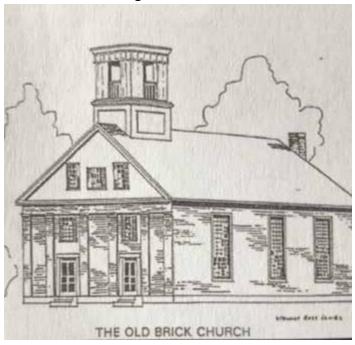


#### Steeple Chase Pam Goodell

Friends and members of the Old Brick Church (Richmond Community United Methodist Church) are chasing after funds for steeple repair.

The Community Church was built in 1837 with bricks made right here in Richmond's own brickyards, as well as with local lumber and slate. It is an integral part of Richmond's history and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is an example of country architecture influenced by the classic revival of the period. It is the oldest building in Richmond still used for worship.

Its third-floor meeting room is said to have housed Civil War meetings in the 1850s with a rally for the NH 16th regiment volunteers. Other historic events held in the church include a memorial service for assassinated President Garfield (whose mother was a Richmond native) and a memorial service for 21 Richmond residents who had fought in the American Revolution.



Over the decades, the Old Brick Church has experienced several restorations supported by present and former members and residents. Unfortunately, it has now sprung a leak around the bell tower and adjoining roof and needs repair.

Therefore, we are in urgent need of your support. We have contacted a local roofing company and have specifics on what will be needed. Any donations you can share will be greatly appreciated. as we strive to keep this historical building open.

Donations may be made to RCUMC (Richmond Community United Methodist Church) and mailed to 11 Fitzwilliam Road, Richmond, NH 03470. Please denote "steeple/roof repair" on the memo line.

We also invite you to keep an eye out for other fund-raising efforts we will undertake. Thank you in advance.

## Experiencing the 2024 Eclipse Wendy O'Brien, Town Librarian



The April 8th eclipse was certainly spectacular. Here in Richmond, 95% of the sun was blocked by the moon around 3:28 in the afternoon. Approximately 30 people gathered in Amidon Park behind the Library to view the eclipse, and many others had picked up eclipse glasses from the Library previously and viewed the event at home or work. It was wonderful to share in the awe of the eclipse with so many. Several observers were surprised at how long the eclipse lasted.

One of the exciting things about the eclipse was the opportunity to participate in citizen science activities. Susan Rolke of the Keene Amateur Astronomy Club (who gave a talk at the RPL in March) connected the Library with Eclipse Soundscapes, an organization which works with citizen scientists to record observations during eclipses. Its members are especially interested in replicating an experiment originally done in 1938, where scientists placed advertisements in newspapers asking for people to send in their observations of the natural world around them and how it changed during the eclipse. People noted that as the sky darkened, birds returned to their nests, cows lined up at the barn, and bats appeared.



Our Library was selected by Eclipse Soundscapes to receive one of 750 free Audiomoths and became part of the Eclipse Data Collector program. An Audiomoth is a small audio recording device that uses an SD card to record sounds. We placed our Audiomoth in the back of the Library in Amidon Park a few days prior to the eclipse. Putting it out early allowed for the recording of the everyday sounds in the Park. Then, these sounds could be compared to any differences that might occur during the eclipse. The Audiomoth was then picked up a couple of days after the eclipse and the SD card mailed to Eclipse Soundscapes for data review.



The Library also was an Observer site for Eclipse Soundscapes, where several people tracked changes around them using their senses. Participants took notes for 10 minutes prior and after Totality of what they heard, saw, and felt. Birds were heard around 3:25 PM; the temperature noticeably dropped, leading several people to put on their coats; even insects were noted as there were horseflies around the cars, and one person was bit by a mosquito! These observations will form part of a collective database for future researchers to use.

The 2024 eclipse was a chance for friends and neighbors to get together and witness a once-in-a-generation event. We had people of all ages attend, ranging from kids to great-grandmothers. It was a fascinating time for all. We here at the Library were so pleased to facilitate the viewing by having eclipse glasses and information available, as well as coordinating the collection of scientific data. The next total eclipse visible in New Hampshire will be in May 2079 for a future generation to enjoy.







### Water Wells and Pumps Out of water? Call us FIRST 603-352-8866

TRUE BREW REVIEW
2020 Reserve by
Hermit Thrush Brewery
Kevin Ellis



Very Fine Oak-aged Sour Red Ale 5.9% ABV

Sadly, this will be my first and last beer review for Hermit Thrush Brewery located in Brattleboro, VT, as it is slated to close its doors in April. I've been wanting to review them for quite some time, but never pulled the trigger as it is just a bit outside our area. But, this might be my favorite brewery within a 25 mile radius.

Hermit Thrush is a barrel aged, wild sour-only brewery which brews authentic and unique beers unlike any other you have had from any other brewery around. The brewers use local ingredients to the best of their abilities and use 100% wild yeast from the area. That means they never have to buy yeast, as they collect it naturally in the air around them. Yeast is





#### DAVID GANIO

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always around us; we just aren't aware it's there. But, these beautiful little buggers work magic! Without yeast, there would be no bread, no doughnuts, no wine and no beer! Wild yeast strains vary between regions, with each region taking on different flavors. Hermit Thrush was able to capture these wild yeasts around Brattleboro, VT and make them work wonders in all their concoctions. I know this might not sound particularly exciting to the common beer drinker, but, to the enthusiast, this is a very impressive brewing practice.



Kevin & Jillian Ellis view the 2024 solar eclipse from atop Mt. Caesar

Now that I'm done gushing over this place, let's get on with the review. I just hope I do it justice.

After returning home from a hike up Mt. Caesar with my daughter to watch the eclipse (glad we were able to share that cool experience!), I opened the 2020 Reserve and poured the beer down the side

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of a tilted tulip glass; then, straightened the glass and poured it down the middle to give it that nice foamy head on top. The colors were of dark black cherry and red apple with a light tan head on top.

The aroma was fantastic! Potent fruit, red wine, and even some chocolate scents that hit you firmly in the nose. Tons of red current, cherries, and oranges drift up from the glass to smack you in the snout. All of these intensified by its vinegary, acidic character. This is one beer I could smell forever.

The flavor was even more intense, if you can believe that. Strong flavors of the fruits noted in the aroma came through, but also the flavor of plum was present. The vinegary byproduct of fermentation turned this fruit bomb into a sour candy beverage, but without the sweetness at the end. Somewhat like a sour patch kid. After each swallow, you can't help but pucker up like you just tasted a lemon for the first time. No hop character was perceived, and there was also not much malt to be noted. It was more like an intensely flavored carbonated red wine that packs more fruit flavor and a prickly acidity after each sip.

Overall, I can't get over the complexity of this beer. I can promise you this is like nothing you've ever had before. Between the sour and acidic bite, fruity flavor and aroma, and uniqueness, this beer is stunning. And this is only one of the many fun and exciting beers they offer. Easily a 10 out of 10 for me.

I keep using the present tense in this article in hopes that you'll be reading this before their doors close on

"...the Founding Fathers gave the free press the protection it must have to fulfill its essential role in our democracy.

The press was to serve the governed, not the governors."

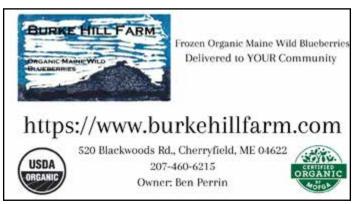
U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black

Support your Richmond Rooster
From a friend on Old Homestead Hwy.

April 28th or maybe you'll find them at a local shop which sells their beer. If you do, give it a shot. I understand sour beers are not something everyone is into, but, if you enjoy pickles or sauerkraut or yogurt, give this a try, you might be surprised by how much you like it.

In conclusion, this brewery is/was a one of a kind - extremely unique to this area and possibly a brewery that we might not see around here ever again. I hope Hermit Thrush is proud of what they have done over the past decade. As a brewer myself, I understand how difficult it is to brew this style of beer. It takes hard work, creativeness and patience to brew this type of beer. I'm glad I got to appreciate these beers for as long as I did and I'm sad to see them go, but every good thing must come to an end. Their beers have made an impression on the local scene, and, hopefully, more brewers will have the willingness to pursue these types of styles and add them to their portfolios in the future. Thank you, Hermit Thrush for being a local inspiration and influence. You will be missed.





## MEET OUR ADVERTISERS Burke Hill Farm Bonnie McCarthy

Advertisers are the life blood of the Richmond Rooster. Without their loyal support, we would not have a free monthly newspaper to inform and entertain the subscribers and the residents of our lovely, rural town.

One of the Rooster's newest advertisers is Burke Hill Farm in Cherryfield, Maine, a grower of those wonderfully sweet wild blueberries. Burke Hill Farm, owned by Ben Perrin, has been in the business of growing and selling organic wild blueberries since 2000. The farm manages over 200 acres of blueberry fields and harvests over 100,000 pounds of M.O.F.G.A. certified organic wild blueberries annually. This translates into Burke Hill Farm being one of the largest organic operations in the entire country. About six years ago, Ben and his team decided to take their five lb. boxes of frozen organic wild blueberries on the road, hitting

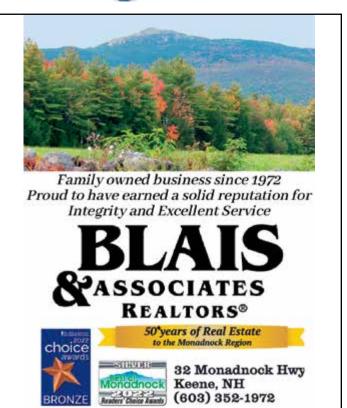
over 100 stops throughout New England in an effort to get these amazingly delicious and nutritious berries into more homes. This connection to customers and communities has been so successful that, this year, the farm is expanding delivery to over 150 locations. According to the Farm's January 2024 press release, "Wild blueberries are one of nature's most powerful tools. They are high in vitamins, minerals, fiber and micronutrients including antioxidants."

The delivery route is displayed on their website: www.burkehillfarm.com. The website and Facebook page, www.facebook/burkehillfarm, offer information about the operation, and emails provide the occasional recipe. Each monthly delivery stop lasts exactly 15 minutes. The nearest stop is at the parking lot behind Margarita's Mexican Restaurant in Keene. The most convenient way to order blueberries (they make a great gift!) is to use the website to place an order and click on the map for the Keene location, where the delivery date and time will be posted. For example, I met the van behind Margarita's on April 22nd at 2:25 PM. Each five lb. box of frozen blueberries costs \$35; payment is due at the delivery site by cash, check or bank card. I wrap my purchase in a bathroom towel to keep it well frozen on the 25-minute trip directly home to my freezer.

If anyone has difficulty using the website, you may contact me at (603) 239-4088.











#### **Richmond's Got Talent!**

Saturday, May 4, 2024 – 10 AM to Noon

Lenny Solomon (guitar, harmonica, vocals) will perform at the Winchester Farmers' Market at Winchester Center, weather permitting.

Saturday, May 11, 2024 – 10 AM to Noon

Lenny Solomon (guitar, harmonica, vocals) will perform at the Winchester Farmers' Market at Winchester Center, weather permitting.

Thursday, May 16, 2024 – 5:30 PM to 8 PM

Guaranteed local talent and beyond on Open Mic Night at "Stage 32", our Vets' Hall. Music starts at 6 PM. Free event jointly sponsored by Parks & Rec and the Richmond Historical Society.

Saturday, May 18, 2024 – 10 AM to Noon

Lenny Solomon (guitar, harmonica, vocals) will perform at the Winchester Farmers' Market at Winchester Center, weather permitting.





#### Mother's Day Pasta Shrimp Salad Terri O'Rorke

#### **Ingredients**

1 lb. (uncooked) pasta, seashells, ziti or bowtie

2 4.5 oz. cans tiny shrimp, drained

3 C frozen peas, thawed

3/4 C chopped celery

1/2 C chopped fresh dill

1/2 C olive oil

1/4 C fresh lemon juice

1/8 tsp. each - black pepper and dry mustard

Cherry tomatoes for garnish

#### Directions

Cook pasta according to package directions; drain, set aside. In a large bowl, combine shrimp, peas, celery and dill; set aside. Blend together oil, lemon juice and seasonings. Pour over shrimp mixture. Add cooled pasta, tossing to coat well. Garnish with cherry tomatoes, if desired. Cover and chill until ready to serve. Serves 8.



### **Richmond Historical Society**

Richmond, NH The Town and The Forest, 250+ years of living and growing together



#### **Library News** Wendy O'Brien

Library Calendar for May

Anytime: StoryWalk at Amidon Park (behind the

firehouse)

Wednesdays, 10 AM: Storytime

Saturdays, 10 AM – Noon: Drop-in Knitting Circle Wednesday, May 1st, 11 AM: Richmond Reminisces Wednesday, May 1st, 6 PM: Coffee with the Classics Book Club **at Conant Library in Winchester** Tuesday, May 14th, 6 PM: Tuesday Book Club, The Rent Collector, Camron Wright StoryWalk/Welcoming Library

Summer is almost here and we are pleased to announce that the StoryWalk behind the firehouse at Amidon Park is back up for the 2024 season. Take a walk with your kids and read a story at the same time. In May, we are featuring *Snow in the Jungle*. Little polar bear Snow has to move from the Arctic to the jungle - how will she fit in?

After visiting the outdoor StoryWalk, please come into the Library, as we are hosting the Welcoming Library, a collection of illustrated books that celebrate our immigrant neighbors and families. These books are on loan to the RPL from the NH State Library through the end of May. "Immigration





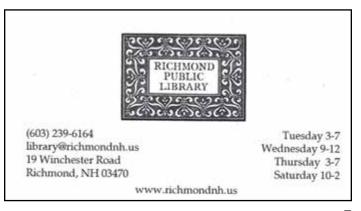


is no longer a single story of European migration through Ellis Island," says Kirsten Cappy, Executive Director of I'm Your Neighbor Books. "To tell *today's* immigration story, we must turn to multiracial and multicultural book collections. Those collections will change our perceptions of immigration and ourselves." Little Free Library at the Beach

Another great summer activity is the Little Free Library at the Town Beach! We have fully stocked the Library and it is ready for you and your family to take books for free, and to donate one if you have one. We will refill it weekly throughout the summer, so stop by often to pick up your next great read. Coffee with the Classics Book Club

Rescheduled from April (who would believe that we had such a late winter storm!) to **May 1st at 6 PM in Winchester:** the Richmond Public Library and the Conant Public Library are sponsoring "Coffee with the Classics," a new book club focusing on classical literature. We have selected "The Great Gatsby," by F. Scott Fitzgerald as our inaugural choice, with multiple copies available at both libraries. We hope you will join us in this new opportunity for those who love both good literature and coffee! New Titles

Berry Pickers, Amanda Peters Never Too Late, Danielle Steel Studies at the School by the Sea, Jenny Colgan Clark and Division, Naomi Hirahara People Collide, Isle McElroy





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#### **Clifton Harold Johnson**

Clifton ("Clif") Harold Johnson, 87, formerly of Richmond, NH passed away at Maplewood Nursing Home in Westmoreland, NH on March 16, 2024, after a period of declining health. In 2011, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, but survived 11 years after treatment.

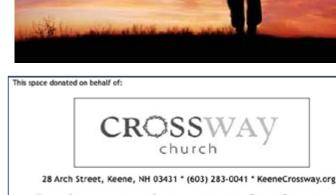
Clif was born in Springfield, MA on January 25, 1937 to the late Hazel (Cassidy) and Howard Johnson. He graduated from Springfield Technical High School in 1954. He went onto UConn, earning a degree in Occupational Therapy, and then served in the US Army as a First Lieutenant. Later, he continued his education in the rehabilitation and mental health fields at Springfield College, Western Michigan University, UNH, Fitchburg State College, Keene State College, and Antioch. Clif also enjoyed traveling and visited many places all over the world. He worked as a rehabilitation director/case manager/substance abuse counselor in New York State. Connecticut. Massachusetts, Crotched Mountain Greenfield, NH, and the Public Health Department in Nashua and Hudson, NH. Clif also had a private practice serving clients in Cheshire County, NH and Brattleboro, VT. In addition, he was certified as a licensed drug and alcohol counselor.

Clif spent his retirement privately in his cabin in the woods of Richmond, NH. Due to declining health, he spent the last two years at Maplewood Nursing Home. A special thank you to Dr. John Walter and all the staff at Maplewood Nursing Home for their kind and compassionate care.

Clif is predeceased by his parents, his sister Alta, and several friends and relatives. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to Clif's favorite radio station, New Hampshire Public Radio, NHPR, P.O. Box 9645, Manchester, NH 03108-9645.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Cremation Society of New Hampshire. Burial will take place on May 15, 2024 at 11 AM with military honors in the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, NH.





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Richmond Community
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Pastor Stacey Hartford

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Save the Date: Monadnock Humane Society's 36th Annual Walk for Animals!



Please join us on May 18th at the Keene Dillant-Hopkins Airport from 9 am to 1 pm for the 36th Annual Walk for Animals. Registration is FREE and you don't want to miss out on this incredible day of family-fun that helps so many animals in need.

The Monadnock Humane Society Walk for Animals unites individuals of all ages, walking together to support animals in need. In the weeks preceding the event, participants raise vital funds that support our life-saving work by rallying support from friends, family, and colleagues.

#### What to expect at the Walk:

- Incredible raffles & prizes
- Our infamous Vendor Village
- The Traveling Taco food truck
- An exciting dog agility course
- A scenic, dog-friendly, walk
- Lots of family fun!

After the walk, we will gather at Frogg Brewing at 2 pm for an after-party with food trucks, live music, and the big reveal of the grand prize winners of our Rescue Brew contest!

Register here: <a href="https://secure.qgiv.com/event/mhswalk2024/?blm">https://secure.qgiv.com/event/mhswalk2024/?blm</a> aid=30485509

A word about dog safety: Dogs need to be leashed (please no retractable leashes) and up-to-date with all vaccinations. Please use good judgment as far as the temperament and physical capability of your dog for this event.









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Five hydro-electric facilities on the Connecticut River in VT, NH, and MA are being relicensed, and YOU can submit public comments through May 22nd. The flow of the river is controlled by Great River Hydro and FirstLight Power Services, and the licenses last for 30-50 years! Hydro facilities use a public trust resource – your river – to produce power and they're required to provide benefits to the public and ecological health of the river. Let's make sure they do! This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to speak up for recreational access and a healthy river. To learn more, visit Connecticut River Conservancy's website at <a href="mailto:ctriver.org/hydro">ctriver.org/hydro</a>.







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**Email** – <u>therichmondrooster@gmail.com</u> **Rooster Online**: <u>http://therichmondrooster.net</u>

#### **Town Administration**

**Selectmen:** William Daniels, Doug Bersaw, Andrew Wallace

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

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

Wed. 9 AM – 1 PM Thurs. 9 AM – Noon

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

Town Clerk: Karen O'Brien
Deputy Town Clerk: Cheryl Brake
Tues. 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Wed. 9 AM - Noon & 1 PM - 4 PM
Thur. 8 AM - Noon

For Tues. appointments (5 PM, 5:30 PM, 6 PM), call 239-6202 or email the clerk.

**Tax Collector:** Steve Boscarino **Deputy Tax Collector:** Mary Rogers Mon. 6 PM – 8 PM, Wed. 9 AM – Noon

**Planning Board:** Held at Taylor/VanBrocklin Bldg. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month - 7:00 PM

Transfer Station and Recycling Facility: 239-8136 Tues. 8 AM – 4 PM, Thurs. 8 AM – 7 PM Sat. 8 AM – 5 PM

**Town Library:** Wendy O'Brien, Librarian, 239-6164. Tues. 3 PM – 7 PM, Wed. 9 AM – Noon Thurs, 3 PM – 7 PM, Sat. 10 AM – 2 PM

> Police (Non Emergency): 355-2000 Fire/Rescue (Non Emergency): 239-4466 Fire Warden:

Fire Permit: Buzz Shaw, 239-4238 Selectmen – 239-4232

**Town Clerk** – 239-6202

**Tax Collector** – 239-6106

Road Agent: Elton "Buddy" Blood, II – 400-3629

**Building Maint.:** Pam Bielunis **Zoning Compliance Officer:** 

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

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