



## ***Sullivan Community Newsletter***

**Vol. 34 No. 4**

**Sullivan, NH**

**Jan. – Feb. 2015**

### **PREPARATIONS FOR TOWN ELECTIONS 2015**

#### **TOWN OFFICES OPEN FOR ELECTION**

Town Election Day is March 10 and as always several town offices are up for election this year. Offices up for elections include: Selectman 3 yrs, Road Agent 2 yrs, Trustees of the Trust Funds 3 yrs, Library Trustee 3 yrs, Cemetery Trustee 3 yrs, 2 positions open for Budget Committee 3 yrs, 2 positions open for Zoning Board of Adjustment 3 yrs and Overseer of the Poor 1 yr. **If you are interested in any of these positions, the filing period for Declaration of Candidacy is open from January 21 thru January 30<sup>th</sup>. (filing for candidacy has a fee of \$1.00 and it puts you on the ballot)**

There are also **many positions available by appointment**. They include the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Energy Committee and the Fire Dept. Please consider getting involved in your community.

If you would like more information on any of these positions, speak to Mary Hull, Town Clerk.

Also the 2015 dog licenses are ready for you to license your furry family member.

**From the School Clerk's Office:** The School Board elections are also held on our annual Town Election Day in March. This year the school board has two positions open. The positions are for a 3 year term. **If you are interested in either of these positions, the filing period for Declaration of Candidacy is open from January 21 thru January 30<sup>th</sup>. (filing for candidacy has a fee of \$1.00 and it puts you on the ballot).**

#### **SUPERVISORS OF CHECKLIST**

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Town Hall on Tuesday, January 20 from 7 – 7:30 pm. This will be for new registrations, change in party and additions & corrections. Checklists are posted inside and outside the Town Hall as well as outside at the Fire Station if you would like to view your party, etc. You may also register on Election Day but not at the Town or School Meeting.

### **SEE INSIDE FOR...**

**Learn to ski or snowboard program at Pat's Peak – February through March**

**English Country Dance in Keene – January 18**

**YogaWeekend 2015 in Keene – January 24 & 25**

**Deadline for the next issue of the newsletter will be Feb. 15 because of Town Meeting & Election Day.**

## “LIBRARY FOOTNOTES”

Out with the old year, in with the new.

In January, the **Third Thursday Book Group** will discuss *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed. Copies of the book are available at the library in print and audio formats. This title is also available at the NH Downloadable Books web site in audio and eBook formats. Reese Witherspoon plays Strayed in the recent film based on this book.

Did you know we have a **story program for preschoolers**? We meet on Thursday mornings at 10 and have a couple of stories and some type of craft or activity.

Peter and Jeanne Jeffries will be giving our next Genealogy Workshop on January 22 from 2-4 at the library. If you've been coming, it's time to do your homework! If you are new, bring the information you know about your family beginning with yourself, your parents, your grandparents and great-grandparents if you know that information. If you are experienced at genealogy research, but have hit a rock wall in your search, the Jeffries can help you find a way over the wall.

Our hummingbird visitor got a small mention in a recent article in the Concord Monitor. You can read it at <http://www.concordmonitor.com/home/14825745-95/board-of-contributors-the-perks-of-being-a-library-director> .

Many thanks to those of you who have given of your time, talents, gently used magazines and books and monetary gifts this past year. One of the things I love about Sullivan is the sense of community in this town. People show their support in so many different ways. I'd especially like to take a moment to thank the following people for their recent contributions to the library: Becky Cummings, Cliff Dempster, David & Nancy Jakway, Dott Miles, Chris & Gaynelle Pratt and Rachael Richardson,

Have you made any resolutions as a reader for 2015? Goodwill Librarian posted this challenge on her Facebook page December 15:

### Reading Challenge

- A book with more than 500 pages
- A classic romance
- A book that became a movie
- A book published this year
- A book with a number in the title
- A book written by someone under 30
- A book with nonhuman characters
- A funny book
- A book by a female author
- A mystery or thriller
- A book with a one word title
- A book of short stories
- A book set in a different country
- A nonfiction book
- A popular author's first book
- A book from an author you love that you haven't read yet
- A book a friend recommended
- A Pulitzer Prize-winning book
- A book based on a true story
- A book from the bottom of your to-read list
- A book your mom loves
- A book that scares you
- A book more than 100 years old
- A book based entirely on its cover
- A book you were supposed to read in school but didn't
- A memoir
- A book you can finish in a day
- A book with antonyms in the title
- A book set somewhere you've always wanted to visit
- A book that came out the year you were born
- A book with bad reviews

- A trilogy
- A book from your childhood
- A book with a love triangle
- A book set in the future
- A book set in high school
- A book with a color in the title
- A book that made you cry
- A book with magic
- A graphic novel
- A book by an author you've never read before
- A book you own but have never read
- A book that takes place in your hometown
- A book that was originally written in a different language
- A book set during Christmas
- A book written by an author with your same initials
- A play
- A banned book
- A book based on or turned into a TV show
- A book you started but never finished.

Go ahead, I triple-dog dare you.

Wishing you the very best in this new year,  
Denise McFarland  
Librarian

## **From the Archives**

by Chris Pratt

Over the years Sullivan has had numerous social and service organizations. As was common in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries the two communities of Sullivan—Sullivan Center and East Sullivan—formed separate but similar clubs. Two of these were the improvement societies—The Sullivan Improvement Society and the East Sullivan Village Improvement Society. The former left a detailed set of minutes preserved by Edward Jewett and the latter society's records have been lost.

Improvement societies were established by many communities in New Hampshire starting in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Their purpose was to promote their communities with projects aimed at beautification, maintenance of town buildings and funding projects to improve roads and agriculture. Many of the groups became Old Home Week Associations, historical societies or simply went away. A very good example of a modern society is the Jaffrey Village Improvement Association.

In Sullivan, the beginnings of the society appear to have come from Rev. Talmadge Macaulay Patterson who was serving as pastor of both the Sullivan or First Church and the Union Evangelical Congregational Church in East Sullivan. While he may have made the suggestion, the organization of both societies was led by community members. In East Sullivan, the society was led by Arthur Rugg and Leslie Goodnow and was established in 1905.

The Sullivan Improvement Society was formally organized on 20 April 1904. The membership roster is a "who's who" of Sullivan Center families including the Jewetts; the Barretts; Edwin, Joseph and Mason Nims; the Marstons; and the White brothers. There were also some people from East Sullivan as well. The goal of the society was "... for the general improvement of the public places of the town, to preserve the historic places and to beautify and keep them in order." The structure of the group had a president and secretary/treasurer and board of 6 directors—three men and three women.

Every year (twice a year in the beginning) the president would call a meeting. At the meeting new officers would be elected and a date set for the improvements. On the designated day, various projects such as cleaning the church, planting flower beds and other projects would be accomplished by teams of men and women. Then the group would adjourn for lunch at the town hall (now the public library) for a dinner prepared by the female members of the board. Not long after the group began its work children from the Sullivan Center School (#2) would receive a day off from their studies and join the work crew.

Among the projects undertaken by the society were improvements and repairs to the church and its horse sheds. The society also planted trees and shrubs and provided cleanup for the Meeting House Cemetery. In 1905, the two societies met in a joint session to aid in the construction of what would become Meeting House Rock that marked the location of the first meeting house. While this quickly became a town-wide project, it would appear that the initiation came from the societies. Another ongoing project was maintaining the Soldier's Monument and its grounds. This included annual cleanup of brush and leaf debris, as well as painting the railing and cannon balls. In 1919, the group collected rocks, painted them white, and laid them out at the base of the monument to spell "Sullivan."

The group's work continued through the 1920's and 1930's. Even though the town was declining in population and losing many of its farms, the group continued to meet annually to spruce up the center and have a community meal. Then, for reasons that are not revealed in the minutes, the society held its last cleanup day on 13 May 1941. The secretary, Julia Leighton noted, "It was a beautiful day and we all set to work, the men raking leaves, cutting brush, and cleaning the grounds outside the church. The ladies cleaned the church and by noon were ready for a dinner."

It may have been that World War II drew people's attention away or it may have been that organizing the work crews was too much effort. As I said, the minutes are mute on the demise of the group. Edward Jewett made the final entry in the record book on 22 April 1958. He noted that he was the only charter member of the group who that still lived in town and that he had served as its president for many years. This, he felt, gave him the obligation to close the society's accounts and donate the \$25.96 bank balance to the Sullivan Church. He noted, perhaps with some sadness (it's hard to say), "Said society is now defunct."

As an archivist and historian I truly appreciate the level of detail in the reports of the group's activities. I was also interested in the similarity between the society and our modern day annual trash pickup sponsored by the Sullivan Conservation Commission. The only sad thing in this story is that we have no records for the East Sullivan group. It may be that they didn't last as long or that they didn't consider their activities worthy of preservation. It may also be that their records are sitting in a trunk or an attic awaiting discovery.

## **Public Notice**

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on January 8, February 12 and March 12, 2015 at 7 PM at the library. The purpose of the meetings will be to formally receive any donations, hear reports and conduct any business related to the administration of the library. As always, the public is welcome.

## **PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE POLLS ON MARCH 10**

1. Are you in favor of amending the Community Planning Ordinance Article III, Use Application, A. 8, (Permitted Uses), by adding: Any activity, now permitted by law, engaged in by a farmer as defined herein, in connection with and in furtherance of the business of farming, such as, but not limited to: odors; noise; the collection, transportation, distribution and storage of animal wastes; storage, transportation and use of equipment for tillage, planting and harvesting; transportation, storage and use of legally permitted fertilizers and limes, insecticides, herbicides, and pesticides all in accordance with local, state and federal law and regulations and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and warnings; construction of farm structures and facilities as permitted by local and state building codes and regulations; and construction and maintenance of fences.
2. Are you in favor of amending the Community Planning Ordinance, Article XI, Definitions, by adding: Farmer: Any person, organization, entity, association, partnership or corporation engaged in the business of agriculture, whether for profit or otherwise, including the cultivation of land, the raising of crops, the raising of livestock and the operation of poultry farms.

*The wording above has been petitioned for the March ballot by a Sullivan farmer who believes the current CPO wording does not provide not enough protection for local farmers.*

## **SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR SAVING ENERGY IN YOUR HOME\***

1. Buy appliances with the Energy Star logo to save on standby use.
2. Wash your clothes in cold water.
3. Hang your wash on the line to dry. In very cold weather, hang the wash indoors in a warm room.

4. Arrange your writing and reading spots near a window to use daylight instead of turning on electric lights.
  5. Turn the temperature down on your water heater.
  6. Invest in a programmable thermostat.
- \*Adapted from Jim Motavali's list in the Fall 2014 edition of EDF's SOLUTIONS.
7. Seal holes, cracks, and gaps around windows and doors.\*\*
  8. Adjust your thermostat. Set at 68 degrees when you're home, 62 degrees when you are sleeping or not at home.
- \*\*
9. Insulate hot water pipes.\*\*
  10. Add insulation to your attic, basement, and walls.\*\*
- \*\*Adapted from PSNH News of November 2014

To learn more about these and other energy efficiency programs, rebates and tips, visit [www.psnh.com](http://www.psnh.com) and click on Save Energy and Money.

### **CAN WE SAVE ENERGY IN THE SULLIVAN TOWN HALL?**

The Sullivan Energy Committee, following up on the insulation of the library, has won a grant that will mostly pay for an energy audit of the town hall. Following the auditor's report, the selectmen will be able to plan for the financing of needed changes in insulation and other energy-saving recommendations made by the auditor. Stay tuned for the results of the audit, which will be described in a town-wide meeting when the report has been received and studied.

## **Do you know a student who wants to ski/snowboard OR learn to ski/snowboard?**

**Time is running out to sign up for the five week ski program at Pat's Peak in Henniker, NH.** This program is open to **ANY** student between the ages of 6-18. **IT DOES NOT MATTER** where the student lives or where they go to school. All skill levels are welcome...even those who have never been on skis/snowboards before. Lessons are available but not mandatory. Transportation is the responsibility of the student/parent.

The program starts mid-February and wraps by the end of March. We ski on Friday nights from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Adults who wish to ski with the group will be able to purchase a discounted ticket.

\*NOTE there are **THREE FREE** "BONUS" days in addition to the 5 week program. One all day/all lift ticket to each; Pats Peak, Cranmore and Gunstock to be used ANYTIME (you choose when) between 2/27-season close (weekends ARE included).

Pats Peak accepts: cash, check, credit card or individual payment plans.

For more information or to sign up please contact Kathy Bezio at 847-9425. Application deadline is approaching quickly.

### **SULLIVAN SEW & SEWS**

The Sullivan quilting group invites you to join them for anything you might like to do: learn to quilt, sew or knit, work on clothing alterations, work on a craft or just visit. Sewing machines are always available. They meet Mondays from 6:30 pm to 8 pm in the lower level of the Sullivan Church (entrance at rear). In case of inclement weather, it could be called off. Call Mary Hull at 847-9718 or see her at the town hall with any questions you might have. It really is fun!

### **Conservation Meeting Days Changed**

The Conservation Commission will now hold meetings on the third Tuesday of the month, 7P.

## **SULLIVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

*What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness?  
-John Steinbeck*

In preparation for our third year as an independent school district, the Sullivan School Board has already begun preparing next year's school district budget and we will be coordinating a date with our town budget committee to hold a budget hearing in early January (be on the lookout for our postings about upcoming meetings). The school board typically meets in the lower town hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month though recently our times have varied and any changes will be publicly posted. Members of the public are invited to attend these meetings to discuss any school district related matters. Check with Mary Hull (school clerk) for exact time of meeting.

**Serving on the Sullivan School Board:** If you have interest in serving on the Sullivan School Board in the future, please email Stephanie Kleine, Chairperson at [stephaniejacques@masiello.com](mailto:stephaniejacques@masiello.com) with your stated interest. The school board is a 5 member board meeting once monthly. Occasional variations may be required of the schedule but we typically meet from 6:30 through 8:30pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Time changes will be posted at the town hall.

**Principal search:** The Nelson School Board is seeking the help from a Sullivan representative (needs not be a school board member) to assist them with their next year's principal search. If you are interested in serving on this dedicated committee, please contact the Nelson Elementary School soon.

**Former school building:** We'd like to welcome John Stewart to our town as a new resident! The former school building has come alive once again in the hands of Mr. Stewart. Welcome!

**Late Bus Schedule:** Students of Sullivan at KMS and KHS may opt to take the late bus to the Sullivan Country Store on Mondays and Wednesdays as it heads up to Nelson and Stoddard. The student will be responsible for notifying the bus driver of their attendance on the bus, and requesting the stop at the Country Store. Parents/guardians are responsible for picking up their children at this location. The purpose of the late bus is to accommodate the needs of students who would like to meet with a teacher after school. It does not accommodate students who wish to participate in sports due to the time that it leaves Keene.

**Incoming Kindergarteners for next year:** If you have a child who will be entering kindergarten next year, please contact the Nelson Elementary School for a registration form. It is never too early to register.

**Where Sullivan Students attend school:** K-6<sup>th</sup> graders attend The Nelson Elementary School, 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders attend the Keene Middle School, and 9-12<sup>th</sup> graders attend Keene High School. An aftercare program exists at the Nelson School.

**Registering your child for public school:** In order to register, you must establish residency through our district/town clerk, Mary Hull prior to enrollment. If you have a shared guardianship agreement/custody agreement, you will need to provide a copy to Mary Hull at the town hall in Sullivan, or mail directly to Sullivan School District, PO Box 111, Sullivan, NH 03445 as you register for school.

*\*\*Each school will request a copy of your proof of residency and of your legal guardianship agreement/custody agreement for themselves.*

**Anyone moving OUT of town** must notify the school board chair, Stephanie Kleine at 603-209-4151 or Mary Hull, district clerk, of the move if you have children in the school system. This is also required if you have a child currently attending KMS or KHS and are moving to Keene so that the appropriate town can be fiscally aware of where that child resides.

**Homeschooling families:** Even if your children are homeschooled, it is required that you send a letter to the Sullivan School District Superintendent, Ken Dassau, to inform the District that your children are being homeschooled. If you have never done this and are homeschooling in Sullivan, please mail your letter to Ken Dassau at PO Box 111, Sullivan, NH 03445.

*Please feel welcome to attend our monthly school board meeting or to contact Ken Dassau, Superintendent [603-209-3315/krdassau@gmail.com](mailto:603-209-3315/krdassau@gmail.com) or Stephanie Kleine, school board chair 603-209-4151 or [stephaniejacques@masiello.com](mailto:stephaniejacques@masiello.com) should you have any questions along the way.*

**We would love to hear about your children! What great things have they done so far this year? Please email [Stephaniejacques@masiello.com](mailto:Stephaniejacques@masiello.com) with any news, achievements and stories about your children which we can share in next month's newsletter!**

**Getting to know you...**

By Marsha Cook

The Sullivan Country Store is a wonderful find. My first day in Sullivan I went exploring and found the store. When I went in, John welcomed me to town and offered me a donut. A HOMEMADE DONUT! Eat your heart out Dunkin Donuts - John has you beat. Since then I have discovered many other fine offerings. John is quite the cook and baker. I only use his homemade bread (white, wheat, honey oatmeal, cinnamon raisin) for sandwiches but so does he. When you order a sub or sandwich, it comes on homemade bread. When I don't want to cook (which is very often) there are prepared meals ready for me to heat and eat. The Macaroni and Cheese is superb! Need something sweet? Try one of his cookies, pies or whoopie pies. All are great. Recently I had some construction done and all the workers headed to the store for lunch. Seems John's subs are very popular. The store carries all those things you might need at the last minute. One thing that has blown my mind is John's willingness to help his customers. I have seen him create a coffee cake because someone wanted it for a brunch. I have gone in search of sugar but the shelf was bare. So John pulled out a to go cup and provided sugar from his supply in the back. Saved me a trip to Keene. If you have not been in a while, you owe it to yourself to check out the Sullivan Country Store. Tell John hi.

#### Recent Highlight

I have joined the Friends of the Library and attended my first Sullivan Santa event. What an amazing happening. All year the Friends collect toys as well as small household items and jewelry. All these items are placed on display at the town hall and residents come shop for Christmas presents. The really big deal is that everything costs a quarter! Largely for children, they can buy presents for their siblings, parents, grandparents, etc. What a sight to see the doors open at 1:00 and witness all the children running to get the best presents. They can visit with Santa, getting in their orders as well as receive a small present from the man himself. Once again, I was put at a loss for words for this wonderful town tradition - going on over 20 years!

### **English Country Dance in Keene NH on Sunday January 18th**

The Monadnock Folklore Society presents the first in its series of English Country Dances with the theme "Dance Around Monadnock." On January 18th from 2:00 to 5:00 PM, the dance will be held at the the Keene Unitarian Universalist Church at 69 Washington Street in Keene, NH, with Rich Jackson teaching dances that will appeal to all, from novice to experienced dancers. Lovely music will be provided by nationally known performers Peter Barnes, piano, and Lydia Ievins, violin. No special clothing is required, but comfortable clothes and shoes are recommended.

Beginners and singles are welcome and all dances are taught throughout the session. Admission is \$10. For more information call (603) 209-3304 or visit <http://www.monadnockfolk.org>.

### ***YogaWeekend 2015 to Benefit Hospice at HCS***

*Sullivan*- All residents of Sullivan and surrounding towns are invited to attend YogaWeekend, set for Saturday, January 24 and Sunday, January 25. YogaWeekend is an opportunity for those new to yoga, as well as the more experienced student, to try a variety of yoga styles first-hand with classes led by several local instructors. Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. each day. Classes will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the last class will start at 3:00 p.m.

Massage and Reiki will be available throughout each day. Continental breakfast and a light lunch are provided. There will be a raffle for a stay at the famed Kripalu in Stockbridge, MA and a silent auction with many items donated from area businesses and individuals.

All classes, massage, Reiki and breakfast and lunch are by donation, with proceeds benefiting Hospice at HCS, the local non-profit hospice providing end of life care to people at home, in assisted living facilities and in long term care facilities in southwestern New Hampshire. HCS is a Monadnock United Way agency with offices in Keene, Peterborough and Charlestown.

YogaWeekend 2015 will be held at Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services, 312 Marlboro Street in Keene. For more information call HCS at 352-2253 or visit [HCSservices.org](http://HCSservices.org).

## SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Sullivan Church is still actively searching for a new pastor and in the meantime welcomes various pastors to their pulpit. The small town church would love to see some new faces for worship, fellowship and community service projects.

**Donations appreciated for food pantry.** The church pantry is an on-going project by those who attend the Sullivan Church and interested residents. Baskets of non-perishable food are given out to folks in need throughout the year on a timely basis. Any non-perishable donation you could make would be greatly appreciated. These can be left at the library, town hall or with any church member.

### Visiting pastors for Jan. & Feb.

Jan. 11 Rev. Emily Preston

Jan. 18 Rev. Steve Toegel

Jan. 25 Rev. Don Hashem

Feb. 1 TBA

Feb. 8 D'Vorah Kelly

Feb. 15 Don Hashem

Feb. 22 TBA

## WANTED – PEOPLE TO DO SEASONAL WORK & ODD JOBS! ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO PLOW OR SHOVEL?

Each year people ask if there is anyone who does seasonal/miscellaneous jobs around town – snow shoveling, snowplowing, window washing, wood stacking, lawn mowing & yard work, etc. If you're willing to do any of these, let Mary Hull at the town hall know or call her at 847-3316. She's going to keep a list of those who are interested.

## SULLIVAN WEBSITES

<http://ci.sullivan.nh.us/>

Be sure to check out the **Sullivan web page** for coming events, department and School District minutes, times of meetings, town & School District officers and how to contact them as well as much more. Keep informed!

### FACEBOOK FOR SULLIVAN

Memories of Sullivan? Join a group of all ages who are participating in the “**I'm from Sullivan and I Remember**” page. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ImFromSullivan/> Unfortunately, Facebook recently changed their rules and you now have to be a member of Facebook to participate or even read it.

The **library** is on Facebook. Librarian, Denise McFarland has created a wonderful Facebook page with all sorts of information about the library as well as many interesting tidbits in general. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sullivan-Public-Library/77424404019>

**Sullivan School District** has a Facebook page to keep you informed about many things that are happening at the schools the Sullivan students attend and school board meeting information. <https://www.facebook.com/SullivanSchoolDistrict>

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**SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Sunday Services 9:30 a.m.  
Deacon – Libby Beede 847-3269  
Church rentals - Chip & Kathy Woodbury 357-3445

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**JUSTICE of the PEACE**  
and

## **Notary Public**

Mary Hull 847-9718

## **Practically Perfect**

Canine styling with a  
Practical Touch  
over 20 years in Show & Pet Grooming  
Heather Bradbury - Nelson, NH  
603-847-3092

## **NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

The Sullivan Newsletter is published 6 times a year. It is mailed free of charge to Sullivan residents and interested landowners/taxpayers. Subscriptions are \$5 a year for non-taxpayers. Classifieds are \$10 a year, \$2.50 per issue or \$45 per page. Mail to PO Box 110; Sullivan, NH 03445 or drop it off at the town hall with town clerk Mary Hull or administrative assistant. **Deadline for the next newsletter is 15 February.** News items may be left in the Sullivan Library Book Box, mailed to PO Box 110 Sullivan 03445 (labeled Newsletter) or e-mailed (preferred method) to:  
[bcummings@myfairpoint.net](mailto:bcummings@myfairpoint.net) .

Editor: Becky Cummings 847-3477  
Assistant Editor: Barbara Livengood  
Printing: Mary Hull