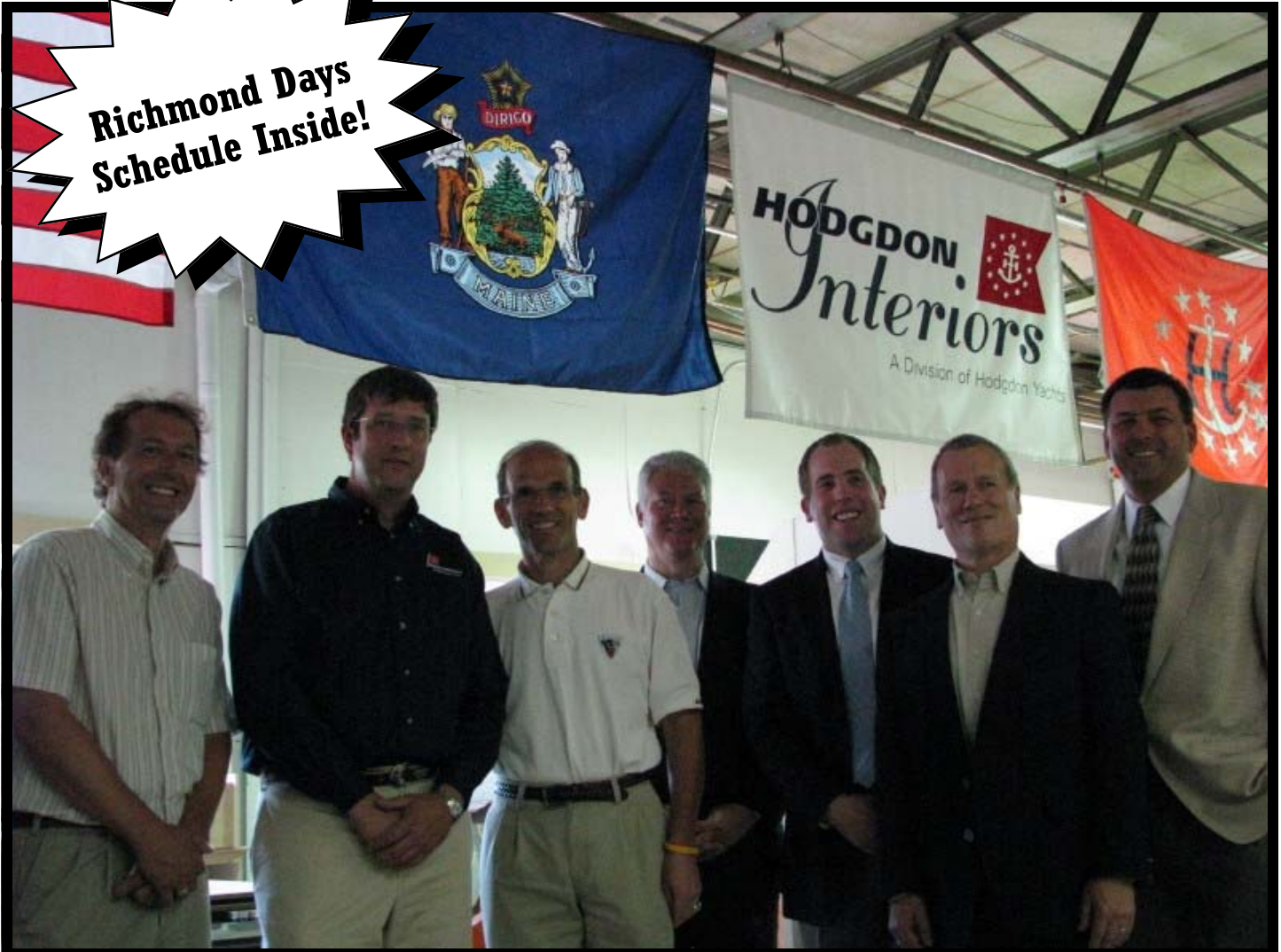


MAINLY RICHMOND



**Richmond Days
Schedule Inside!**



Left to Right: David Smaha, Tim Hodgdon, Governor Baldacci, Commissioner Richardson, Seth Goodall, Darryl Sterling and Thomas Fortier.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- New Holding Area Hours of Operation
- Richmond Days July 25 & 26th schedule
- Business Feature: "River"
- Charles Dyke honored at Town Meeting
- Hodgdon Yacht Interiors Open House
- Revaluation Update

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on June 25, 2008 which celebrated the opening of Hodgdon Interiors a division of Hodgdon Yacht. The company plans to hold an open house so the residents can come see the new facility their support helped make possible. For more information on the open house please see page 3.

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TOWN OF RICHMOND

26 Gardiner Street

P.O. Box 159

Richmond, Maine 04357

(207) 737-4305

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Last Thursday of the Month

8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

www.richmondmaine.com

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Alice E. Knapp
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 Email: aknapp@gwi.net

Richmond Insurance Agency
 94 Main Street Richmond, Maine 04357

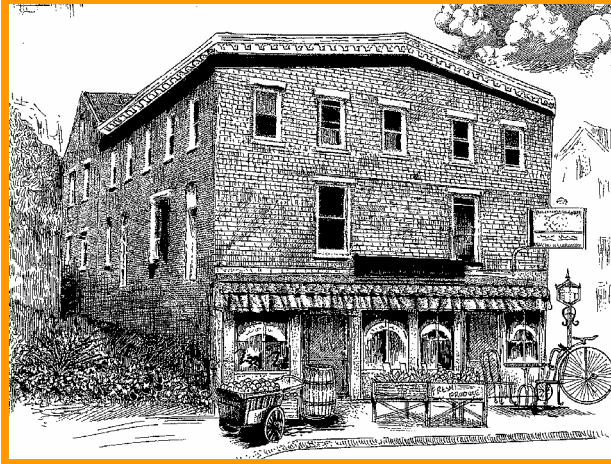
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 for all your insurance needs.



Economic & Community Development By: Darryl Sterling

Richmond is on the Rise! More downtown revitalization work is underway. Look around and notice the many improvements. The town gateway landscaping project is almost completed. The town gateway landscaping project is almost completed. Rosengren Landscaping, Inc. of Freeport have been doing a great job. Look for crosswalks and sidewalk work to begin soon; along with building façade improvements, site amenities, benches and more! It promises to be a very busy summer.



Proposed Façade work on Front Street along with Front Street Tree Plantings



Hodgdon Interiors Ribbon Ceremony June 25, 2008



Town Gateway Landscaping Project

06/26/2008

Hodgdon Yacht Interiors Open House July 10th

Hodgdon Yacht Interiors to hold an "Open House!" To thank the Town of Richmond and vendors. Please drop by July 10th between 4:00 and 6:30p.m. for a cookout, catered by Richmond's very own "Texas Bar-b-que Company!" Come see the changes! Location at the Richmond Business Manufacturing Center on Main Street.



Code Enforcement By: Doug Marble



Hello Richmond, Summer is here! For this months Newsletter I have decided to write about Frequently Asked Questions. Also please note the Community Health Survey, please fill it out and bring it in to the Town Office so that we may get them in to the County Health Board.

Q. Does the Town allow old mobile homes to be moved into Town?

A. (This is a two part answer.)

No. Mobile homes moved into town must be 15 years old or newer.

Yes. The Town Ordinance allows older homes to be moved into Town if the Code Enforcement Officer certifies the unit complies with the safety standards contained in Rule 02-385 as amended by the Dept. of Professional and Financial regulation, Manufactured Housing Board. If the home is rebuilt to meet these standards it is allowed. This ordinance provision is not capable of being implemented as written, because of the fact that the physical location of the mobile home to be moved into Town could be as far away as Fort Kent or farther which I can not drive to inspect and certify compliance.

Q. Are commercial buildings allowed in the residential zone?

A. Yes. Some commercial uses are an allowed use in the residential, village, shore land and agricultural zones.

Q. Do driveways or fences have to be setback from the property line.

A. No. Setbacks are only required for structures. Driveways and fences are not defined as a structure.

Q. Do I need a permit to build a small deck or small shed?

A. Yes, Richmond requires permits for any new or replaced structures or structural elements. This does not include repair and maintenance, such as siding replacement.

Q. Do I need a plumbing permit to replace a water heater?

A. Yes, water heaters in Maine are required to be permitted and inspected for safety.

Q. Do I need a permit to start a business out of my home?

A. Yes. You need to get a permit and meet the requirements under a home occupation.

Q. How many houses can be built on a piece of land with a 50 ft right of way?

A. One. Lots with no road frontage are considered back lots, restricted to one house.

Q. Does a permit need to be obtained before converting a room into a bedroom?

A. Yes. You need a permit and the septic needs to be calculated for the increase.

Q. How deep does a hole have to be before it is considered a hole?

A. As soon as you dig a hole it's a hole.

Town Honors Charles “Rusty” Dyke



The Board of Selectmen honor Charles “Rusty” Dyke of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife for his 25 years of dedicated service as a biologist overseeing Swan Island. June 3, 2008 at Town Meeting



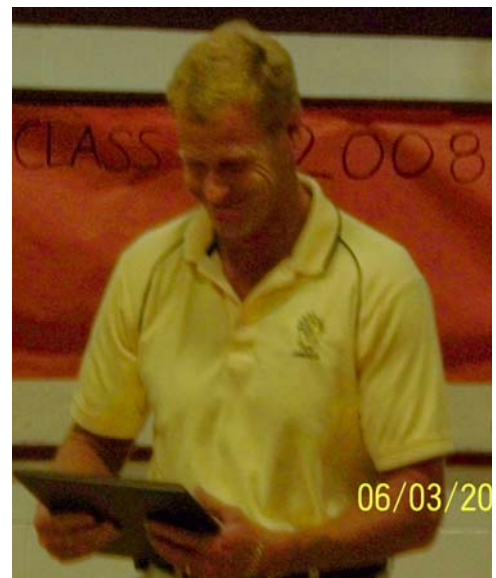
Charles better known as “Rusty” has been a biologist overseeing and maintaining Swan Island along with two college conservation aides during the summer, ferry visitors back and forth, giving tours, keeping the fields mowed, the roads passable

and the campers happy. His extensive knowledge and experience has educated thousands of visitors to the Island, always being accommodating to the variety of individual needs and his willingness to go the extra mile to get the job done for Swan Island and the Rich-

mond community.

Rusty actually lived on the Island year-round from 1985 until 1995. When he left the island became officially uninhabited.

Rusty’s main goal has always been keeping Swan Island open and available for the public. Thank You for your hard work, dedication and outstanding public service!



The Selectmen's Corner

Wind Turbine Survey By: Burt Batty



Burt Batty
Selectman

During these tough economic times we are all looking for ways to live within our budget when prices for fuel, heating oil, and food are on a steady rise. For our Town buildings and operations we are always looking for new ways to cut back on energy costs. Presently, Tracy Tuttle our new Selectboard member and myself are looking into having a Wind

Turbine Site Survey conducted by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service for the Town. If we are approved for the survey, it will tell us if wind turbine power will work to offset the power needs of the Town Office, Police Department, Public Works, Fire Department and our Schools.

If you are interested in

learning more about improving the energy efficiency of your home or business, I suggest you visit the UMaine Cooperative Extension website at www.extension.umaine.edu/energy. Loads of valuable energy information is available for alternative home heating, transportation needs and more.

“Going Green & Saving Money” By: Seth Goodall



Seth Goodall
Selectman

Last winter, the Selectboard passed a resolution to “go green” to improve energy efficiency and the environment as well as save taxpayers’ money. It is another area the Board determined Richmond can save money and do more with less.

The Board and Town Manager Tom Fortier are pursuing green practices in recycling, purchasing, gas and heating oil consumption, as well as idling policies for municipal vehicles. Later this summer the town will perform an energy audit on the municipal buildings. At the same time the school system and the town are studying the in-

stallation of a renewable energy system to heat multiple buildings that will provide significant savings.

The Board is also working to develop a program to assist residents in making their homes more efficient prior to this winter in order to help them save money and stay warm.

Beginning in July, Richmond will implement single stream recycling at the Transfer Station on Lincoln Street. Residents will be able to mix their recyclable goods into one container, avoiding the

separation of goods at home and the Transfer Station. Single stream increases resident recycling through convenience, reduces land-fill waste, and saves taxpayer money through reduced per-bag disposal costs. Residents and non-residents with a permit will be able to drive into the Transfer Station and literally dump their recyclables into one container.

By offering single stream recycling at our own facility and contracting with a local hauler, the Board is able to provide more options for the residents.

1949 TOWN MANAGER VISITS RICHMOND

Ervin L. Welch former Town Manager (1949-1951) made an honorable visit to Richmond. He was graciously greeted by former Town Manager Jay Robbins and current Town Manager Thomas A. Fortier.

Ervin L. Welch entertained family, office staff, and guest with his stories of being the Richmond Town Manger. One story included putting forth his own money so the town could purchase a new fire engine.

Thomas Fortier presented Mr. Welch with a proclamation which included a piece from the 1949 Town Report along with a list of town officials whom he managed.



Left to Right:
Jay Robbins, Ervin L. Welch, Thomas A. Fortier



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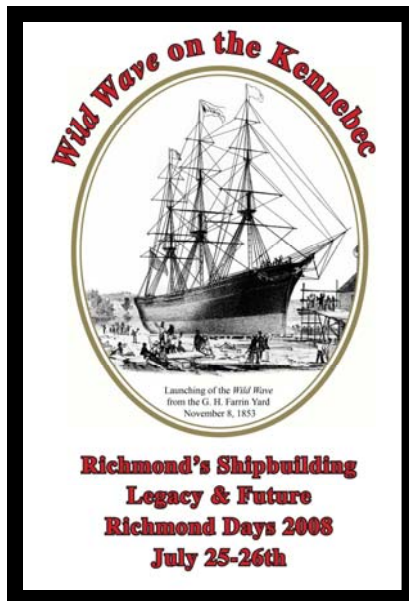
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Richmond Days

Schedule of Events for Friday July 25th

- 11:00-5:00p.m. Exhibit "Richmond Goes to Sea" in the Tower Room of the Southard Mansion, this exhibit is presented by the Historical Society and the Maine Maritime Museum.
- 1:00p.m. "Walking tour of Captain's Homes" w/Jay Robbins tours begin at the Southard Mansion on Main Street.
- 3:00p.m. "Walking tour of Captain's Homes w/Jay Robbins tours begin at the Southard Mansion on Main Street
- 4:00-6:00p.m. Swan Island Tours (Reservations can be made online through the towns website at www.richmondmaine.com)
- 5:30p.m. Cake Walk at the Waterfront Park
- 6:00p.m. Children's Parade
- 6:00-8:00p.m. Barrel Train Rides
- 6:00-9:00p.m. Rock Balancing Activity
- 7:00p.m. Mary Hoyt Award Honoring Richmond's oldest resident at the Gazebo
- 8:00-10:00p.m. Entertainment-Evergreen at the Gazebo



Richmond Days!

Please join us for fun in the sun in July!

Barrel train rides, Huge Inflatable's, Test your Pitching Speed, Youth Art & Activities Tent, Art & Crafts Tent, Food, Festivities, Entertainment, Music and Fun!

Participation in all activities is unlimited with a one time purchase of a \$5.00 bracelet.

Richmond Days

Schedule of Events for Saturday July 26th

9:00-11:00a.m.	Strawberry Shortcake at the Umberhine Library
10:00a.m.	Parade (Assembly begins at 9:00a.m.)
10:30-12:00p.m.	Fireman's Muster (Front Street)
10:00-4:00p.m.	Lawn Sale at the Richmond Health Center
10:00-12:00	Swan Island Tours (See www.richmondmaine.com)
11:00-2:00p.m.	Antique Car Show at the RBMC
11:00-5:00p.m.	Barrel Train Rides
11:00-5:00p.m.	Youth Art Activities Tent
11:00-5:00p.m.	Exhibit "Richmond Goes To Sea: in the Tower Room at the Southard Mansion
11:00-2:00p.m.	Lawn Sale/Chicken Bar-B-Q at the Drum Church
11:00-3:00p.m.	Archery Demo
11:00-5:00p.m.	True North Inflatable Activities
11:00-5:00p.m.	Rock Balancing Activity
11:30a.m.	Cakewalk at the Waterfront Park
11:30-5:00p.m.	Strawberry Shortcake at the Waterfront Park
12:00-2:00p.m.	Swan Island Tours (See www.richmondmaine.com)
12:00-2:00p.m.	Lobster Crate Challenge (Police Officers compete in full uniform)
12:00-4:00p.m.	Maine Maritime Exhibit-Southard House
12:00-5:00p.m.	Pirates of the Dark Heart (Reenactment)-Waterfront
1:00-2:00p.m.	Radio Controlled Boat Demo-State Pier
1:00-2:30p.m.	DJ Ryan Cote at the Gazebo
2:00-4:00p.m.	Bill Bunting presents a visual lecture which will include information about Captain Zack Allen at the Drum Church.
2:30-4:00p.m.	Roll-N-Go Nautical Music at the Gazebo
3:00p.m.	Swan Race (\$5.00 Swan Entry Fee)-Prizes!
6:00-9:00p.m.	Freedom Riders Entertainment at the Gazebo
9:15p.m.	Fireworks
10:00-1:00a.m.	Sock Hop at the Old Goat

JULY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JULY MEETING SCHEDULE

- 7/1 CDBG 6:00p.m.
- 7/4 Fourth of July-Office Closed
- 7/5 Holding Area Open
- 7/7 Waterfront Committee 7:00p.m.
- 7/9 School Committee 7:00p.m.
- 7/10 Selectmen 7:00p.m.
- 7/12 Holding Area Open
- 7/14 Economic Development 7:00p.m.
- 7/19 Holding Area Open
- 7/22 Planning Board 6:00p.m.
- 7/24 Selectmen 7:00p.m.
- 7/25 RICHMOND DAYS!
- 7/26 RICHMOND DAYS!
- 7/26 Holding Area Open

- 8/2 Holding Area Open
- 8/3 Holding Area Open
- 8/4 Waterfront Committee 7:00p.m.
- 8/5 CDBG 6:00p.m.
- 8/7 Selectmen 7:00p.m.
- 8/9 Holding Area Open
- 8/11 Economic Development 7:00p.m.
- 8/13 School Committee 7:00p.m.
- 8/16 Holding Area Open
- 8/19 Planning Board 6:00p.m.
- 8/21 Selectmen 7:00p.m.
- 8/23 Holding Area Open
- 8/30 Holding Area Open



AUGUST 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST MEETING SCHEDULE

Don't forget to visit the "**What's Happening**" page on the Town of Richmond's website to find out about local events and entertainment. www.richmondmaine.com

RICHMOND HOLDING AREA

150 LINCOLN STREET

(Off Front Street)

HOURS: 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m.



OPEN EVERY SATURDAY (Winter months pending)

OPEN THE 1ST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Only Richmond and Dresden residents and employees of the Town of Richmond may use the Holding Area. Dump Stickers must be obtained annually. (\$2.00/Resident-\$5.00/Non-Resident) These stickers may be purchased at the holding area or during regular business hours at the Town Office and placed in plain view on your vehicles windshield.

ACCEPTABLE TYPES OF WASTE:

Wood waste – Processed wood, chipboard, plywood, wood furniture, lightly painted wood, clean demolition wood, and fiberboard. Nails, screws and staples are acceptable. Heavy door hinges, doorknobs, etc. must be removed prior to acceptance. This material shall be ground on site before transport to a properly licensed bio-mass fuel plant. **(no charge)**

Brush and virgin wood – No stumps or grubblings.

White goods – Stoves, washing machines, clothes dryers, dish washers, hot water tanks, air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, etc. Capacitors found in some household appliances will not be removed by Town personnel. Freon and other refrigerant gasses will be removed from refrigerators and freezers by a licensed contractor prior to their shipment off site. Doors must be removed from refrigerators and freezers before they can be unloaded at the facility. They shall be stored upright until the gasses have been removed. **(Refrigerators, Freezers & Air Conditioners - \$11; others no charge)**

Metal goods – Bikes, metal doors, window frames (with all glass removed), metal pipes, metal fencing, wire cables, tools, misc. scrap metal. All non-metallic materials shall be removed to extent possible before depositing metal at Holding Area. Oil and gas tanks and 55-gallon drums acceptable only if entirely dry, ventilated and cut open or otherwise made so they can't hold any liquids. Old metal paint cans acceptable only if entirely empty of all liquids and crushed. Old lawn mowers and similar equipment acceptable only if all oil, gas and other fluids have been drained and plugs have been removed. VCR's, radios, microwaves & tape decks can be thrown in the metal pile. **(no charge)**

Brick, cured concrete and rock – Items are accepted at the Public Works Garage at 19 High Street. **(no charge)**

Oversized Construction Demolition Debris – Mattresses, couches, overstuffed chairs, sofa beds, love seats, plastics (pipes, yard toys, siding, gutters), carpets and pads, fiberglass tubs/showers, truck caps. These wastes will be trucked off site to approved facilities by Richmond DPW personnel using municipal vehicles licensed to transport non-hazardous waste. **(see price list)**

Tires – Passenger vehicle and similar sizes. No skidder or tractor tires accepted. Those with rims shall be stored separately from those without rims. These wastes will be handled as bulky wastes above. **(see price list)**

PRICE LIST: Bulky Goods: Prices listed are “per item.” Only those items listed below may be accepted:

Sofa Beds/Couches	\$15.00	Pressure treated wood-up to 10lbs	\$5.00
Love Seats/Recliners/Chairs	\$10.00	up to 200lbs	\$25.00
Mattress or Box Spring (any size)	\$10.00	Porcelain toilet bowls (w/tanks)	\$5.00 (\$7.00)
Auto Bucket Seat	\$10.00	Porcelain sinks	\$5.00
Auto Bench Seat	\$15.00	Refrigerators, Freezers/A/C	\$11.00
Rugs/Pads (depending on size)	\$10.00-\$20.00	Tires w/rims (add \$1.00 tire)	
Fiberglass truck caps	\$20.00	15” or smaller	\$3.00
Fiberglass tubs/showers	\$20.00	15 to 16.5”	\$4.00
Misc. Items (plastic yard toys, etc.)	\$3.00-\$15.00	16.5 or larger	\$6.00
(Per piece-based on volume or weight)		(Skidder & Tractor Tires not accepted)	
		Propane & Gas Tanks	\$5.00-\$10.00 +

Acceptable recyclable items include: newspapers, magazines, catalogs, phone books, envelopes (all types), paper (all colors, paper clips and staples), cardboard, milk cartons, glass and plastic bottles, food containers, and aluminum and metal cans. **Very few items are prohibited,** such as glass and unmarked plastics (toys), styrofoam and foam, and recyclables containing food waste.



Senior Notes for Senior Folks

JULY ACTIVITIES

JULY 19TH-Duck Boat Ride, leave the Senior Center at 10:15 a.m.-Cost \$18.00. This is a 65 minute adventure through Portland and the Old Port and then drive into the waters of Casco Bay to view Portland's working waterfront, Calendar Island and Marine Wildlife. Cost of lunch is on you. Restaurant of choice to be announced. Reservations must be made by July 14th.

JULY 26th- **Richmond Days**-The Senior Center will be holding an indoor Treasure Sale. We are having a bake sale in front of the Flower Spot and we are having a raffle that includes 24 items.

Tickets for the raffle are 6 for \$5.00 or \$1.00 each. Raffle tickets will be sold at the bake sale and at the Senior Center.

AUGUST ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 5TH- 10:00a.m. Attorney Victoria Powers from Freeport will be at the Senior Center to discuss Senior Issues. Victoria will speak to us about resources and legal issues that are available to us in the event a senior family member becomes ill.

AUGUST 9TH- Two hour cruise from Boothbay Harbor to Damariscove Island-Cost: \$20.00-Leave the Senior Center at 8:15a.m., after the cruise we will eat in Boothbay Harbor at the restaurant of your choice or you may bring a lunch. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring a jacket. This is a rain or shine trip. Reservations must be made by July 28th

AUGUST 16TH- Portland Sea Dogs Game at 6:00p.m. leaving the Senior Center at 4:30p.m.

AUGUST 23RD-Monmouth Playhouse-Arsenic and Old Lace-Cost \$19.80. Bus leaves the Senior Center at 6:00p.m. Reservations must be made by July 14th.

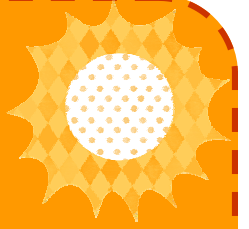
AUGUST 28TH- Enjoy a day at the Windsor Fair, leave the Senior Center at 9:00a.m. Admission Fee \$2.00 this is a carpooling event, sign up at the Senior Center by August 22nd.

COST OF ALL ACTIVITIES ARE DUE AT THE TIME OF RESERVATIONS

WE MUST HAVE AT LEAST 20 PEOPLE SIGN UP

FOR EACH TRIP TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE

Senior Notes for Senior Folks



SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

SEPTEMBER 11TH-"Music by Magic" held at the Araxine Wilkins Sawyer Foundation in Greene. Leave the Senior Center at 5:45p.m. (Free Admission) This is a newly formed instrumental group specializing in easy-listening selections from the 30's through the 70's. It's members have a long history of performances in Maine. Please sign up at the Senior Center by September 9th.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 8TH- 12:00-p.m. Come celebrate our 1st Year Anniversary at the Senior Center, we will be having an Open House and would love to have all of you come in and spend some time with us. We plan to have entertainment to enjoy and refreshments will be served.

OCTOBER 11TH- Fall Foliage Trip. Buss leaves the Senior Center at 9:00a.m. It's time to board the bus for Natures brilliant leaf show. Join us for our annual fall foliage loop. Many places of interest to visit. We will be stopping for lunch on the way. Please sign up at the Senior Center by October 3rd.

OCTOBER 15TH- 10:00a.m.-Dr. Andrew Smith, DPM is from Foot and Ankle Center in Augusta. Dr. Smith will give a presentation on how to care for your feet. He will also tell us how to treat our feet if we are having discomfort from diabetes or other foot problems. He will be answering any question that you may have on this subject. This is open to the General Public.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Bridge Tutors Mondays

9:30 a.m. Learn the art of playing bridge

Planning Meeting

The first Monday of each month
9:30 a.m.

Bring your Ideas.

Game Day Wednesday

12:30- to closing

Refreshments Served

Pot Luck Dinners

Once a month

Thursday afternoon

Bridge Ladies

If a senior needs help, every effort will be made to provide access to materials and agencies that can provide the needed help. To be successful, a senior program must address the diverse needs of seniors and that is the goal of this program.

~Thank you, for your support at the Town Meeting.

Thanks to Barbara Srock with her assistance we can keep the center open 5 days a week!

SENIOR CENTER HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00-3:00P.M.

CONTACT: BETTY PRATT AT 737-2161

EMAIL: bpratt@richmondmaine.com

The Town Sponsored Senior Citizen Program is open to all Senior Citizens in our Community.

We invite you all to join us.

A Message from the Harbormaster

If you're a recreational boater or fisherman like I am, around this time of year the water starts calling your name and you get the overpowering urge to launch your vessel. If you plan on using the town boat launch as your base of operations, please park your trailer behind the mill building to the right of the pump out station. If you plan on tying up to the town dock, please note that there is a two hour limit. If you need to tie up longer or overnight, call the harbormaster at **607-0687** for permission.

We've got the pump out station going and assistance is available between the hours of 10 AM to 4 PM Wednesday through Sunday. The town dock is provided with electrical hook ups. Water and hose will be available soon.

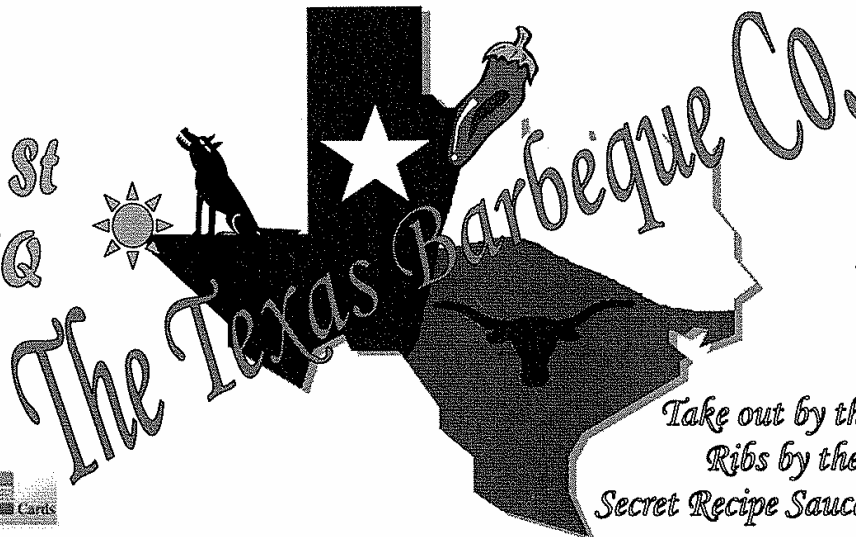
If you're interested in mooring space in the harbor, the fee is \$20 for Richmond residents and \$40 for non-residents. Currently there is a waiting list, but as I get the existing moorings organized, new locations will be assigned in order of request. You can get on

the waiting list by contacting me through my cell number 607-0687, by email at harbormaster@richmondmaine.com or by calling the town office.

At this time of year weather is highly changeable and can be a distinct hazard for boaters. Be sure to monitor the weather forecast before going out on the water. TV and radio forecasts are good sources for local weather information. If you have a marine radio tune to one of the local weather channels for updates. Then after you're on the water, watch for signs of changes in the weather. Rising or changing winds, darkening or thickening clouds, and sudden drops in temperature may all be signs of instability. When in doubt, get off the water and head for shelter. After you've checked out the weather, in case of accident, it's a good idea to let someone know where you're going and when you plan on coming back. That way if you're overdue someone will know to look for you. Let's make this a fun and safe boating season!

Authentic Mesquite Smoked BBQ

43 Main St
737-TEXQ



Mon-Fri

11-1 & 4-6

Sat-Sun

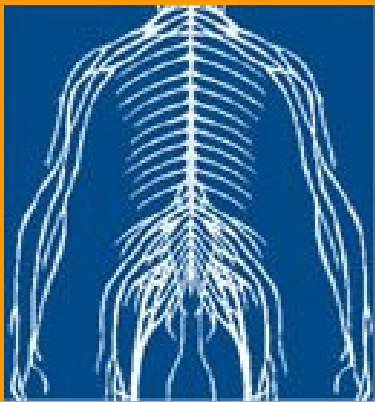
1-4

Take out by the pound
Ribs by the rack
Secret Recipe Sauce by the bottle



Richmond Days on the Kennebec...
come see us at the waterfront!

www.TexasBarbequeCo.com



LaVallee Chiropractic & Family Wellness

Dr. James LaVallee

85 Stone Street
Augusta, ME 04330
207-623-1111

2 Main Street
Richmond, ME 04357
207-737-2555

207-623-9990 (Fax)



Before I started to come to Dr. LaVallee I was in a lot of pain. I would wake up at night and not even be able to roll over. My legs would hurt from my hip down to my knee and into the top of my foot. Getting up from a chair and starting to walk was excruciating. After a few steps I'd have to stop, before taking anymore steps. I couldn't exercise, work in my garden, or even walk very far without hurting. I spent time in physical therapy, but it was finally decided that it just wasn't doing any good.

I was on my way to be fitted for orthotics when someone told me about Dr. James being in Richmond. I'd had good results, from past injury, with a chiropractor so I decided to give him a try.

What a difference from one summer to the next. Where last summer I was incapacitated, this summer I'm almost, but not completely, pain free. I can function, exercise and enjoy life again. I believe that I will be even better as time goes on.

I look forward to my time with Pam, getting my massage. She is friendly and personable and makes me feel very relaxed and not at all "ill at ease." Dr. James conducts himself in a professional manner but also obviously cares about and enjoys patients. This office has a very friendly and relaxed "family" feel to it. This has been a very positive experience for me and I'm very grateful that LaVallee Chiropractic has come into our little town.

Carol, Richmond

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Richmond Utilities District

Richmond Utilities District will begin sewer service line replacements on June 23rd. The District found several private sewer service lines that are failing and allowing ground and rain water into the public sewer main. The District would like to thank the customers involved in the construction for their patience and understanding with these issues.

The District will also be replacing 500 feet of sewer main on Bridge Street this summer as part of our ongoing attempt to reduce infiltration into the public sewer line. The District's engineer found that during peak wet weather events more than 400 gpm enters the sewer line from the Bridge Street area. The sewer main work and the service line replacement will greatly reduce the flows to the District's wastewater treatment plant during rain events.

If customers are interested in having an outside meter for watering grass, washing cars or any activity that uses water outside, the District has a limited number of outside meters for sale for \$30. The cus-

tomers is responsible for reading the meter and reporting to the District the amount of water that was used outside. The District will deduct the water usage from your sewer bill. Customers are responsible for the meters, so take good care of them.

Richmond Utilities District has been approved for a Wellhead Protection Grant for reimbursement up to \$5000. The grant is for public outreach and education. It will be used at the Marcia Buker School in Richmond and the Dresden Elementary School. A singing performer from *Earth Jams* in Brunswick will be spending 7 days at the schools next fall to take students on a journey through the water cycle as it applies to our area. The students will learn about water conservation, rivers, aquifers, and what they can do to protect the water. More information on the program can be found at their website, www.earthjams.com.

Business Feature: “River” on Front Street



River...located at 314 Front Street a space for people to gather for physical and spiritual movement. River offers treadmills, elliptical, bikes, trampolines, total gym supra pro in its fitness room. The fitness room is available for use as a key member, operating 7 days a week from 6:00a.m. to 9:00p.m. River also offers group classes. We are adding more and varied group classes and different instructors constantly which are open to your program ideas.

For more information please contact: Nancy at 737-8236 or visit: www.nancysluckyllife.com

Words from the Library....

Hello again, everyone! We hope you are having a great summer so far. It has certainly been busy for us at the library. We just finished the end of story hour with a "Rip-Snortin, Welcome to the Wild West" theme. Each child was presented with a unique handmade hobby horse made by Jennifer Rioux. Thanks Jennifer, they were great and a big hit with all the kids. The children visited a hangin' tree, Rattlesnake Gulch, Boot Hill, Storytown Jail, panned for gold and finally had a make believe campfire where they drank "cactus juice" and ate cupcakes and cake decorated with boots, hats and cowboys. It was fun and the children had a wonderful time.

We are now making plans for the summer reading program in August.

We are moving along with our plans for

a gigantic auction in November to raise money for the new library. This promises to be a really special event and more news will be forth coming. Our annual Strawberry Shortcake and book sale will be held before and during the Richmond Days parade and this year we will be featuring our delicious homemade Shortcake and Strawberries down at the park during the afternoon events. Be sure to stop by one place or the other (maybe both) to taste the best shortcake in Richmond.

Thanks to all our volunteers who show great support. There are a myriad of things that need to be done at the library but none involve lots of hours at one time. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please let us know!

New Books and Audios

Plague Ship-Clive Cussler

Sail-James Patterson

Death and Honor-W.E.B. Griffin

Skeletons at the Feast-Chris Bohjalian

Winter Study-Nevada Barr



M. J. Dougherty presented with the June "Angel Volunteer" Award. She was a big help with our Tuscan supper and is a valuable volunteer, always ready to do whatever is needed.

At Town Meeting, the people of Richmond voted to give the library \$300,000. for construction of the new library. Having begun the library savings of almost \$300,000. and the Town's generous \$300,000. we are \$600,000. toward our goal of \$1,300,000.

Most of the remaining \$700,000. will be acquired through grant writing. But here are a few things to consider:

- If every man, women and child in Town gave \$206. our goal would be reached! That's just \$3.96 each week or \$17.17 each month.

Here are some ideas for how you can be part of our Towns exciting new library:

- Join the Nifty Fifty Club-be one of the 1st 50 families to make a \$1,000. donation to the library fund. Make a lump sum donation or spread it out over two years.
- Make a family coin jar-save your pennies for the library
- Watch for "change jars" at our local establishments-share the change
- Bring your cans and bottles to the library for their on going bottle drive
- If you buy a wonderful new book and think the library should own it, consider donating it to the library.
- Watch the books grow in front of the library. When they reach the top we're ready to build.
- Check the wish list in the library for something you might like to donate.
- Watch for us at Richmond Days-find us in the parade while you browse the book sale and eat strawberry shortcake on the library lawn. Join us again at the Park for more shortcake and a chance to win a cake at the cake walk.

A message from Representative Seth Berry

Energy Crisis, Energy Savings, Energy Opportunity

The U.S. energy crisis has reached a tipping point. Our first priority must be helping our most vulnerable neighbors to survive the difficult, expensive winter to come. Our second – no less important -- must be a Maine-made Marshall Plan for energy independence and a green energy economy.

In my first term as State Representative for Richmond, I helped with a number of programs to encourage Maine's energy leadership: streamlined permitting for wind farms, wood-based biofuel research, new solar, wind, and geothermal rebates, and bringing Amtrak's Downeaster train service to Brunswick by 2010. Today I also serve on the Governor's Pre-Emergency Energy Task Force, which I hope will recommend an even bolder vision within weeks – a Maine-made Marshall Plan for energy independence.

The U.S. can not drill its way to energy security or independence. But Maine is fortunate: our abundant wind, wood, and water resources can help make us a small Saudi Arabia of clean energy within the next 15-20 years.

Our most abundant resource is energy savings. Our homes and commuting habits are energy hogs. The Japanese, for instance, whose economy is famous for its rise in the 1980s, use half as much energy per person as Americans. In a sense, this is great news. Today, the right investments let us do the same work at 1/3 the total cost, literally saving our energy and money for other uses. Solutions like carpooling and telecommuting cost even less, and save even more.

By aggressively promoting both conservation and renewables, Maine can turn a federal crisis into a local opportunity. And this challenge calls for action at every house – not just the State House. It is up to each one of us to pitch in.

Carpooling, weatherizing your home, or replacing old appliances is a great place to start. So is helping someone else to do these things – especially someone in need. You will certainly save energy and money, helping Maine's economy and the environment. You may even help an elderly neighbor to survive the winter.

Below are just a few state programs which can help you get started.

GoMaine can save the average Maine commuter thousands per year. A statewide carpool-find system, and an expanding public transit clearinghouse are available at www.gomaine.org, or by calling 1-800-280-RIDE.

3.95% loans of up to \$30,000 are available to all middle- and low-income Mainers to finance home insulation, window replacement, solar panels, and other measures that can save you thousands more than the cost of the loan payments. For more information, visit www.mainehousing.org or call 1-800-452-4668.

Low-income households qualify for federal home heating assistance (LIHEAP), regardless of fuel type, as well, as weatherization and other help with saving energy this winter. Sign up for 2008 starts July 1st by calling Midcoast Maine Community Action in Bath, at 442-7963. For details, visit www.mainehousing.org.

2-1-1 Maine provides information about every human services agency in Maine. If you or someone you know needs non-emergency help, or is having trouble making ends meet, dial 2-1-1 or visit www.211Maine.org.

Efficiency Maine offers rebates on efficient lighting, appliances, and business equipment, home energy evaluators, low-interest financing, free energy audits for businesses, and more. In 2006 alone, Efficiency Maine helped save 74,759 MegaWatt hours of energy, worth an estimated \$53.9 million in lifetime economic benefits. FMI: www.energymaine.org or tel. 1-866-376-2463

Questions? E-mail Seth at seth@sethberry.org, or call 522-1609.

Revaluation-Update....

All property owners will be receiving a letter by August stating the new assessment of their home. If you do not agree with your new valuation, you can request a hearing and appeal that valuation. Hearings will begin in August through September. This new assessment will be reflected in the September 2008 tax bills.

IS MY ASSESSMENT CORRECT?

The following questions and accompanying information can help you to decide if your assessment is correct.

Please Note: If you are concerned that your taxes are going to double because your property value has doubled, that is usually not the case. Since everyone else's property value is also rising, the tax rate usually drops somewhat proportionally to the amount of total increase to the Town's total value.

DOES THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT HAVE THE CORRECT INFORMATION ON MY PROPERTY?

You can review the information that the Assessing Department has collected on your property to make sure that the data is accurate. While reviewing your property, you should make sure that all measurements on the sketch are accurate. Please note that all measurements are taken from the exterior. You should also check the land size and interior data to ensure accuracy. Check how much similar properties in the area are selling for, make sure you choose recent sales that are similar to your property. If you do not have any recent sales activity in your area you can look up the assessed value of similar parcels that are located near your property.

IF HEARINGS ARE BEING HELD, HOW DO I PREPARE FOR ONE?

Please note: It is up to the taxpayer to make the case that the assessment is incorrect. Therefore, it is highly recommended that you come to a hearing fully prepared to state your case. If the project involved interior data collection and you refused entry either by declining a lister's request to view your interior or failing to respond to any correspondence requesting access to your interior, you may lose your rights to appeal your assessment. After following the steps from the previous paragraph, you may decide that you want to schedule a hearing. You may have uncovered a data error, found some comparable sales that support a lower assessment on your property or you may want to make someone aware of an irregularity that affects the value of your property. When attending the hearing, you should come prepared, it is up to you to convince the hearing officer why the value is incorrect if you are to receive a change of value. If you supplied information in the past that lowered your value, bring it along again. Please be aware that the information may already be on your record and may already be reflected in your value. If you have an issue pertaining to the use of your property, please bring in supporting evidence such as a deed showing a usage restriction or a plot plan which outlines any topographical irregularities. If you want other issues made aware please bring in pictures, past documentation or anything else that will help you to prove your case.

HOW WILL I KNOW IF A CHANGE WAS MADE TO MY ASSESSMENT AFTER MY HEARING?

At the conclusion of the hearings, appraisal staff will review the notes from your hearing and any information you have provided on your property. They will make changes to the data and/or value of the property if appropriate. After this final review process is complete for all properties, a change notice is sent to you. The new value on this change notice will reflect the changes made based on your hearing. This value will now be considered your new assessment and will be reflected in the Assessors records.

Change is good !



Dari Hurley
446-2273



Diana Coonradt
837-8058



Tim Acord



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