

**THE CIRCUS IS COMING!**  
**Sponsored by the Sullivan Fire & Rescue Department**  
**July 3 and July 4**

Join the fun at the Kelly Miller Circus and support your local Fire & Rescue Department!

Where: Cheshire Fair Grounds

When: Wednesday, July 3 at 2:00 pm and 5:00 pm

Thursday, July 4 at 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm

Tickets are available at:

Cheshire Fair Grounds; Sullivan Town Clerk Office; Walpole Creamery Scoop Shop – 532 Main St. Walpole;

Miller Bros. – Newton – 105 Main St. Keene; Sullivan Store – Route 9;

Willy Dee's Driving Range – Route 10 Winchester; Lindy's Diner – Gilbo Ave. Keene

**Family Ice Cream Social and Bingo Night**

Bring your whole family and your favorite ice cream toppings and join the Rec Committee for a night of fun, Bingo and Ice Cream. July 20, 2013 at the town hall at 6pm.

**Kids' Night Out**

A movie and pizza night will be held at the town hall on August 9, 2013 from 5 pm to 8 pm. Cost is \$2.00 per child and includes pizza, movie and snacks. RSVP is required by July 22, please include the number and ages of those attending that we may plan accordingly. Call Barbara Atwood at 355-6667 after 10 am or respond to the [Sullivanrec@gmail.com](mailto:Sullivanrec@gmail.com).

**Genealogy Workshop**

Another genealogy workshop is scheduled for Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at the Sullivan Library. Learn how to begin researching your family tree, research old records and where to find the answers. If you're in the middle of your research and need help, you could get it here. Jeanne & Peter Jeffries from the Walpole Historical Society will be on hand to answer questions and assist you. Please call the library at 847-3458 or e-mail [spl@ci.sullivan.nh.us](mailto:spl@ci.sullivan.nh.us) to reserve your spot. There is no charge for this workshop.

**Monadnock Music Concert August 8**

One of Monadnock Music's 11 Free Village Concerts will be held at the Sullivan Church on Thursday, August 8 at 7:30 PM. These concerts, funded by donations give the opportunity to enjoy music of the highest quality in venues noted for their beauty and acoustics. See inside for details.

Also see inside for Nelson happenings – band concert, all town yard sale, a supper, a BBQ and Carnivalcopia.

**“Library Footnotes”**

It's time to sign up for **summer reading at the library**. We have programs for the “Read me a book” crowd through adult. We keep track of the time spent reading, have weekly drawings and fun activities. Monday afternoons there will be a drop-in craft activity. Thursday mornings at 10, I will try to have a story group geared toward younger children. If no one comes June 27 or July 11, this program will be dropped from the summer schedule. Our **annual contest against Gilsum** begins July 1 and ends August 10 at noon. This contest is open to ALL Sullivan residents. For this period of time, we weigh all the library materials you have read. We also weigh donated items that we keep for the collection. The winner gets to keep the Coveted Ice Cream Cup at their library for the

following year. Right now the cup is in Sullivan, where you can help the librarian admire and covet it. This year Sullivan is hosting the Ice Cream Social on Saturday, August 10 at 1 p.m. where this summer's winner will be announced. Can we keep the cup for another year? Books on the **MRHS summer reading list** are set aside for students to borrow throughout the summer. The books are not able to be renewed and we ask that students return them on time for their fellow classmates to use. The all MRHS Reads title this year is *Divergent* by Veronica Roth. The library also owns the sequel, *Insurgent*. The third book, *Allegiant*, won't be published until October 22. Those wishing to read materials on the MRHS list, but who are not students, may ask to be put on a Hold List until August 28. **Freshmen going into Keene** this fall do not have required summer reading, but your new school librarian has suggested reading from the NH Flume Award List <http://nhlibrarians.org/yals/documents/FlumeBrochure13.pdf> and the Teens' Top Ten List <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/sites/ala.org.yalsa/files/content/teenreading/teenstopten/2013%20TTT%20Nominations.pdf> The **Third Thursday Book Group** will be discussing *The Red House* by Mark Haddon at 7 pm on July 18. Copies of the book are available at the library. This title is also available at the NH Downloadable Books web site <http://nh.lib.overdrive.com> in both audio and eBook formats. If you have a library card, you have access to this resource 24/7. Our book group is open to the public and free of charge. Join us for a lively discussion.

Don't the flower beds and window boxes look lovely? If you see any of the Friends of the Library, please thank them. Thank you also to Mary Parker who tended our window boxes so faithfully over the years during her terms as library trustee.

The library will be closed July 4 in observance of Independence Day. The **Friends of the Library** will not meet in July, either. Their next meeting will be August 1 at 7:15 pm. We get by with lots of help from our Friends. Won't you consider becoming one?

The library is a drop off location for the **Sullivan Community Pantry**. Non-perishables, personal care items and paper goods may be left in the Friends Helping Friends box at the library to assist neighbors who are struggling.

**Thank you** to all of you who give of your time, resources and gently used materials. I'd like especially to thank the following people: Nancy Bergeron, Becky Cummings, Cliff Dempster, Toni Ellsworth, Phyllis Evelyn, Virginia Howard, Nancy Jakway, Kris & Stephanie Klein, Carole Little, Deborah Monnat-White, Mary Parker, Christa Patterson, Frank & Donna Philbrick, Chris & Gaynelle Pratt, Susan Stafursky, Bob Switzer & BJ Wahl, Paulette Tuttle, Chip & Kathy Woodbury and our anonymous donors. Dig into a good book this summer. Denise McFarland Library Director

### **Public Notice**

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on July 11, August 8, September 12 and October 10 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.

## **From the Archives**

by Chris Pratt

I often get the question, "exactly when did telephone and electricity service come to Sullivan?" Today we take basic utility service for granted. We have several different ways to communicate. As for electricity, think about how many things are operating in your house as you read this. However, in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries utility service was new and geography presented many obstacles to its distribution. So, the answer to the question presents an interesting story.

Telephone service is fairly well documented. After Alexander Graham Bell patented the first telephone in 1876, the device quickly spread across the more developed parts of the country. It reached Keene in 1881 with the creation of the Cheshire County Telephone Company which merged three years later with the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company. In 1882, service was extended from Keene through Roxbury and East Sullivan to Nelson along what is now Route 9. A pay station was established at the home of Leslie Goodnow (now 432 Valley Road). Anyone needing the telephone simply went to Mr. Goodnow's house, paid the 5 cent fee, and made the call to Keene, Roxbury, Nelson or Munsonville. The operator in Keene made the connections to anyplace else for an added fee. The major users of such a service were farmers ordering grain and other supplies from stores in Keene. A quick call insured that the goods were available and ready for pick up. Thus technology saved wasted time on errands. However, few people at the time probably thought of the device as a way to talk to each other or to have one in their house. It was nine years before the telephone company sought to expand the service.

In 1899, New England Telephone began constructing a network in our area. This involved the construction of poles to carry the wire. Such construction sometimes involved rights of way which had to be granted as easements by property owners. To avoid that, the telephone company tried to keep their poles along roads in the public right of way. That had to be granted by the selectmen and a few of those requests have been preserved in the Town Archives. On 13 January 1899, a petition was filed to cover "All streets and highways." They probably meant only the main roads in town because other petitions covered the shorter roads. One filed on 11 December 1913 was specifically to the farm of "E.A. Brown." Ezra Archie Brown lived at what is now 95 Boynton Road. The latest petition was to extend "6 poles to the place owned by Walter Swett." That would be 35 Rugg Road.

Simply expanding the service, however, did not mean there were many "early users" of the new technology. It would be several years before there were enough home subscribers to justify a switchboard. It was located in Mr. Goodnow's house and became operational on 12 June 1905 according to telephone company records. A year later it was moved to the house of Thomas and Ida Hastings (now 18 Centre Street) where it resided until the coming of direct dial service. Indeed the members of the Hastings Family became the face of the telephone company in Sullivan. Soon lines were strung other parts of town and the switchboard also handled calls to Munsonville and parts of Nelson and Roxbury. So, for a monthly fee you could be connected to your neighbors, but a call to Keene still cost 5 cents.

The subscribers were clustered together in series often called "party lines." Each subscriber had a distinctive number of rings that indicated that the call was for your phone. Each phone within the party operated like extension telephones within your house. So, anyone in the party could pick up the phone and listen in. Thus important news (births, deaths, marriage proposals, new calves, distant relatives visiting) was spread in the old system.

The service was mostly reliable but weather could create problems such as a downed wire or snapped poles. Probably the worst disaster was the famous 1938 hurricane. So many wires were destroyed that only two subscribers in East Sullivan could reach the switch board. Mrs. Hastings simply patched the two callers together so that at least they could talk to each other even though the entire town was cut off.

As we all know, technology never stays still for long. On 4 November 1956, the switch board system was replaced with the seven digit dial up system although dial telephones were still a few years away in Sullivan. Sullivan's exchange was VIctor 7. A major improvement on the old system was that Keene was no longer a toll call. As the years went on, direct-dial service would allow for long distance calls without using an operator.

Some changes were not welcome. Even though our exchange was VI7 (later 847) a person could make a call within the zone simply by dialing 7 and the remaining 4 digit number. That practice was stopped in the late 1980s to the chagrin of people who now needed to use all 7 digits to call their neighbor down the road.

The old "land line" telephone may become obsolete in the near future. The advent of cellular and other forms of wireless communication seem to be replacing the traditional phone—unless you live in a "dead zone." High-speed internet and Wi-Fi provide us the capability to both see and talk with almost anyone in the world. We have come a long way in 120 years.

The story of electricity coming to Sullivan is more complicated and I will leave that for next time. See next page.

## **DO YOU HAVE A TELEPHONE OR ELECTRICITY STORY?**

Chris Pratt would be interested to hear it. When did electricity come to your place? What changes did it bring? You can call him or leave a message at 847-3271 or visit him at the archives in the library on Thursday evenings.

### **Footnote to the telephone story**

It is "conventional wisdom" that Bell invented the telephone. In my article you will note that I stated that Bell held the first patent as there were others who invented similar devices. The most famous was Elisha Gray who filed his patent shortly after Bell and later accused Bell of stealing his ideas. This led to a famous patent case that Bell won. Gray did ok as he headed a company called Western Electric which became the main manufacturer of telephones and related equipment.

Less famous was Amos Dolbear. He was born in Connecticut, but grew up in Roxbury, NH. He was an eager learner and went on to graduate from college and became a professor of physics at Tufts University. Early in his career he became interested in telegraphs. The telegraph takes sound, converts it to an electric impulse, transmits the impulse through a wire and converts it back to sound at the receiver. That technology had been around for almost 20 years when Dolbear began to experiment with using the human voice instead of the dots and dashes of a telegraph. In 1865, he completed his work on what he called a talking telegraph. The principles and the machinery were similar to Bell's, but Dolbear did not patent his device. Perhaps as a scientist he was only concerned with advancing knowledge whereas Bell was interested in the commercial aspects of invention. In any event, Dolbear went on to patent several improvements to the telephone that enabled the device to transmit with

better clarity over greater distances.

Since he couldn't claim rights on a device that transmitted voice over wires, he turned his attention to wireless transmissions. He developed a technology to send the human voice through the ground. As you might imagine, it wasn't very efficient but it could reach a receiver up to a ½ mile away. More importantly, the technology was exactly the same as transmitting through the air using radio waves. This time, Dolbear patented the device and later sold it to Guglielmo Marconi who needed the rights in order to bring his system of radio transmission into the United States.

It's always fun to play the "what if game" with history. If Amos Dolbear had been interested in the commercial aspects of his inventions, we might have had the Dolbear Telephone Company. Or, you might be calling me on your Dolbear instead of your cell.

## **UPDATE FROM THE TOWN CLERK-TAX COLLECTOR**

### **SULLIVAN TAX INFO' NOW ONLINE**

You can now look up your Sullivan Property Tax Information online using the Avitar Internet Tax Kiosk. You will be able to see your property assessment as well as billing and payment information, print out your tax bill and calculate interest costs. [www.nhtaxkiosk.com](http://www.nhtaxkiosk.com)

### **PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND/OR REVALUATION DATA INFO'**

A NH Department of Revenue Administration monitor may be around to visit your property between July 15 and August 9 to verify data listed on the property record card collected by the assessor. This is part of a quality control review being conducted in NH towns. Those whose property may be visited should have received notice in the form of a small yellow postcard. If you have questions or object to the review, please call 603 230-5977 by 7/11/2013, as failure to reply to the notice constitutes visit permission. All monitors drive State of NH/DRA marked vehicles and have picture ID's at all times.

### **SULLIVAN WEBSITE**

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

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

The Sullivan Newsletter is also on line via a link on the Sullivan web page.

## **Monadnock Music Concert August 8**

Monadnock Music's Free Village Concert at the Sullivan Church on Thursday, August 8 at 7:30 PM will feature: J.S.Bach - Trio Sonata; C.P.E.Bach - Piano Quartet in G; J.J.Quantz - select drinking songs; and Franz Joseph Haydn - Arianna auf Naxos performed by Julia Cavallaro - soprano, Sarah Paysnick - flute, Sarah Darling - violin, Emily Rideout - viola and Matthew Hall - harpsichord.

The concert is free, no tickets or reservations required. Families are welcome. Donations accepted at the concert or at [www.monadnockmusic.org](http://www.monadnockmusic.org).

A reception will be held in the church hall after the concert - there will be light refreshments and an opportunity to meet the musicians.

### **Can You Help? (Donations needed)**

Would you be willing to help with refreshments? A batch of cookies, bag of chips, veggies & dip, etc.? Please call Sarah Burke, 847-9013. Thank you!

## **Fantastic Local Organization Needs Support**

The Keene Kiwanis is part of an international service organization. Our mission is to serve children in our local communities. Throughout the year we hold projects and events which serve as fund raisers. ***All of the money we raise is invested back in our community in the form of scholarships, grants and aid to needy families. We***

**support (5) local youth groups at Keene High School and Monadnock Regional High School, St. Joseph's Regional School, the Keene Family Y and Keene State College.**

Our activities include our spring "Kool Wheels" bike rodeo where we distribute hundreds of bike helmets to local children at no charge. In August, our Antique Car show takes the stage. In October, we park cars and sell the tastiest fried dough anywhere at Keene's well-known Pumpkin Festival. This November, we are taking over another great event, the tree lighting on Central Square. Hundreds of area children will hear holiday music, meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, all while sampling wonderful hot cocoa and cookies. There's plenty to do and we welcome your help.

We're eager for new members to continue our service. So please, open your hearts and join Kiwanis today. Anyone interested in serving others will feel very welcome here. If you would like to see why we do what we do, join us on any of our Wednesday breakfast meetings at the Pub Restaurant at 7:30 a.m. or contact us. Your first breakfast is on the club. I look forward to seeing you there. Please share in our mission.

Sincerely,  
Gary Grashow, Keene Kiwanis President

## **Greetings from the School Board of the Sullivan School District**

### **Meetings:**

The Sullivan School Board meetings in May did not take place as the May 1st meeting had been moved to April 30th and the 3rd Wednesday meeting had been cancelled. During this time enrollments continued to come in to the Nelson School, Keene Middle School, Keene High School and directly to the school board. The school board is working with a specific list of students who are now enrolled. Anyone planning to attend these schools should contact the principals soon to take advantage of any orientation activities that are taking place. School Board meetings resume 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the lower town hall conference room at 6:30.

### **Residency/guardianship status:**

The school board will be working toward obtaining proof of residency from those who are enrolled in the public education system and living in Sullivan. Our school district clerk will receive a list of residents to check off as she receives proof of residency. If there is a legal guardian or custody agreement, this will also need to be sent to the school board at Sullivan School District, PO Box 111, Sullivan, NH 03445 prior to the start of school.

### **Free/Reduced Lunch Program:**

The free and reduced lunch program is a program for students in all grades. The program is income-based and the more qualified applicants a town has, the more the town and the schools may qualify for grants which, in turn, help reduce costs to Sullivan. Every family with children in public schools is strongly encouraged to complete an application. Applications are sent home at the start of the school year, or families may contact the school board or school principal to obtain the form.

### **Kindergarten "bump up" day:**

Many Sullivan students have already attended their bump up day in their new schools and on June 10th it was our kindergarteners' turns! There was a great turnout and Sullivan children met others who will be in their kindergarten classroom next year.

### **Keene High School/Keene Middle School:**

Both of these schools have given the school board their Sullivan enrollment list. A few families have not yet registered. Please contact the schools to enroll soon to assure best class selection.

### **Sullivan School Building:**

The town budget committee and Realtor, George Foskett of Better Homes and Gardens The Masiello Group have come to terms on a marketing plan and the building on the market. MRSD has offered some challenges for us to work around involving access to the building. Showings will be handled by George Foskett, listing broker and accompanied by a MRSD staff member. Price will be negotiated between the listing broker and the budget committee who will take all matters into consideration. Some residents have voiced various concerns and they have been heard.

### **SAU Withdrawal:**

**The NH Board of Education met on Tuesday, June 13 and approved Sullivan's withdrawal from SAU 93. We are now SAU 96!** This was the final stage of the withdrawal. After June 30, Sullivan School District will officially be an independent district and its own SAU. Thank you Chris Pratt who led the SAU Withdrawal committee and moderated the evening our town held its vote. Thank you to all who served on the committee. This committee was a wonderful opportunity to bring in new members who had not previously been involved with the process and everyone contributed several hours of their busy schedules to help in the process. Thank you!

**Sullivan School Board Vacancy:**

School board member Christi Hanson has resigned, effective 6/5/13 and the school board is encouraging all those interested to submit a letter of interest to Mary Hull, District Clerk at the town hall. Letters may also be mailed to Sullivan School District, PO Box 111, Sullivan, NH 03445. Thank you, Christi, for your interest and for your time.

**Contracts updates:**

Keene-Sullivan contracts have been signed and approved by the state. We are awaiting the return of the Nelson-Sullivan contracts from the state though we were assured there will be no issues. We continue to negotiate terms between Sullivan-Monadnock for the grandfathered students who will be tuitioned there.

**Transportation routes:**

The school board has submitted names/addresses for the registered students thus far to First Student. No routes are set yet and we all look forward to learning more about the times and routes for our students. This is rather complicated as we have students going to Gilsum/MRHS/Nelson/KMS/KHS this year. Routes will be posted at the Sullivan Town Hall as they are received. We are told this is typically one to two weeks prior the start of school.

Enjoy the summer!

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Jacques Kleine  
Sullivan School Board, Chair  
209-4151/stephaniejacques@masiello.com

**Sullivan School Board Vacancy**

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**NELSON SCHOOL NEWS**

The first day of school for the 2013 – 2014 year will begin on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. Incoming students and parents were recently sent an informational letter. In this letter you will find information on Opening Dates and Times, the After School Program, upcoming school programs and events and a very quick Technology Questionnaire that should be returned to Nelson School in the self-addressed, stamped envelope included in the packet of materials. If you did not receive this, contact Kim Keating, school secretary at 847-3408. During the summer she will be at the school most Mondays from 9am to noon and on Tuesday both Kim and Principal Sheila Vara will both be in the office from 9am to 3pm. The Nelson School website also provides timely information about the school [www.nelson.k12.nh.us](http://www.nelson.k12.nh.us).

**BOOK PALS AT SCHOOL**

For the past several years, Nelson School students have been involved in an all school read. Three years ago a popular program named Book Pals was incorporated into this activity. As we welcome the Sullivan students to Nelson School, we invite you to join us by becoming a Book Pal. It is open to community members, parents, families, and friends. One does not have to reside in Sullivan to participate. A book pal is needed for each student attending Nelson School. You will find additional information below. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

**A note about book pals:**

The staff at Nelson School has been busy filling in dates on next year's calendar. Important dates to write down now are those of our annual Book Pal Program. We have not made the final decision on the book we'll be reading, but here are the dates. We will begin reading on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and will end with our grand celebration on

Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. We hope that this change will accommodate schedules of our snow birds and skiing population and bring new faces into our school.

### **What's this?**

Each Nelson School student will be paired with an adult pal. Mail correspondence about the book occurs two to three times during the month. All books are provided by the school. Adults do not come to the school to read with the child, but do get to be part of our exciting culmination party. Next year will be the fourth of this popular activity. We will begin pairing students and adults as the names come in to us. Don't delay, sign up now by calling the school at 847-3408 or e-mail Martha Silk, msilk@sau29.org.

Book Pals correspond by mail with K – 6 grade students at Nelson School.

- The grade level for a pal can be requested
- Adult book pals need not come to the school to read with the students.
- All books are provided by the school. This year's choice is Eleanor H. Porter's 1913 classic *Pollyanna*.
- Sign up soon! The dates are September 23<sup>rd</sup> to October 24<sup>th</sup> when we will have an evening celebration
- Come together as a school community to support and encourage our young readers.
- For more information contact Nelson School 847-3408 or e-mail msilk@sau29.org
- Nelson School students in grades 1-5 (and Sullivan students) have an opportunity to participate in the DeMar Kid's Marathon on Friday, September 29, 2013, in Keene, New Hampshire. To qualify for this 1.2 run, students must walk and/or run a total of 25 miles during the spring, summer, and fall months, record their miles in their log, and return the log to Nelson School by September 13, 2013. When the log is turned in and their 25 miles have been documented, each child will receive a cool t-shirt, at no cost, which becomes their "ticket of admission" to run the last 1.2 miles of the official Clarence DeMar Marathon.
- The Keene Elm City Rotary Club DeMar Marathon Committee, in partnership with Advocates for Healthy Youth Collation, Vision 2020 Champions Program, and area physical education teachers have organized this opportunity to encourage students to participate, become physically fit, and develop a lifetime of healthy habits.

## **CHANGES AT THE SULLIVAN CHURCH**

The church bell still rings at 9:30 am each Sunday even though the Sullivan Congregational Church is in a period of change. Pastor Phyllis Evelyn retired and the church is beginning the process to find a new minister. This will take time and at least for the summer months various "supply" ministers will fill the pulpit.

We would love to see some new faces in the church and hope you can join us. Our little church is an integral and historic part of the town and we need your help and your ideas to keep it vital and strong. What changes would you like to see? Tell a person who attends or stop by! On Sundays we hold a simple service with wonderful music, a brief message and then gather together for some fellowship over coffee afterwards.

Our outreach programs include but are not limited to:

**Sullivan Food Pantry** - Groceries are delivered once a month to Sullivan families in need.

**Health, baby & school kits** – A Church World Service project that delivers these needed items to people in all parts of the world who have suffered devastation in their lives. Many were given out to recent hurricane and tornado victims in this country.

**Blanket Project** – Also a Church World Service project that provides blankets to those in need in similar circumstances as the above.

**Kurn Hattin** – A luggage, tote bag & backpack drive for students at Kurn Hattin in Westminster, VT.

## **CLEAN UP DAY RESULTS...**

Town clean-up day volunteers in town picked up: 1700 pounds of trash along the roadsides, 62 tires, 1 TV set and 4 mattresses.

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL**

Sullivan will continue to take part in the Hazardous Waste Disposal Program at the Keene Recycling Center throughout the summer. When the newsletter went to print, the summer schedule had not yet been posted. Go to <http://www.ci.keene.nh.us/departments/public-works/recycling-center> for days and times. Or call 352-5739.

## **FROM THE MESSY GARDENER**

Hi there I am writing this to let you all know that my roses have mostly survived the shift to the front garden. I, of course, lost the pride of the garden a rose called Anne Harkness which was a gorgeous shade of apricot, orange, yellow or what have you and did not make it through the winter – I lost very few due to the weather and most roses are going to bloom shortly if they haven't yet. Many that I would not have expected anything from have grown and are probably going to bloom shortly. A bunch that I tried to pot and grow out back and I didn't expect them to survive at all have actually sent up growth and even are trying to bloom – this is a big surprise as I really wasn't expecting them to try at growing and there they are from dead looking pieces of brush sending up leaves and the like – refusing to die.

My container idea is sort of working – I have lettuce growing in pots and also in a garden bed that didn't exist last year. I am also growing vegetables in other pots – potatoes and cabbage are started. I have to say that the container idea seemed like a good one at the time I first had it and I have sand bags that I am using as grow bags – mainly because I am cheap and the concept of buying a grow bag for 12 dollars and buying a hundred bags for about \$40 seemed like a no-brainer to me. Unfortunately I am still growing things in my square gardens and not really doing all that well at sustainability partly I think as I am getting too old for doing this as well as I used to and I just am so far behind that I can't seem to get out of my own way. I actually got one plant planted the other day and then didn't get the others that I should have planted at the same time and they were left waiting to be planted.

All the grass and weeds have gotten so big that I can't even think that they will die if I use weed killer – so I keep trying to spray and I haven't the faintest idea if it is working. It has been a cold and wet spring and the weed killer that I used earlier has left a great brown patch here and there among the gardens but nothing seemed to slow the weeds down and I have huge patches of very tall grass and weeds and no sign that the weed killer is doing anything. I was hoping to fix the rock garden and the assorted gardens in front of the living room and this has completely gotten away from me but I am going to try to keep my sights on this and try to get a presentable garden along the path and out in front of the living room.

Unfortunately I apparently have a bunch of reseeded from a fall blooming clematis cluttering up the rock garden so I need to dig these all up and try to get the rock garden under control and then I can plant seeds there as well as in other spots to grow some of the plants that I should be growing. My other big decision was to plant seeds outside as Much as Possible as the plants that are needing to be transplanted are not getting transplanted and put outside as I am much too busy to deal with this aspect of gardening around here.

This is the time of year that all is much too much to deal with and none of the things that I have planned have actually taken place – this is really frustrating and I am too busy to even think about what I am planning to do tomorrow. I also know that regardless of what I am planning I probably won't get to it until the next week or so and by then it will be too late to get it done. So I keep plugging away at trying to get all this done. Now that I have many roses in front of the kitchen and dining room maybe I can make a difference in the other places and in a few years I will have everything under control – I seem to spend huge amounts of time in this garden rather than keeping on track about the assorted changes I am thinking about so maybe it will take much longer. Please go out and plant something and watch it grow – if you are lucky it will grow so big that you will wonder whether or not you should cut it down.

Christa Patterson,  
The Perennial Gardener

*As long as one green and growing thing shall have survived that which is to come, I shall not have failed at my task.*

**Keene Farmers Market is every Saturday and Tuesday from 9-1 on Gilbo Ave in Keene.**

### **OLIVIA & TORI BRIGGS PLACE WINS**

For the fourth year in a row, the Big East Cattle Show numbers stayed strong and steady. This year's show was held from May 3 through May 5, at the Mallary Complex located on the Eastern States Exposition fairgrounds in West Springfield, Massachusetts. There were 149 youth exhibitors at this year's show, representing the states up and down the east coast, along with New York, Pennsylvania, and Canada. Olivia Briggs won her showmanship class and Tori Briggs took second place her in showmanship class. Olivia's heifer, Sally won her class and went on to be Reserve Champion Chi-Angus.

## AGRICULTURAL FAIRS

Nothing says authentic, old-fashioned family fun quite like a New Hampshire Agricultural Fair. From rides and games to sheep shearing and horse pulling, to livestock judging and woodsmen's challenges, these annual fairs offer fun for the whole family. And don't forget everyone's favorite indulgence - fair food! Fried dough, ice cream, burgers and fries as well as locally grown produce are sure to make your mouth water. Make plans now to join us at one of the many fairs taking place this summer and fall in New Hampshire.

Below you will find a list of upcoming Agricultural Fairs for the 2013 season. For more information, please visit the New Hampshire Association of Fairs And Expositions website. Stratham Fair, **July 18 -21** [www.strathamfair.com](http://www.strathamfair.com) ; North Haverhill Fair, **July 24-28** [www.nohaverhillfair.com](http://www.nohaverhillfair.com) ; Cheshire Fair, Swanzey, **July 31-Aug. 4** [www.cheshirefair.com](http://www.cheshirefair.com) ; Belknap County 4-H Fair, Belmont, **Aug. 10-11** [www.bc4hfair.org](http://www.bc4hfair.org); Cornish Fair, **Aug. 16-18** [www.cornishfair.com](http://www.cornishfair.com) ; Lancaster Fair, **Aug. 28-Sept. 2** [www.lancasterfair.com](http://www.lancasterfair.com) ; Hopkinton State Fair, Contoocook, **Aug. 29-Sept.2** [www.hsfair.org](http://www.hsfair.org) ; Hillsborough County Agricultural Fair, New Boston **Sept. 6-8** [www.hcafair.com](http://www.hcafair.com) ; Rochester Fair, **Sept. 13-22** [www.rochesterfair.com](http://www.rochesterfair.com) ; Deerfield Fair, **Sept. 26-29** [www.deerfieldfair.com](http://www.deerfieldfair.com) ; Sandwich Fair, **Oct. 12-14** [www.thesandwichfair.com](http://www.thesandwichfair.com) .

### **The League of NH Craftsmen Presents the 80th Annual Craftsmen's Fair**

**Mount Sunapee Resort, Newbury, NH.**

August 3 - 11, 2013

**10:00am - 5:00pm daily, rain or shine, free parking**

Adults: \$10 Students/Seniors \$8 12 & under: FREE

<https://www.nhcrafts.org/craftsmens-fair-overview.php>

### **COMING EVENTS IN NELSON**

#### **Nelson Town Band and Ice Cream Social**

July 7, 2013 - 5:00pm Nelson Congregational Church Lawn

Enjoy the sounds of summer with the Nelson Town Band, while you eat delicious ice cream, homemade toppings, whipped cream and a cherry, served by community volunteers. The best in the Monadnock Region! \$5.00

Bring your lawn chairs and your sweet tooth!

#### **All Town Yard Sale** sponsored by the Nelson Congregational Church

July 13<sup>th</sup> 9am-3pm

\$10 and you can have your table on the church lawn complete with advertising!

Joy Birdsey 847-9533 or [pjbirdsmith@gmail.com](mailto:pjbirdsmith@gmail.com)

#### **Carnivalcopia**

August 12 Nelson School 4pm – 7pm

Games & Prizes (new & gently used) for children ages 4 – 10

This Old Home Day event is run by Nelson School Alumni and Friends and open to residents of any town.

#### **Nelson Congregational Church and Chapel by the Lake's Annual Ham n Bean Supper**

Wednesday, August 14th 5 -7:00pm 847-3280

#### **Nelson Congregational Church's 26th Annual Old Home Day Chicken BBQ**

Saturday, August 17th Noon 847-3280

### **TUESDAY NIGHT APPLE HILL SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**

<http://www.applehill.org/concerts/concerts.htm>

847-3371

**July 2** – Featuring the Session 2 Faculty

**July 9** – Young Artist Fellowship concert #1 - featuring the Boston Public String Quartet

**July 16** – Featuring the Session 3 Faculty

**July 23** –Gala Fundraiser!

An evening celebrating Apple Hill's commitment to great teaching and learning. We'll celebrate with good food and drink and a special night of music-making featuring our summer faculty and student musicians performing side-by-side in works by Bach, Telemann, Lutoslawski, Ginastera and others.

**July 30** – Featuring the Session 4 Faculty

**August 6** The Young Artist Fellowship concert #2 featuring the Boston Conservatory Honors String Quartet and the Apple Hill Fellowship String Quartet.

**August 13** – Featuring the Session 5 Faculty

**August 20** – Final Summer Concert, featuring the Dirt Road Ensemble Leonard Matczynski, conductor  
Dessert and Dance, Hoffman Auditorium – Everyone!