



## The Transfer Station

*Marie Knowlton*

Richmond residents use it, Richmond residents fund it, and Richmond residents manage it. The Winchester Transfer Station is open three days a week. Tuesday from 8 a.m.—4 p.m., Thursday 8 a.m.—7 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.—5 p.m.

The friendly faces that are seen each time you visit the Transfer Station belong to Dan Pratt and his son John Pratt, of Fish Hatchery Road. Dan and John are both Certified Solid Waste Facility operators. According to the state web site “Certification is a status granted to a solid waste facility operator who demonstrates competency in the level of responsibilities specified by the State of NH Department of Environmental Services. The purpose of the certification and training is to assure that solid waste facility operators are qualified to operate and maintain solid waste facilities properly and that the facility is operated at the highest attainable level of safety and efficiency to provide the greatest possible protection to the environment and to public health.”

Operators are required to be tested and certified on an annual basis. In order to stay at their current level both men must be tested yearly and have achieved the prior level certification.

Dan is certified at Level IV, the highest level an operator can achieve. Level IV is referred to as a Manager Operator. To achieve this level an operator must have a minimum of five years experience in a related field. Level IV allows Dan to manage all landfills with a liner system (regardless of size), landfills, transfer stations, composting facilities and recycling centers that are permitted to accept more than 30 tons of waste per day annually.

John is currently certified at Level III and is required to have three years experience in a related field. Level III is referred to as an Advanced Operator, who is responsible for landfills, transfer stations, recycling centers, and composting facilities permitted to accept up to 30 tons of waste per day; or a monofill that only receives scrap metal, demolition debris or asbestos. When John was 15 years old he was the youngest person in the state with a Solid Waste Certification.

What Dan and John like most about working at the

Transfer Station are the people. Again and again they related how friendly people are who use this service. The people have made it easy for these two great men to be at their assigned job every Tuesday and Saturday, as well as day and night on Thursday. The Winchester Transfer Station is lighted and can accommodate those customers who can't be there during the day on Thursday.

John is not paid for his time at the Transfer Station; instead he is given the opportunity to recycle the metal. Customers can drop off any metal, including appliances, for free and John will take them away.

According to the contract with Monadnock Disposal, the Town of Richmond is allowed the use of a free two yarder, which has yet to be utilized by the town. Dan said that if the town took advantage of this offer it could realize a savings of \$700 in fees.

Both men admit that the townspeople are pretty good with recycling and seem to readily comply. Richmond and Winchester have a contract with Monadnock Disposal to remove the comingled products in exchange for the use of the containers. The recyclables are brought

to the Keene landfill, except for some of the aluminum.

Over the years, through the cashing in of aluminum, volunteers have been able to refurbish the Transfer Station office from a cement floor shack to a comfortable heated, insulated and furnished office space. This effort provided over \$5000 of improvements that never came out of the tax base. The heating system was updated using recyclables, and the savings in heat costs are impressive. Previously it took four or five barrels of oil to heat the office, today it takes about one or two.

Dan and John both are grateful to the Winchester Highway Department for the cooperative work environment. Highway Department employees Donald Class, Dale Gray and Wally Clough take extreme care of the Transfer Station, helping to keep it open and safe for the residents and workers. “They plow, they salt and sand, and are overall really nice guys.”

Hidden in the background and taking care of the bookwork is Bonnie Pratt, wife of Dan and mother of John. Together this family is a gem and a huge part of Richmond's history today. Thank you to the Pratt family for all that you do!



*John and Dan Pratt, at the Transfer Station*

**Writers Wanted**  
**Marie Knowlton**

The Richmond Rooster is seeking writers of any style to write a cover story or be our cover reporter. If you have any interest in writing about your neighbors, the community, committees, departments or businesses, please give me a call. 603-239-6447. If I can do it, you can do it better. Please call me.

**Town Clerk's Office**  
**Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk**

February 2, 2010 Last day to petition selectmen for Warrant Articles for town election/Meeting  
February 4, 2010 7:00 p.m. Public hearing on annual budget at the Veteran's Hall  
February 15, 2010 CLOSED - President's Day  
February 25, 2010 Last day to register to vote with town clerk (May register to vote at the polls on election day).

**Town Hearing, Meeting & Election**  
**Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk**

The public hearing on the annual budget will be held on February 4, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Veteran's Hall. The Board of Selectmen will be presenting the budget and the attending public will have the opportunity to ask questions at the time of the hearing. No voting will be done at this time.

The Town Election will be held on March 9, 2010, at the Veteran's Hall. The polls will be open from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. At the election, also known as the First Session, the voting of officers and any changes or additions to the zoning amendments will be conducted by paper ballot.

The Board of Selectmen had not decided the date, time and place of the Town Meeting when this article was submitted for publication. At the Town Meeting, also known as the Second Session, all registered voters attending this meeting will have the opportunity to discuss, amend and vote on the town budget.

For those who will not be able to come to the polls on March 9th, absentee ballots will be available to those qualified to receive them. The conditions under which a voter qualifies for an absentee ballot are as follows: must be at work, or is in transit to or from work. All requests for absen-

tee ballots must be in writing and request forms are available at the Town Clerk's office. Please call 239-6202 if you have any questions regarding obtaining an absentee ballot.

**Licensing Your Dog**  
**Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk**

Dog tags are for sale at the Town Clerk's office. If you licensed your dog in 2009, that tag expires on April 30, 2010. You may license your dog anytime prior to the expiration date. Remember to have your dog's rabies vaccination current. If you had your dog vaccinated recently, please bring the rabies certificate with you. For those who have recently added a puppy to your family, you are required to vaccinate your puppy for rabies within 30 days after it reaches three months of age. After you've vaccinated the puppy, you will need to license it. Please bring the rabies certificate when you come to license your puppy. If you have recently acquired an adult dog, you are required to have it vaccinated for rabies within 30 days after acquiring it or moving to NH. Once you have done so, please bring the rabies certificate to the Town Clerk's office to get your dog licensed. Thank you for your cooperation in licensing your dog(s). Not only is this a state law, but, by putting the tag on your dog's collar, you are facilitating the return of your pet in the event that it ever gets separated from you or your home.

**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, February 1st. All are welcome.

Children can also attend additional story times: on Tuesday, February 9th from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. there will be a "Pajama" story time with Wendy—come dressed ready for bed! Please also come on Saturday, February 20th at 11:00 a.m. for a fun story time and craft with Gwyn. Snacks will be available!

**Addition to Library and Archives** Our town library and archives are very special places for so many of our residents, and not just for books! The addition of a second patron computer in September has alleviated some of the crowding, but both computers are now in constant use. Since we added wireless in November, we have had standing room only for the electrical plugs for laptops. It has

~ ~ ~ **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  
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become clear that we need additional space for people and their computers. One way to accomplish this is through the creation of a meeting room through a modest addition. In this way we can also create a heated space with better access to our town archives, which would allow our archivist to work in the winter months. 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.

**Tax Collector**  
**Steve Boscarino**

The 2009 2nd Issue Property tax bills were mailed out on December 17th, 2009. The due date is Monday, January 25th, 2010. The total tax rate decreased by \$2.11, from \$23.97 per thousand to \$21.86 per thousand.

If you have not received your tax bill, please give the tax office a call at 603 239-6106 and a duplicate bill will be mailed to you, or alternately, stop in to the office.

Blessings for a Happy New Year!

**Potluck Supper & Game Night**  
**Allison VanBrocklin**

Sponsored by the Richmond Community United Methodist Church, the public is invited to attend a Potluck Supper and Game Night on Saturday, February 20th at 6:00 p.m. at the Veterans Hall. Everyone is asked to bring a main dish, salad, or dessert big enough to serve eight people ... and a favorite game for after the meal. A free-will offering will be taken to help support two church members who will travel to Louisiana for two weeks in March with a United Methodist Mission Team from NH. Don and Lois Ray will

be making their fourth trip to Louisiana to help rebuild homes devastated by hurricanes. The Mission Team will receive their assignment upon arrival in Doulac, LA, south of New Orleans, home of the Houma Indians, where very little help has been provided. The team's work will include clean-up, rebuilding damaged homes, plumbing, electrical work, interior and exterior painting, sheetrock work, installing flooring and cabinetry; whatever is needed to help restore dignity and wholeness to these people. Team members will be housed in a nearby church, cook their own meals, and sleep on cots in sleeping bags. Thank you in advance for your support in this effort.

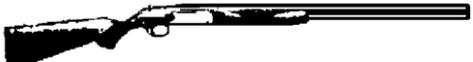
**Health Trust School District**  
**Neil Moriarty**

2010 Warrant Article Three would establish a Health Insurance Trust, where the funds in the budget for health insurance premiums for our MRSD employees would be moved (should the warrant pass) to a Trust that would ensure that those monies are spent only for health insurance. The amount would be subtracted from the operating budget and placed in the Trust.

The way health insurance rates are calculated is mysterious and difficult to explain, but suffice it to say that in almost every case it will generate a surplus over which we have no control. For example last year's surplus was \$700,000. The intent of the Trust is to ensure that such health insurance surpluses are used only to offset future health insurance costs — and for no other purpose. In the past this surplus of health insurance has been spent on items such as roofs and chairs.

For example, if we budget \$5,000,000 for health insurance based on the preliminary rate (sometimes

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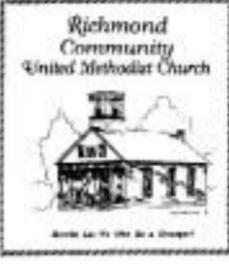
called the "not to exceed" bid) we receive in November, it may be that when we receive the final rate in April it will only require, say, \$4,600,000. We then know that we'll only spend \$4.6 million, and have a \$400,000 surplus at the end of the year. Given that 2010 Warrant Article Three passes, that \$400,000 would be applied to the following year's health insurance premiums in the subsequent budgeting process.

This Trust is a smart thing to do. Our health insurance surpluses are not generated by smart management on our part, and so should be used only to pay health insurance premiums. We provide an excellent health insurance benefit to our employees; however, we should not spend any more than we have to provide this benefit. It is a way to return that money to the taxpayers by offsetting future appropriations. Please vote YES on this warrant.

Any questions call me at 239-4031.

**You Are Invited**  
**Pam Goodell**

Beginning in February 2010, the Richmond Community United Methodist Church will conduct Bible Study sessions the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, Feb. 10 and 24 respectively, at 7:00 p.m. at the red brick church near the Richmond four corners. These first sessions will be adapted from Pastor Dave Earley's book, "The 21 Most Effective Prayers of the Bible." February 10th's session will focus on



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**Sunday Worship Services**  
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We champion the simple worth of all people.*

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1 Samuel chapter 1; the key verse is 1:11, The Prayer of Hannah. February 24th's session will focus on 2 Samuel chapter 12; the key verse is 12:13, The Prayer of David. Led by assistant pastor Jack Sears, each session will open with a time for prayer concerns followed by a discussion of the reading. The study is open to all those interested.

**A Woman Loves Color and Sound**  
**Jean Tandy**

arranges morning into a musical dream. Flutes swirl through curling mists while oboes rasp down canyon stones and browning furred grasses triangles ping horns tongue soft staccatos skin drums humming silver slide trombones swing bright morning above the canyon's rim heaving golden song and light into early dawn while cymbals crash and clang and sing earth's sun to rise.

**From The School District**  
**Neil Moriarty and Jim Carnie**

The public hearing on the school budget for FY 2010/2011 March 2010 Warrant Articles was held on January 14, 2010. A very brief summary follows: The Operating Budget was set at \$31,694,597. Both the school board and budget committee elected not to support the SAU budget; two building warrants are set, totaling \$1,409,392, of which, \$909,392 will need to be collected from taxes. The school board and budget committee both support a warrant article to study withdrawing from SAU 38. Article Three will create a health trust (details in another Rooster article). If you have questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to call Jim at 239-4948 or Neil at 239- 4031.



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**The RPC Forum**

**Make Informed Vote on Aquifer District Ballot in March**  
**Kandace Mattson**

On March 4, 7:30 p.m., Veterans Hall, The RPC, teamed with The Richmond Planning Board, will bring the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) to Richmond, as we did in October 2007. Roughly 80 town residents attended the original aquifer presentation by DES's Rick Chormann and staff, and we hope even more will be present for his second presentation on March 4. This event is planned to enable folks to make an informed vote the following week at Town Meeting, on a ballot presented by the planning board. The ballot addresses the creation of an aquifer district, in town, and will be based on The State of NH Best Management Practices (BMP). We invite townspeople to become aware of the value Richmond's Aquifer has for us, and learn how to protect this most valuable water supply. During the program you will be introduced (1) to physical and geological constructs of aquifers, and (2) to NH laws, regulations, state reviews, legislation, and/or legal or political work established to protect this SHARED PUBLIC RESOURCE.

The DES power point presentation includes: (1) the importance of an aquifer as a town ASSET for all residents; (2) in which ways residents who own land above or over an aquifer are responsible for its protection; (3) information and associated laws related to protection from contaminants, i.e. oil, gas, etc.; and (4) how a town can protect its aquifer from commercial exploitation. RPC will provide literature relative to the topic and a map of Richmond's aquifer for viewing on March 4. The Planning Board has an aquifer map located at the Richmond Town Hall showing a rough outline of our aquifer with overlay showing lots owned by residents. You will find, posted on the town bulletin board, a copy of the ballot discussed here. Please make time to become familiar with the ballot.

So while the wind is blowing outdoors creating freezing temperatures, circle March 4 on your calendar then come indoors with your neighbors. Bring questions, enjoy refreshments and remember, SPRING is just around the

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corner. 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.

**Energy Committee**  
**Victoria Provost**

The following are items that may be brought, at no charge, to the Keene Recycling Drop-Off Center off of Route 12 North: Glass, food and beverage containers (no ceramic, window glass, drinking glasses, or light bulbs), steel cans, aluminum cans, aluminum foil, all shaped plastics with numbers 1 through 5 and number 7 (numbers located on bottom), newspapers (inserts okay), mixed paper (including magazines, catalogs, mail, envelopes, stationary, computer paper, office paper and boxboard), hard-cover and paperback books, paper bags, corrugated cardboard, used clothing (must be clean, dried, and bagged), scrap metal (except appliances that contain refrigerants, which require a \$15 disposal fee), automobile batteries and any rechargeable batteries, yard trimmings (leaves, grass clippings, pine needles).

You do not need to be a Keene resident to utilize the recycling center. Why not bring your recyclables with you when you go shopping in Keene? The Drop-Off Center is only approximately six miles from the center of Keene. for more information: [www.ci.keene.us/departments/public-works/recycling-center/drop-center](http://www.ci.keene.us/departments/public-works/recycling-center/drop-center)

**Legislative News**  
**Barbara Hull Richardson**

The legislative session for 2010 began on January 6th. Bills that had been worked on over the summer were voted on and a number of them were debated prior to voting. A bill that was newly filed will provide discounts for low income electric customers. It was introduced in the Senate and was passed to the House where it was supported. The program will provide discounts ranging from 5 to 70 percent to low-income residents, depending on household size and income.

In last year's session a bill was passed to limit interest rates on loans under \$10,000 to 36 percent on the payday and title loan businesses in our state. They had been charging from 300 to 500 percent for short-

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**Sunday February 14th Valentine's Brunch 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
Limited Seating-Reservations Suggested

**THISTLE & CROWN TAVERN**

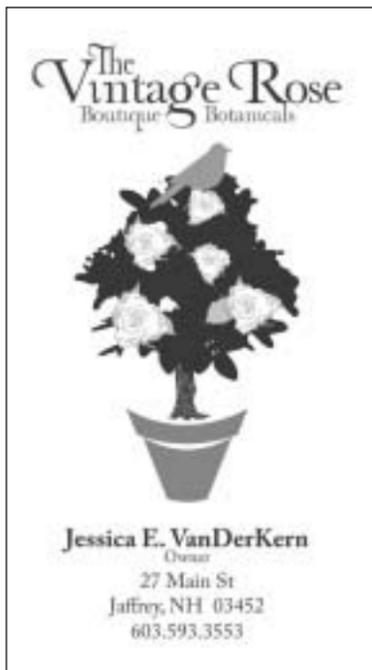
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term loans. Some of these businesses have left the state but those remaining were trying to get around the rate cap by charging "membership fees" or "loan consultation fees." This predatory lending practice bill took over an hour and a half debate with four motions. The House finally put off deciding on this issue for at least two weeks.

The day's agenda was not finished and resulted in a heavy load for the January 13th session. Some of the bills that were passed included: prohibiting banks from requiring fingerprints to cash checks; requiring antifreeze sold after October 2011 to contain an averse agent to discourage children and pets from drinking it; requiring insurers regulated by the state to provide \$1,500 in coverage for hearing aids every three years; requiring insurance coverage for diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders. The January 13th session voted to leave home school regulations unchanged; the criminal threatening statute was amended to allow a person to defend him or herself from attack by showing a gun to the attacker; New Hampshire's "first in the nation" for primary elections is preserved; and the "death with dignity" bill was defeated. Each of these bills must now go to the Senate for its consideration and vote. If Senators pass the bill it then goes to the Governor for his signature, veto, or non-action, which would then allow it to become law after five days (Sundays excepted).

Each of the Committees has many bills to consider and public hearings are scheduled well into March. At that time all House bills that have been passed are sent to the Senate and all Senate bills that have been passed come to the House. If changes have been made to bills in either the Senate or the House, Committees of Conference are held to reach an agreeable solution. If any member of the Committee of Conference disagrees with the outcome, the bill does not go into effect. The session ends sometime before the end of June. As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions.



### A Local Tale Bob Weekes

*Following is a tale of early Richmond, one of 100 Historic Tales from Southwest New Hampshire appearing in Monadnock Moments, a must-read book for anyone interested in our area's history. Written by Alan Rumrill, Executive Director of the Historical Society of Cheshire County, it includes the following story about one of Richmond's earliest settlers, James Ballou, Jr., who was President James Garfield's grandfather and also a successful farmer who kept a store and public house at his home on Quaker Lane.*

#### Conjurer Ballou

James Ballou, Jr. was born in 1761. His family moved to Richmond, New Hampshire, when he was a youngster. He lived there for the rest of his life. During his years in Richmond, Ballou became known far and wide for his ability to foretell the future. Many years later, Ballou's grandson, President James A. Garfield, nicknamed Ballou "the conjurer" when he was gathering family genealogy.

Garfield interviewed many people who recalled his grandfather's ability to foretell the future or determine the location of lost or stolen property. Visitors traveled from a fifty-mile radius around Richmond to have Ballou tell their fortunes. He made his powers seem even more mystical by wearing a wizard's robe and writing out his formulas with geometric figures that no one else could understand. Ballou predicted important events, led bewildered owners to their missing farm tools and told young couples the direction of their future years.

James Ballou's most amazing forecast, however, was the prediction of his own death. His calculations indicated that he would die on April 30, 1808. His neighbors knew about this prediction and questioned Ballou about his health when the day arrived. He admitted that he was perfectly healthy and that perhaps he had made an error in his calculations. As he started home from a visit to the blacksmith shop on that fateful day, James Ballou encountered some workmen removing stones from a field. They were

struggling with a heavy boulder, and he stopped to assist. Ballou added his strength to the effort and suddenly burst an artery. He was carried home to bed and died before the day was over.

*Monadnock Moments may be purchased at the Historical Society's Museum Shop, in its headquarters at 246 Main Street, Keene, or online at [www.hscnh.org](http://www.hscnh.org).*

### Rooster Letter Christine Bryan

On January 19, Richmond residents will have the opportunity to hear the proposed revision of the town's Master Plan. I am eager to learn the tone of this proposal and am hopeful that it leads to a broader vision for a healthy community. For several hundred years, New England town meetings have left records of discord. Our current issues (how the town spends its funds, the quality of roads and education, a master plan, etc.) are really nothing new, and this inevitable polarization needn't be seen as threatening. Modern impersonal communications combined with misinformation have magnified normal disagreement, however, to an unhealthy degree, and unless deliberately reversed, will continue to obstruct a mature outlook reflective of the balanced values we hope our children and grandchildren will be inspired to practice.

Unfortunately, much of the controversy in town revolves around SBC's proposed building. As the court date draws near, it might be helpful to keep a few facts in mind: 1. Recourse to the courts is an ordinary process in our system of government to protect fundamental rights. 2. In a summary judgment given last fall, the court ruled that it was perfectly clear that the First Amendment rights and religious land use rights of Saint Benedict Center have been violated. 3. Strong evidence suggests that some of the town officials may have been acting out of bias against Saint Benedict Center.

In past issues of the Rooster and elsewhere, we have seen the virtual canonization of some of our public figures and the verbal crucifixion of others in a manner not necessarily consonant with their actions. The lesson for us to keep in mind, especially as we near the 2010 Town Meeting and upcoming elections, is that while personal campaigns are understandable, they can be costly, and the burden may end up on the backs of the voters. While we need to accept what people have to offer with a touch of humor and a sense of gratitude, we also ought to elect representatives who will uphold town ordinances, honor state and federal laws, and follow the advice of town counsel.

Perhaps instead of masterfully planning a community with more dividing walls and rigid controls, we can cultivate a fresh outlook with a different publicity slogan: Richmond — rich in history, rich in personality, and rich in hope for the future.

### Dear Rooster Editor Terri O'Rorke

The January issue of the Rooster gave information for a library-sponsored story hour for "younger elementary school-aged children" on Monday, January 4th, at 2:00 p.m. Most of the elementary school-aged children in town attend Mt. Caesar School or Cutler School in Swanzey, where dismissal time is 3:10 and 3:00 respectively. Some children attend Emerson School in Fitzwilliam where the dismissal time is 3:00. Most of these children don't arrive home until almost 4:00 p.m. Perhaps the story hour could be changed to be inclusive of ALL younger elementary school-aged children in the town. How does 4:15 or 4:30 sound? Thank you.

### A Thought Carol Oxx

Many years ago, and after a long search, Gordon and I found our dream home in Richmond. The parcel included a second residence which we did not want. The variance to sub-divide the land for which we applied was approved and we moved in. Very soon Gordon became a member of the Planning Board on which, along with the Zoning Board of Appeals, he served as member and chairman throughout his life. One of his pet projects was surveying the town residents by mail in preparation for a revision of the town master plan.

A few years ago we were reminiscing about the progress we had made with our renovations and our life in Richmond. Gordon offhandedly said "Ya know, I could not and would not be able to approve our variance today." And so it is that new ordinances, enforcement of existing ones and compliance with residents' wishes reflected in the Master Plan, may invalidate many of our past behaviors and privileges. As Richmond's population increases and we live ever closer to our neighbors, it may be necessary, in order to protect the rights and freedoms of one individual, to require some other person to forego a right or freedom they have enjoyed in the past. For example, your right to breathe fresh air would override my

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right to burn asbestos shingles, as would your right to pure drinking water determine how I dispose of waste.

At the core of what is happening in Richmond is CHANGE. It will happen. The choice is only between having unbridled or directed change decide the form and substance of the future Richmond. I will be supporting the ordinances that will be presented at town meeting and sincerely wish that each resident will choose to join me in molding Richmond's heritage.

**Avatar**  
**Peter Hughes**

Every environmentalist should view the new hit movie Avatar. If they liked the message in the remake of the movie "The Day the Earth Stood Still," then they'll absolutely love the message in this film. The plot centers on Mother "Earth" worshipers defeating the greedy corporation and evil military that threaten their fragile green utopia.

I believe in being a good steward of everything, conservation efforts, and enjoy the natural beauty that surrounds us, but the environmental movement has gotten a bit out of control. It has become a religion unto itself and is being used by some as a means to control every aspect of our lives, invade privacy, and erode property rights. It is probably just a coincidence, but it is interesting that this film was released on the heels of the Copenhagen summit, where some participants openly stated that global governance was their goal. Global governance threatens American sovereignty and our individual liberties. Couple the propaganda at the theaters with the constant bombardment of "Go Green" marketing, and one has to wonder if there really is a concerted effort by globalists to indoctrinate us for "The New World Order."

With respect to the military, there has been both favorable and unfavorable propaganda from Hollywood through the years, but typically it's been somewhat subtle. The anti-military/corporation propaganda, as well as, the pro-environmental agenda in this film is so blatant that it "leaps" right out of the screen at the viewer; especially if it is viewed in 3-D.

As a veteran who fought for our Constitution, which includes a right to free speech, citizens are free to have whatever opinion they like of the military. That's not what bothers me. I am just curious if this is actually how envi-

ronmentalists view soldiers. You have got to be kidding me!

The visual effects in this movie were spectacular and the love story aspect quite touching, but the portrayal of those who serve on our behalf as a bunch of nature hating, heartless, and ruthless war mongers is both insulting and despicable!

**Quotable Quote**  
**Terri O'Rorke**

"Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from a religious conviction."

—Blaise Pascal 1623-1662

**The 2010 Census**

**Annette Tokunaga, Town Clerk**

An office of the U.S. Census Bureau located in Concord, NH recently contacted the Town Clerk's office.

They are looking for people interested in working for the U.S. Census Bureau. Ideally, they would like to employ Richmond residents to conduct the census survey in the Town of Richmond. The type of employment is categorized as "temporary, intermittent." The work is expected to continue until the end of September 2010. According to the information that I received today, census employees in NH will be paid \$15/hour. They are in need of help! I was told that no one from Richmond has applied. If you are interested, calls are welcome at their recruiting office at 603-573-9490. You may also apply by going to the Veteran's Hall on any Wednesday in January at 10:00 a.m.

I was also told that the U.S. Census Bureau would be conducting a door-to-door survey, beginning within the next month. The name for this type of survey is "Update Leave" and is done for specific towns. By the time you read this article, a Census Bureau employee may have already visited you. An official U.S. Census Bureau badge will identify the worker. This badge will not be a photo-ID. If you are not home, the census employee will return until (s)he is able to personally hand-deliver the form to you. Initial attempts at delivery will occur during normal working hours. If those attempts are unsuccessful, the visits may occur in the evenings or during the weekends. The Census Bureau employee will not be able to deliver the form to anyone under the age of 15 years old. If you have any questions or wish to apply for employment, you can call the U.S. Census Bureau's recruiting office at 603-573-9490.

**Definitely Definitions**

**Terri O'Rorke**

There's a new lawsuit that's been brought against the town. One of the words had me looking in the Black's Law Dictionary for the definition. Writ of Mandamus; a writ issued by a superior court to compel a lower court or a government officer to perform mandatory or purely ministerial duties correctly.

**Recordings of Broadway**

**Frank Behrens**

EMI has just released a treasure chest of a CD set, titled "Broadway Musicals: John McGlinn on Broadway." It is a box with 12 discs and a CD-ROM that contains all the program notes for the shows on the other discs. All of these were—and some still might be—available as single sets; but for those not having any of them, this is a wonderful collection.

For starters, McGlinn is a conductor who believes a show should be presented the way it was written. No changing of lyrics, no modulating the original keys or tempi, and so on. (He does a little of the latter on single-performer discs, but not for complete scores.) He also chooses singers who do full justice to their roles and creates a dramatic as well as musical product. He is, in short, the conductor of choice for Broadway music.

The collection starts with the historic recreation of Jerome Kern's "Show Boat" (lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II) on three CDs. Not only does it include every single number that was heard on opening night back in 1927, but has an appendix with every song that was written for revivals and for the 1936 film version. With Jerry Hadley, Frederica von Stade and Teresa Stratas in the lead roles, there is no other recording of this show even to consider!

Disc 4 has Cole Porter's "Anything Goes," in which just about every song is a hit! Here Kim Criswell takes on the Ethel Merman role, and is ably backed up by von Stade and Cris Groenendaal as the lovers. Veteran comic Jack Gilford is vocally perfect for the gangster. (The program notes explain all the references found in "You're the tops.")

Another every-number-a-hit show is Irving Berlin's



"Annie Get Your Gun" on Disc 5. Here Criswell is joined by Thomas Hampson, and all the songs and incidental music missing from the classic original cast album are included here.

More like operetta is "Brigadoon" on Disc 6 with its lovely score by Frederick Loewe and haunting lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner. The lovers are sung by Brent Barret and Rebecca Luker, while Judy Kaye handles the comic numbers. Again, much of the material missing from the original cast recording is found here.

"Kiss Me Kate" on Discs 7-8 holds more than one would expect. First there is the music and lyrics that told Broadway in 1948 that Cole Porter was still alive and writing. Here Josephine Barstow, a noted British opera soprano, sings Kate in love and war with Thomas Hampson as Petruchio. Then there is an appendix of six songs that were dropped from the show and there is still room left over for some Porter overtures and dance numbers!

"Jerome Kern Treasury" on Disc 9 contains 18 numbers from the composer's works, many of them very hard to find, if at all, on other recordings. You can tell that of the

composers so far heard in this set, this is the one that studied in Europe. Disc 10 is devoted to "Kurt Weill on Broadway." Selections here are from "One Touch of Venus," "Knickerbocker Holiday," "The Firebrand of Florence," and others. Note that Ira Gershwin wrote the lyrics for the latter show. Eight overtures to Jerome Kern shows and 5 to George Gershwin shows are heard on Disc 11, "Overtures." And finally, the last disc holds 15 "Show Stoppers." The always familiar ones like "Swanee" are mixed with rarely heard

ones like "Duet for One" from "1600 Pennsylvania Avenue." So here are top-notch recordings of top notch shows mixed with top-notch selections from less than top-notch shows. In short, while the price is a little high but not overly so, therefore well worth it. At the same time, EMI has issued a two-CD set called "The Very Best of Broadway: John McGlinn," in which 37 tracks from the complete set are presented for those who are content with a sampling. However one chooses, the result will be pure delight.

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**Dear Richmond Neighbors  
Sandra Gillis**

This year I plan to run for the open seat on the Richmond Select Board. Living in Richmond for the past seven plus years has been a joy – I love living in the woods, even though the digital TV signal wafts in and out, even though a computer connection is slower than molasses, even though water pipes freeze and the black flies are fierce. The stars and coyote calls at night, the moose, bear, and turkeys that share my front yard, the skunk that lives in the cellar hole and the foxes that greet me at the mailbox make it all more than worthwhile!

But what makes Richmond truly wonderful is the passion of its people for the town. We may not agree on some things and we may have chosen to live here for different reasons, but we all love the place where we live. Does that mean we don't want change? I don't think so. It was my privilege to work with Peter Majoy and dozens of other Richmond residents on the most recent update of the Master Plan. Hearing the group express its hopes and fears for the town inspired me to consider how we might improve our future.

When I first came to Richmond, I served as the Planning Board secretary. Taking the minutes for almost two years and meeting with the dedicated board members and the public on Tuesday nights showed me just how passionate people are about their land, their town and the state. "Live Free or Die" took on new meaning for me, and yet, a spirit of community prevailed — fire fighters, emergency personnel, police, volunteers and neighbors take care of each other, insuring that there is enough to eat, a warm place to sleep, winter clothes, a Thanksgiving turkey — Richmond is a generous community.

You set the priorities at the town Meeting and Richmond Selectmen are guided by them and the Master Plan to manage the administration of the town. So I'm appealing to you directly to consider my long track record as an effective leader. I'm experienced in budgeting, managing staff, and getting results. My work for the last five years shows that I know how to get things done in New Hampshire town government. Before that I worked for more than twenty years in non-profit management and governance. I'm open to new ideas and positive change. I make decisions based on fact, and promise to communicate with you openly, honestly and directly. I want to hear about your

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priorities, your concerns and your ideas for Richmond. We live in a beautiful rural town that we want our families and friends, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to enjoy as we do. Let's work together to make it happen. I respectfully ask for your vote on March 9, 2010.

Thank you.

**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

**Date: 7 Dec 2009** Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Andy Wood, Richmond Police Chief, came in to present his 2010 budget to the Selectmen, as scheduled. Sandy Perry, Zoning Board chair, came in to discuss a variance issue with the Selectmen. Whipple Hill resident Fred Goldberg came in to see the Selectmen regarding a private matter. He requested nonpublic session. JC made a motion at 7:45 p.m. to go into nonpublic session, RSA 91-A:3 II(c). Sean seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Board exited nonpublic session at 8:15 p.m. Sean made a motion to seal the minutes. Wes seconded. All were in favor. Grayson Smith, GDS Landmark Group, was in to update the Selectmen on the Vets Hall handicap renovations. He presented an invoice to the Selectmen. The Selectmen spoke with Road Agent, Dana Taylor, regarding an update on road maintenance. Morgan Road and Monument Road have been graded and maintenance will continue with Fay Martin Road, weather permitting. The Board signed pistol permit R 338507. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

**Date: 14 December 2009** Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. Brendon Bosquet was in to go over a police matter with the Selectmen. Wes made a motion to go into nonpublic session at 7:20 RSA91-A:3II (c). JC seconded it. Nonpublic session was exited at 7:35. Minutes to nonpublic session attached. Officer Bosquet has accepted an offer to become Richmond's Chief of Police. Tracy Tryba, Library Trustee, was in to go over the 2010 library budget



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with the Selectmen. Peter Majoy came in and let the selectmen know that the new Master Plan is now available to the public. Peter Majoy, Carl Schroeder, Jack Marsden, from the Voluntary Energy Committee, came in to talk to the Board of Selectmen. Invoice for the work done at the Vets Hall by Margaret Dillon was presented to the Selectmen. The VEC also shared recommendations from Ms. Dillon regarding her energy assessment of the Veteran's Hall. Steve Barghoorn was in to ask about contacting our police department regarding vehicles parking near his driveway and making it so he cannot get in or out of his property. Signed Intent to Cut for Map 408 Lots 037 and 066. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

**Date: 21 December 2009** Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. The Safety Committee had a scheduled meeting to discuss town building safety, pending safety issues. In attendance were JC Boudreau, Annette Tokunaga and Bev Hart. Jeffrey Taylor and John Randall of the Conservation Commission, came in for a scheduled meeting with the Board of Selectmen regarding an "intent to cut" with conservation issues. Sprague Brook Inc. requested access through the Town Forest. Jeff is going to contact the logger. Wendy O'Brien, Librarian and Bonnie McCarthy, Library Trustee, were in to discuss the projected expansion for the library. JC asked that they bring in a dimensional floor plan for the addition, as well as a map showing setbacks. JC reported to the Board about his safety inspection of the Veteran's Hall, fire department and library with regard to

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some pending safety issues. The new ramp to the south entrance of the Veteran's Hall is completed, as well as the new basement access. The library emergency lights are installed. The fire department still needs a safety barrier in the mezzanine area and the addition of new emergency lighting. The Selectmen worked on the 2010 budget. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

**Date: 28 December 2009** Attending: JC Boudreau, Sean McElhiney, Wes Vaughan. Read mail and signed checks. JC presented Dana Taylor, Road Agent, with a Senior Roads Scholar Award from UNH Technology Transfer Center. Dana also presented his 2010 budget to the Selectmen. Terri O'Rourke, Rescue Captain, came in to present her 2010 budget to the Selectmen. Kim Mattson came in to get Zoning Ordinance amendments from Selectman Vaughan. The following gun permits were signed off by the Selectmen: R338510, R338508 and R338509. John and Linda Rule came in to talk to the

Selectmen about constructing an in-law apartment in their garage. Bertha Nelson was in to dispute the building rental fee for a bible study group. The matter is being referred to the town attorney.

Ken Berg was in to renew his building permit, #2005-025. The Board reviewed expenditures which are reimbursable from trust funds. JC made a motion to expend from the Emergency Lane Fund \$1274.50. Sean seconded. Motion unanimously passed. JC made a motion to expend from the Capital Reserve Fund known as the Police Vehicle Fund \$24,458.36. Wes seconded. Motion passed unanimously. JC made a motion to expend \$8,000 from the Property Re-Val Expendable Trust Fund. Wes seconded. The Board discussed the importance of creating a Warrant Article to add monies to this fund in 2010. All were in favor. JC made a motion to expend \$58 from the Radio Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. Wes seconded. All were in favor. JC signed applications for payment from trust to authorize the Trustees of Trust Funds to transfer the funds. There being no other business to come before the Board, we adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

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**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  
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■ Selectmen —239-4232  
■ Town Clerk —239-6202  
■ Tax Collector —239-6106

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**Deadline is the 15th of each month.**

The Richmond Rooster welcomes comments and article contributions

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