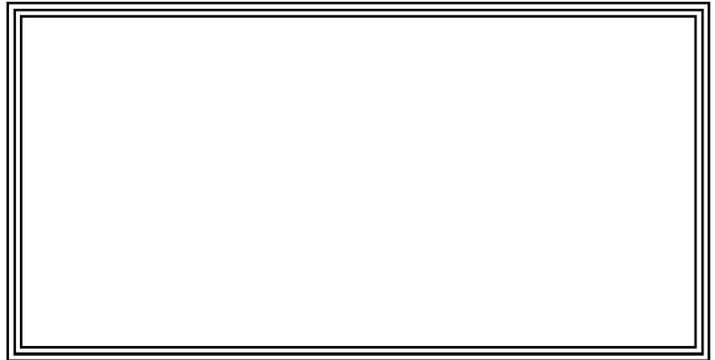
Yes, the property tax is distorted, unfair, and unjust. In its actual monetary attack on residents, like everything else, it is less taxing on the rich and more taxing on the poor. Playing the “fiscal conservative” card gives the appearance of protecting all rungs of the economic ladder from unfair demands on income....or so it is supposed to appear that way, but such is not the case. Often, they attack the “welfare state” but turn a blind eye at “corporate welfare”, those tax benefits which never “trickle down” significantly past the upper crusters.

Had the “giving” mentality won the day ten years ago over the “taking” paroxysms of fear, a new school could have been built for far less than it will cost to build this year. Make no mistake about it, a new MRHS Senior/Junior High/Middle school complex must, repeat, must, be built. Every year that we delay investing in this centerpiece of our culture and our commons, we up the ante necessary for its construction. This is a tale of fiscal barbarism, denial, and total absence of the necessary vision required for our towns to remain vibrant, proud, and responsible. True fiscal conservatism would stop the shenanigans and invest immediately in a new school and by doing so stave off any further necessary cost to town residents.

This is what one School Board member termed a “watershed year.” For sure it is the year of the proverbial “crossroads” and “fork in the road”. Much hangs in the balance: (1) voter support for the school budget will immediately move MRHS in the direction of re-accreditation; (2) in turn, it will move voters closer to approval of the cost for a new high school/junior high/middle school

complex; (3) both of these, part of what is needed externally for re-accreditation, will have immediate economic dividends: (a) purchases and sales of houses will begin to climb out of the economic slump that has gripped that market; (b) the growing negative perception of the future of the Monadnock Schools will cease, and families will not hesitate to move here simply because our towns have been voluntarily extricated from a destructive fiscal conservancy to a wisdom based fiscal conservancy that plans for the future; (c) all of this has positive effects on local businesses.

Those residents who cannot afford an increase in their property tax, and they are in the minority but should, nevertheless, be respected, must not use their need as an excuse for opposing a long overdue new school. Why? The towns that send their sons and daughters to MRHS must not be shortchanged by the nearsightedness created by economic struggle, or that struggle will multiply itself geometrically as the region falls deeper into economic stagnation, which will effect them disproportionately. Those local tax payer groups formed to oppose the school budget are not serving anyone’s wallet or purse. They are using the economic pain a segment of residents experience to spread pain over a larger segment of the population. In effect, all



they are doing is spreading economic fatalism for all.

This does not mean that a hard hearted survival-of-the-fittest approach to elderly property owners on fixed incomes or younger property owners with families struggling to make mortgage and tax payments must be adopted. Every legal and good neighbor policy must be used to address this. For example, in addition to the tax relief forms available at the Town Office, there could/should be a neighborly attempt to collect funds for struggling folk to help offset any increase in property tax directly caused by the construction of the new educational complex. In addition, the complex itself should be envisioned as a structure that houses services to the elderly. Perhaps there would be a doctor’s office where local MD’s have revolving office hours closer to their elderly patients as well as to students. There should be a day care center. A small police station can house one or two local officers for whom the school would be their beat. Why not include a small restaurant and gift shop? In other words, the new school complex would truly be a richer meeting place for the entire local community.

What, then, should the new educational complex be? First and foremost, it must be a green/sustainable school. Our energy dependence on oil, our dependence on both oil/coal based electricity and heat must shift very quickly. While the up front cost for a green and sustainable school is a bit more expensive, the yearly monetary savings generated by such a school will quickly pay for the increased cost and from that point on save the tax payer a significant amount of money simply because of very large reductions in energy costs. In Hinesburg, Vermont, NRG Systems built a brand new manufacturing and office facility of 46,000 square feet according to state of the art green building standards. The up front cost was \$13.81 per square foot, approximately 8.21% more expensive than not building green. It is expected that the extra costs will be paid for within 5 years because of the energy savings ([www.nrgsystems.com/press/index.php?tid=226](http://www.nrgsystems.com/press/index.php?tid=226)). Furthermore, a school built according to green principles will have the following per square foot financial benefits: (a) \$9/sq.ft. in energy use; (b) \$1/sq.ft. in emissions; (c) \$1 sq./ft. in water and wastewater; (d) \$49/sq.ft. in increased earnings; (e) \$3/sq.ft. in Asthma reduction; (f) \$5/sq.ft. in cold and flu reduction; (g) \$4/sq.ft. in teacher retention; (h) \$2/sq.ft. in employment impact. The total benefit is \$74/sq.ft.

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When measured against the \$3/sq.ft average increase in cost for building green schools, the net financial benefit is \$71/sq.foot Even if one measured this benefit against the larger sq/ft cost for the new NRG facility mentioned above, the net fiscal benefit would still be huge.

There must be a long range vision that combines fiscal wisdom with the building of a brand new green/sustainable school. The time has arrived where both are eminently compatible. To move in any other direction is to shift into reverse. Such a shift could only spell the swift decay of our small towns and impose on the region a sad and lamentable heritage for all who live here, especially our youth. We can do the right thing. We can come together and "make a life by what we give" to our youngsters and to all folk who really care about the future of our towns, or we can retreat into a form of denial that we are responsible for the decay of our schools and the consequent decay of our towns.

*Welcome to the Richmond Community Church*

**Reverend Nancy Collins**  
 Sunday Worship Services  
 8:30 am  
*We are a celebrational and compassionate people.  
 We champion the simple worth of all people.*  
*Come and join our Family!*

## Candidate Support

**Stephen Morris**

On March 11, there will be a critical vote for the future direction of the Monadnock School District. It is my hope that the Richmond community will come out and vote in support of our schools. It is time for us to look for new leadership. Our schools are being negatively impacted by six years of default budgets, a crumbling infrastructure sorely in need of renovation, three years without a teacher's contract resulting in the loss of young, experienced teachers. Most importantly, and critical for those students graduating from MHRs, the high school is on the verge of losing its accreditation. The current representatives from Richmond to the school board and budget committee have failed our community. They have failed our schools, and sadly they have failed our children. Serving on the school board and budget committee cannot be just about saying what you are against. The real question is what you are for. What is really in the best interest of our community?

Over the last decade our current representatives have served the narrow and misguided interests of the Monadnock Tax Payers Association. Over the last two years, as representatives serving on the school board and budget committee, they have voted for modest increases in the school districts budget, and this year said yes to a contract for the teachers, only to work in concert with the tax payer association to defeat both warrant articles. In my understanding, this is in violation of the by-laws of the school board and the budget committee. According to these rules, it is their duty to support the decision made by the majority of their respective committees. Their actions are doing nothing to improve our schools. Their actions resemble the old adage: penny wise and pound foolish. Does the Richmond community want to go the way of Winchester? It is time for a change.

To that end, I recommend that we vote for Mike Hoefler for the MRSD school board and John Barth for the MRSD budget committee. Both candidates will provide dedicated, intelligent, and caring leadership. I believe that these two candidates will be guided by a principle of wise stewardship. They understand that the public who pays for our schools

deserve representatives who will work in the best interest of the schools without losing sight of those who they represent.

Mike Hofer has worked for many years with young people at Camp Takoda as its camping services director. He has worked in the community to improve the schools and has been an active participant at school board and budget committee meetings. He is well aware of the pressing issues confronting our schools. John Barth is an experienced educator having worked as a guidance counselor for many years and is presently serving as the principal of Conant High School. Both of these candidates have the skills and experience that would well serve our community.

I hope that the Richmond community will carefully consider their vote this year and do what is necessary and proper to support our schools, our staff, and our children, it has never been so important. Let us all remember what it means to be part of a community.

### Dear Richmond Community

*Kim Mattson*

This is a make-or-break year for Monadnock Schools. We have less than 12 months to meet the accreditation issues raised by the NEASC or we'll no longer have an accredited program at the high school. Few people seem to realize just how serious the challenge is. Last year, shortly after the NEASC put the high school on probation, citing lack of support for the schools, the proposed budget, with only a modest increase, failed. That failure represented the sixth straight year of "default" or below default budgets. Retaining the accreditation will depend on you. Unless you, the parents and citizens of this community, fight for your schools, we will not have an accredited school in 2009.

The good news is there is something you can do about it. Join us in spreading the word - by making a commitment to talk about the issues with as many of your friends and neighbors as possible.

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Here are some things we have been working on to support our kids, schools and communities in the upcoming elections. We hope you will join us. Warrant Article Support

Last year, after ten years at a warning status, our high school was put on probation. We were given 24 months to remedy a list of problems including lack of public support for the schools and serious facility deficiencies at the middle and high schools. The district now has less than 12 months to comply.

There are several actions that can be resolved this year with broad support of the voters of the district. Passing the School Board and Budget Committee approved Budget (Article 1), Support Staff Contract (Articles 3), and Teachers Contract (Article 4) will be an excellent

start to addressing our probationary status. Should this year's budgets and teacher contracts not pass, that failure, coming on the heels of six years of failed budgets, would seriously

undermine efforts to retain our accreditation.

As we did last year, KFM! will create and mail a district wide "Voters Guide" to help communicate the importance and meaning of the sometimes confusing Warrant Articles. But we can't do it without your financial help. Please consider a donation today to help us defray the estimated \$2,500 in costs it will take to reach voters in all seven towns. Please consider a donation to help with these costs.

Thank you for your time and interest!.....KFM!

Unless someone like you, cares a whole awful lot, nothing's going to get better. It's not.-- The Once-ler From Dr. Seuss's book The Lorax

P.S. The Granite State Fair Tax Coalition has produced a video that explores the inequities of our state's tax system. The system creates great disparities each year in how the cost of schooling are distributed - even if the budget stays flat some towns see a double digit increase. This creates an vicious cycle in which one town is pitted against another, where schools get blamed, and where for six years in a row our children have paid the price. Watch the video on the web.

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## In Defense of Our Friend

### *Multiple Signatories*

We, the undersigned residents of Richmond, write to protest the vilification of our friend Christine Bryan and her family by Betty Grondin-Jose. The meanest line in Mrs. Jose's letter in reference to Mrs. Bryan is that there was an "effort to create an image of all-American goodness in her family and beyond" implying dissimulation or hypocrisy on Christine's part. Does Mrs. Bryan not exhibit goodness? Does she exhibit evil? Please, to what (or where) does the word "beyond" refer?

Anyone who knows the Bryan family – whether he is affiliated with St. Benedict Center or not – knows that a false picture has been painted here. Mrs. Bryan, our sister in Christ, is a gentle, generous and talented lady who is a friend and mentor to many of the young ladies in our community – wives and mothers, and singles alike. Mrs. Bryan is honest to the core – a "what you see is what you get" kind of lady. She has also befriended many Richmond residents who are not associated with St. Benedict Center. They know Mrs. Jose's statements are false.

On another issue, as Richmond residents and taxpayers, don't those who worship at SBC have the right to vote and run for office as all other Richmond residents do? One could get the idea that because we believe the constant teaching of the Catholic Church on salvation that Mrs. Jose is intolerant of us and would like to afford us the same treatment that Hitler gave to Jews, Catholics, Gypsies and other "undesirables" in Nazi Germany.

Thank you Lisa Vasilak, DeAnna Martin, Amanda C. Grinstead, Christine Schimp, Michelle Schroth, Jacinta Saginario, Lilla Kiraly, Lauren Haynes, Christie McCann, Elizabeth Haynes, Michelle Fourgere.

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## Dear Editor

### *Gerald and Catherine Margand*

In the article by Pete Tandy (February 2008, pp. 1-2), I note this statement (p. 2): "I have never suffered from even the slightest belief in a supreme deity..."

In this earthly life, however, some have indeed suffered—and heroically—for this very belief. Christians in the early Roman coliseum come to mind. Let us recall from Psalm XIII:1 who it is who "hath said in his heart: There is no God." This comment is from a reader who believes in the inerrancy of Scripture—and that no one is forced into heaven.

## Theocracy

### *Russ Provost - 38 Monument Road*

This is a response to Christine Bryan. I, too, wanted to get the meaning of THEOCRACY. I went to the St Benedict Center's web-link ([www.catholicism.org](http://www.catholicism.org)) to the "Catholic Encyclopedia". Their definition of THEOCRACY is "A form of civil government in which God himself is recognized as the head. The laws of the commonwealth are the commandments of God, and they are promulgated and expounded by the accredited representatives of the invisible Deity, real or supposed—generally a priesthood. Thus in a theocracy civic duties and functions form a part of religion, implying the absorption of the State by the Church or at least the supremacy of the latter over the State." I also went to the St. Benedict Center's FAQs ([www.catholicism.org](http://www.catholicism.org)). Their position on the U.S. Constitution is as follows: "Our position is that the U.S. Constitution, although Masonic in many of its underlying principles, could be made conformable to the Social Kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our first duty as concerns our nation is to make it Catholic by evangelizing our neighbors. When the majority of this nation's citizens are Catholic, the full social Kingship of Christ may be inaugurated by conforming its laws, including the Constitution, to Catholic principle of government. Divorce, pornography, birth control, abortion, and other such evils will be illegal, the Catholic Church will be the official religion of the state, and public education will be handed over to the Church."

It seems that by their own definitions and goals that the SBC wants to make the USA a THEOCRACY. I for one, would like to keep the USA a Republic.

The Richmond Rooster — March 2008 —

## Definitely Definitions

Terri O'Rorke

The following definitions were taken from *The American Heritage Dictionary Of The English Language* 4th Edition 2000. DEMOCRACY: n., pl., -cies 1. Government by the people, exercised either directly or through elected representatives. 2. A political or social unit that has such a government. 3. The common people, considered as the primary source of political power. 4. Majority rule. 5. The principles of social equality and respect for the individual within a community. REPUBLIC: n. 1a. A political order whose head of state is not a monarch and in modern times is usually a president 1b. A nation that has such a political order. 2a. A political order in which the supreme power lies in a body of citizens who are entitled to vote for officers and representatives responsible to them. 2b. A nation that has such a political order. 3. Often REPUBLIC A specific republican government of a nation: The Fourth Republic of France. 4. An autonomous or partially autonomous political and territorial unit belonging to a sovereign federation. 5. A group of people working as equals in the same sphere or field: The Republic of Letters. THEOCRACY: n., pl., -cies 1. A government ruled by or subject to religious authority. 2. A state so governed. The following statement is taken from *Invitation to a Crusade*. "Saint Benedict Center is a Catholic organization dedicated to a two-fold Crusade; the propagation and defense of Catholic dogma - especially *extra ecclesiam nulla salus* - and the conversion of America to the one, true Church."

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

DATE: 26 Nov 2007

Attending: JC Boudreau, Stan Pogorzelski, Sean McElhiney: Read mail and signed checks. Matthew Mead was in for a building permit for a deck, map 405 lot 051. Permit #2007-017 was assigned but not approved. We are currently waiting for some dimensions to complete the form. Pam Goodell and Annette Tokunaga came in to discuss the proposed 2008 budget for the Town Clerk's office. JC was asked at the last planning board meeting about number of signatures required for a petition. Stan located the information, which is 25 signatures or 2% of registered voters, but not less than 10. According to the Supervisors of the Checklist listing, we have 775 registered voters, therefore 16 signatures would be required. JC called the inquirer to let them know. Stan made a motion to approve the extension of Monument Road as petitioned for by Richard and Jeannine Wharton on 12/27/06 to layout a Class V road over a 1,300 foot section of a Class VI road. JC seconded the motion. All three conditions were discussed and met to the satisfaction of the Board. The Road Agent has informed us that the plowing contractor is ready to maintain the extension. There being no further discussion, the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The selectmen discussed the Kelly subdivision and the need to quantify the road

way. JC made a motion that the Trustees of Trust Funds move \$24,336 from the Property Revaluation Fund into the General Fund for the purpose of paying Cross Country Appraisal. Sean seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:20 PM.

DATE: December 3, 2007

Attending: JC Boudreau, Stan Pogorzelski, Sean McElhiney: Read mail and signed checks. Steve Boscarino (Tax Collector) was in to discuss the tax bills that were run over the weekend. The selectmen signed the tax warrant. The 2007 tax rate is \$20.37 per thousand assessed. Chief Andy Wood was in for his scheduled meeting with the Selectmen. We discussed his future building needs. The Board is reviewing the installation of a water filtration system at the 4 Corner Store as it pertains to Zoning Regulations. Brian McDonald came in to discuss the requirements. JC has been in contact with Geo Insight to confirm setbacks. Pam Goodell was in to discuss her revised budget. The Board voted to be closed Christmas Eve and to move their December 31<sup>st</sup> meeting to Thursday, January 3, 2008. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:30.

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DATE: 10 December 2007

Attending: JC Boudreau, Stan Pogorzelski, Sean McElhiney Read mail and signed checks. Steve Boscarino, tax collector, came in and gave an update on the deputy tax collector. He may need to find someone to temporarily fill in for her. Police Chief Andy Wood was in to present his budget to the Selectmen for 2008. Matthew Mead came in with measurements to finalize his building permit, Map 405 Lot 051. The board issued Building Permit No. 2007-017. Lloyd Condon came in to tell the selectmen about some free building materials he can obtain for the Town. JC brought up that the Veteran's Hall furnace needs to be serviced. Janel has scheduled a cleaning for December 19<sup>th</sup>. The selectmen signed Pistol Permit R338462. We signed an Intent to Cut for Map 403, Lot 016. We worked on a draft of a letter to Jeff Reese regarding the use of his property, Map 412, Lot 021. We mailed a follow-up letter to Shay McDonald Enterprises regarding the placement of a water filtration system on their property, Map 201, Lot 056. (See attached.) There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 11:00.

**DATE: 17 Dec 2007**

Attending: JC Boudreau, Stan Pogorzelski, Sean McElhiney: Read mail and signed checks. Steve Boscarino, tax collector, came in to discuss abatements and other issues. Alan Schmidt was in to discuss 2008 budget numbers for the Zoning Board. New line items will be created for the Zoning Board. Their budget has always been lumped in with the Planning Board budget, but there has been so much activity this year, that it was decided to break out the line items. Bob Coy came in to discuss the Emergency Management budget for 2008 and also asked questions regarding the Planning Board budget. Melissa Herman was in to discuss her proposed budget for Supervisors of the Checklist for 2008. There are 4 scheduled elections set for 2008. The Board accepted a proposal from GDS to upgrade the CD building restroom. Work will begin mid January. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:00 PM.

**DATE: 03 Jan 2008**

Attending: JC Boudreau and Stan Pogorzelski: JC spoke with the Anderson's about the zoning ordinances regarding having a mobile home temporarily on a property they are considering the purchase of. Barbara Woodward was in to present the budget for the Library Trustees. The Board also discussed needed repairs to the library building. The Board decided to send a donation to David's House at Dartmouth-Hitchcock in Lebanon in memory of our deputy tax collector, Cheryl Tattersall, who passed away last week. Signed pistol permits 338463 and 338464. Alan Schmidt was in with Notice of Decision and minutes from the ZBA hearing on December 19<sup>th</sup>. The Board decided to create this year's town report in MS Word format. We scheduled the Pre-Warrant meeting for Thursday, February 7, 2008, at 7:00 PM. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:15 PM

**DATE: 7 January 2008**

Attending: JC Boudreau, Stan Pogorzelski, Sean McElhiney: Read mail and signed checks. Steve Boscarino, tax collector, came in to discuss the status of taxes owed, his search for a deputy tax collector, and to check on the status of a property deed. Andy Wood, chief of police, was in to update his 2008 budget request. The selectmen discussed the budget proposed for a full-time officer and decided that a petition will need to be brought forward for it to be put on the warrant. Geraldine Lutz, cemetery trustee, came in to propose the cemetery committee's budget for 2008. Dana Taylor, road agent, was in to discuss his proposed budget for 2008 and a couple of warrant articles he would like to add for a plow for the highway vehicle and a roof on the sand and salt shed. Bonnie Pratt came in to submit an abatement application for her 2007 taxes. She also asked some questions about her taxes from 2000 to 2004 and was directed to the board of tax and land appeals. Bill Sullivan was in with a complaint about the condition of Whipple Hill Road. He also

mentioned the condition of Fish Hatchery Road. Bill Pearsall came in to request the selectmen put in a warrant article for Richmond to become an official ballot (SB2) Town. The Board suggested that he put together a petition and submit it prior to February 5<sup>th</sup> for it to be on the warrant. Barbara Hull Richardson was in to ask the selectmen to put a warrant article in for the Granite State Fair Tax Coalition. The Board advised that she put together a petition and submit it so that it can be on the warrant. The Board decided to meet on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 9-noon to accept inventories. The selectmen discussed the set up of the Vet's Hall for tomorrow's Presidential Primary voting. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:40 PM.

## **The Community Advisory Council**

**Sandra Gillis**

As a new member of the Community Advisory Council to the Keene Health Alliance, the joint coordinating Board of the Cheshire Medical Center and Dartmouth Hitchcock, I plan to report to newsletter readers on services and activities provided by the Clinic that may interest you. I hope you will express your views, comments and ideas on the services and will let me know what else you may need from a major healthcare provider in the County. The Council will be engaged in a long term discussion about healthcare and I hope you can join that discussion through this column.

At my first meeting I learned about Patient Online, a service for anyone with computer access who uses Cheshire Medical/Dartmouth Hitchcock. You can register and schedule appointments, renew existing prescriptions, send a private message to your healthcare provider, make a payment, change personal or insurance information and access personal medical information like medications and immunizations or request the release of information. The site seems easy to use. You can visit it and logon as a guest to get a feel for how helpful it might be for you. Go to [www.cheshire-med.com](http://www.cheshire-med.com) and click on "Patient Online." Preview the website and please let me know what you think. From finding a doctor to a vast healthcare library, from support groups to babies online, the site offers a wealth of information without having to leave your home or make a phone call.

If you are a caregiver and need a little time off, the Keene Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services offers a licensed medical adult day program at the Castle Center, 312 Marlboro Street in Keene. The adult day program offers respite for the caregiver and a safe, dignified social environment for your loved one. This program helps adults remain independent and active. You can tour the facility in Keene by calling 355-8281 to set up an appointment or go to [www.HCSservices.org](http://www.HCSservices.org). I hope this information is helpful. Please contact me with your comments and ideas at [sandragillis@netryders.com](mailto:sandragillis@netryders.com) or call 239-6492.

*The Richmond Rooster - March 2008 -*

## Richmond Public Library

Wendy O'Brien

This month Gwyn will present a Toddler/Preschool Story Hour on "Baby Animals" on Mar. 8th at 10:30 a.m. Come and enjoy stories, poems, a snack, and a simple craft. Wendy will be leading a story hour for elementary schoolchildren on Saturday, Mar. 15th at 10:30 a.m. featuring the many of the books the Library recently received as a result of the Libri Foundation grant. We look forward to seeing you there!

Magazines Thanks to volunteer Evelyn Huston, all of our current magazines have been entered into our database. Starting in March, all new issues will circulate for one week; older issues will continue to circulate for a month. We hope that this change will allow more patrons to read the current issue in a timely manner.

Save the Date! Interested in becoming one of the Friends of the Library? Elaine Moriarty will be leading a workshop on Saturday, April 5th to introduce new volunteers to the various ways they can help around the Library. The book and bake sale will be highlighted, as well as other projects. Check next month's Rooster for a more detailed description.

We hope to see you soon! Our current hours are Tues., 4:30-8:00 PM, Wed., 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Thurs., 4:30-7:00 PM, and Saturday, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM.

## VA Musicians Celebrate Early American Music

Frank Behrens

Always on the lookout for material to use in my talks about early American music, I stumbled across some CDs on the Southern Branch Music label at the Keene State College Library that I can best describe as "superior." The performers on these discs call themselves The Itinerant Band. As their website at [www.itinerantband.com](http://www.itinerantband.com) discloses in greater detail, these seven players and vocalists are from the Tidewater region of Virginia and share a passion for 17th and 18th-century American music. They are much in demand at any given time and place, performing everything from airs to sea shanties to dance tunes."

The members are George Bame (guitar, vocals), Paul Brockman (fiddle, vocals), Bob Clark (hammered dulcimer), Susan Lawlor (flute, whistle, recorder), Dave McNew (Appalachian dulcimer, bodhran, vocals), Mary Normand (Celtic harp), and Marsha Wallace (guitar, mandolin, vocals). [A bodhran is a round frame drum used in Irish bands.]

The first of their CDs is *Jefferson and Liberty: Music of 18th Century America*. It holds 13 tracks of pieces with titles like *Smash the Windows*, *Hunt the Squirrel*, and the very familiar *British Grenadiers*. *The Road Out of Town* has 14 tracks, including *Down in my Sally's garden*, *White Cockade*, and Robert Burns' revolutionary *A Man's a Man*

for a' that. *Apples in Winter: Seasonal Music of Times Past* is a bit different. Its 14 tracks are dedicated to such seasonal songs as: *Please to see the King*, *Auld Lang Syne* (performed in a surprisingly different way), and *Coventry Carol*.

Each disc is provided with more than adequate program notes. However, more detailed notes and all of the lyrics are available on the website.

One import aspect of these discs, other than the joyful renditions of these obviously dedicated artists—or rather perhaps accounting for it—is that their goal “is to interpret historic music, not to recreate it for an academic audience.” They admit that their mixture of instruments would never have been found or played together three centuries ago. But after all, their “Notes on authenticity,” from which I am quoting, ends with their ultimate goal of “aiming to have a good time.”

I certainly had—and I trust that any listener will have the same. All three are highly recommended.

## 2008 Richmond Primary Results

Douglas Bersaw - Moderator

Here are the 2008 Presidential Primary election results for Richmond. There were 549 votes cast, 284 were Democratic ballots and 265 were Republican ballots. The State of NH Secretary of State was asked to do a recount of all ballots cast in the state for this primary. The recount was requested by Dennis Kucinich for the Democrats and by Albert Howard for the Republicans. Both were candidates on the ballot. The recount showed that Richmond, unlike many towns and cities who use machines to count the votes, had a perfect count recorded. There were many anomalies in the machine counted towns with as many as 500 or more ballots miscounted or uncounted in some places. The miscounts were not enough to alter the state results one way or another. It is good that the election was not that close. In Richmond Senator Barack Obama was the winner for the Democrats, and Congressman Ron Paul was the winner for the Republicans. It seems that there are a lot of voters in Richmond who liked Dr. Ron Paul's message of freedom, no foreign interventionism, and adherence to the Constitution, as he received a higher percentage of votes in Richmond than in any other town in the state. Here are the results for the top five candidates in each party.

Democrats: Barack Obama-106, Hilary Clinton-99, John Edwards-48, Dennis Kucinich-12, and Bill Richardson-17.

Republicans: Ron Paul- 89, Mitt Romney-52, John McCain-50, Mike Huckabee-36 and Rudy Giuliani-11.

## RICHMOND VOLUNTARY ENERGY COMMITTEE (VEC)

Brad Grinstead, Jack & Susan Marsden, Peter & Theresa Majoy, Russ & Vickie Provost

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VEC has been meeting almost monthly since July 2007. We have been slowly but surely moving from an enormous amount of information and details to a series of specific decisions and recommendations.

Because the Town of Richmond is a member of the SWRPC (Southwest Regional Planning Commission) and passed the energy resolution at the 2007 Town Meeting, we automatically are members of ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives). CA-CP (Clean Air-Cool Planet) and ANEI (Antioch New England Institute) have joined forces to coordinate local energy initiatives in the SWRPC towns. The Town of Richmond VEC has met with reps from CA-CP and ANEI and the guidance we are getting is indispensable in helping us move forward in our role of making recommendations to the Board of Selectmen.

By the time this Rooster update is disseminated throughout our town, VEC will have presented several letters to the BOS. One letter recommends that the BOS initiate a policy whereby all town government operations use only 100% recycled paper, 100% recycled folders, and energy efficient (Energy Star) lighting within six months. We are also requesting from the BOS that we be allowed to hand out energy use information for the whole day of voting and Town Meeting on March 11, 2008.

There has been an ongoing process involving VEC and the BOS regarding the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) Community Challenge as well as the PSNH energy audit of the Town of Richmond. VEC is waiting for the BOS to sign the EPA Challenge letter agreeing to have the Town of Richmond participate. Additionally, we are waiting for several steps to be taken which will result in the PSNH audit. All of this is coordinated with us through CA-CP/ANEI voluntary work using software programs that will produce the data and analysis of our town energy use and from that make recommendations that will help us continue to move forward toward our goals of energy efficiency and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions as a town.

At our next VEC meeting on March 2, 2008 (CD Building @ 5P.M.), each member of the committee will bring the names of 5 people in Richmond whom we will invite to a VEC "Meet-Up" to discuss energy use, distribute information, and have available a variety of products to test and get back to us with an evaluation.

The "Meet-Up" will probably be scheduled in conjunction with "Earth Day."

To help celebrate Earth Day (April 22, 2008), VEC will be setting up a table in the Town of Richmond Library as well as participating in the Keene area Earth Day activities.

Recommendations and Fast Facts for our neighbors across the Town of Richmond: (A) Recommendations: (1) Use [www.coolmonadnock.org](http://www.coolmonadnock.org) <<http://www.coolmonadnock.org/>> for area information (includes Richmond) about energy use, efficiency, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; (2) Adopt immediately doable energy saving practices even if a bit more expensive because in the long run you will be saving money as you save the planet. Buy 100% recycled paper for your printing needs, 100% recycled manila folders, biodegradable trash bags, and begin to change your light bulbs to CFL's or LED's with Energy Star ratings; (3) Read Bill McKibben's book, "Fight Global Warming Now: The Handbook For Taking Action in Your Community". (B) Fast Facts: (1) In 2007, white LED bulbs reached an output of 130 lumens per watt of electricity; fluorescent bulbs (CFL) had outputs as high as 110 lumens per watt; lastly, and least efficient of all were traditional incandescent bulbs producing 15 lumens per watt used. LED and CFL bulbs are more expensive but last much longer than incandescent making them much cheaper in the long run. (2) 100% recycled plastic plates are dishwasher safe and can be used over and over again. (3) Recycled aluminum foil uses only one-twentieth the energy of non-recyclable foil. (4) Organic produce does not use pesticides to be grown and consumes less energy in the process.

**Kids First Monadnock Supports**



**Mike Hoefler**  
School Board

**John Barth**  
Budget Committee

[www.kidsfirstmonadnock.com](http://www.kidsfirstmonadnock.com)

**Spring 2008 Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

*Russ Provost*

Schedule for Richmond  
 Saturdays: 3/22, 3/29/ 4/12, 4/26, 5/10, 5/24, 6/7, 6/21  
 Wednesdays: 3/26, 4/16, 5/14, 6/11.  
 All collections will be at the Keene Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility adjacent to the Keene Recycling Center, 55 Old Summit Rd, Keene off of RT. 12 North between Keene and Walpole 8 AM-1 PM 10 Gallon Maximum. You can also drop off old tires@ \$1.50 each old electronics (computers, tv, etc.) @.15 per pound (\$5.00 minimum) For more information call 352-5739.

The Richmond Rooster - March 2008 -

**Town Business Hours**

**Board of Selectmen:** J.C. Boudreau, Stan Pogorzelski,  
Sean McElhiney

- 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.— 5:00 P.M.
- Fri. 8 A.M. —12 noon, 1:00 P.M.— 4:00 P.M.

**Town Clerk:** Pam Goodell

Deputy: Annette Tokunaga

- 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.
- Thurs. 4 P.M. —6 P.M.

**Planning Board:** Robert Coy, 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 us on-line: <http://richmondnh.us>**

Richmond Rooster Staff

- Publisher: Marie Knowlton
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- Advertising Manager: Janel Swanson
- Treasurer:
- Distribution: Melissa Herman; Denise Crowl
- Regular contributors: Frank Behrens, Terri O'Rorke, Marie Knowlton, Bonnie Becklo, Wendy O'Brien, and Kim Mattson

**Advertising Rates**

- Contact: Janel Swanson
- Business cards (up to 3.5 x2) \$12/month or \$132/year
- 1/4 page: \$30/month —\$330/year
- Larger ads and fliers available, Classified ads: FREE

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**Deadline is the 15th of each month.** The Richmond Rooster welcomes comments and article contributions

- E-mail your articles or comments to:  
**[therichmondrooster@yahoo.com](mailto:therichmondrooster@yahoo.com)**
- Our thanks to the 4 Corners Store for their ongoing support.
- Join the RoosterChat at:  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/therichmondrooster>

*The Richmond Rooster*

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