



Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol. 32 No. 5

Sullivan, NH

March – April 2013

SCHOOL & TOWN ELECTION DAY March 12 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Town & School Elections

Elections for Sullivan School Board members and Town officials will take place on Tuesday, March 12 from 11 am to 7 pm at the town hall. When you vote you will receive 2 separate ballots—one for town officers and one for school district officers. A complete list of those running follows.

Register to Vote

If you have not registered to vote, you may do so at the polls on March 12, with the Supervisors of the Checklist on March 2 at the town hall between 11 and 11:30 am or with the Town Clerk at least 10 days before the election. You must be a registered voter to vote on Warrant Articles at the meetings on March 13.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available from the Town Clerk if you are unable to make it to the polls.

Photo ID's

Please remember to bring your photo ID. Between November 1, 2012 and September 1, 2013, any voter who does not present an approved photo ID will be permitted to vote after executing a "challenged voter affidavit." A voter who does not have an approved photo ID may obtain a free photo ID for voting purposes only by presenting a voucher from their town/city clerk or the Secretary of State to any NH DMV office that issues identification.

SCHOOL & TOWN MEETING March 13 - 7 p.m.

Voting on the school and town warrants will take place at the Town Hall Wednesday evening beginning at 7 pm. The school district meeting will convene at 7 PM. The town meeting will convene at 8 PM. If the school district finishes after 8 PM, we will simply begin the town meeting when the school district meeting concludes. If you want to vote on the articles this evening, you **must be a registered voter**. The last day to register for this will be March 12 at the polls.

**SEE INSIDE – SCHOOL WARRANT & INFORMATION, NELSON SCHOOL NEWS,
TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY AND MORE!**

Candidates for Office

Town

Selectman – 3 years

Gary Patnode: My first year as a selectman has been a good learning experience and has given me a good introduction to all aspects of what serving in this position requires. Thank you to all of you who voted for me as a write in candidate in 2012. I have enjoyed this past year and want to continue to serve the Town of Sullivan. I am asking for your

support in the election for the three year term as selectman. My goal is to continue to work closely with all the town departments and members of the community to ensure that Sullivan remains a desirable place to live and raise a family. I feel that this can be done by continuing to manage our town in a community minded, yet cost effective way.

Selectman – 1 year

Write-in: Vote for one

Town Treasurer – 3 years

Lorraine Lindamood: I really enjoy my position as Town Treasurer and hope to continue for another 3 years with your vote. Thank you.

Road Agent – 2 years

Randy Smith: I have been your road agent since October 1997 and enjoy serving the residents of Sullivan. I would appreciate your vote on Election Day.

Trustee of Trust Funds – 3 years

Write-in: Vote for one

Cemetery Trustee – 3 years

Kevin Wheeler:

Library Trustee – 3 years

BJ Wahl: I've been a librarian for over 40 years and on the Sullivan Library Board of Trustees for several terms. I'd be happy to continue for another term. Thanks for your vote.

Budget Committee – 3 years

Write-in: Vote for two

Budget Committee – 1 year

Write-in: Vote for one

Overseer of Public Welfare – 1 year

Write-in: Vote for one

School Board

Three Years

Paul Bolduc: I wanted to take the time to introduce myself to those in the community who perhaps don't know me. My name is Paul Bolduc and I live with my wife Sara and two young children on Ellis Road in town. I have taught as an 8th grade teacher teaching Social Studies at Great Brook School in Antrim for the past 15 years. I have lived in Sullivan now for eleven years and have slowly become more and more involved within the community. I volunteered my time and my knowledge of education with several other very dedicated community members in researching educational opportunities of Sullivan's children. The past several years have been a challenging journey, and it was inspiring to see the community's support and interest in helping our committee work on this important decision. As a new school district, the direct oversight by our community in the decisions that steer the educational experiences of our children is an exciting prospect for our town. I strongly feel that my role is to represent the town's wishes when it comes to decisions to be made with their child's education especially in terms of balancing the quality of their educational opportunities with the budget realities that we face today. I appreciate your time and of course, your vote. Sincerely, Paul Bolduc

Two Years – vote for two

Malinda Sherpa: Hi, my name is Malinda Scherpa and I am running for school board representative, 2yr term. I was part of the School Study Committee investigating public school options for our children which recommended withdrawal from MRSD and am currently serving on the Sullivan pro-tem school board. I am a pediatrician working in Keene as well as the mother of 2 young children. I feel it is very important for all of our children to have access to high

quality public education that will help them reach their full potential. I also understand the importance of doing this in a way that is affordable to the taxpayers of Sullivan. Thank you and I hope you will consider voting for me on March 12.

Stephanie Jacques-Kleine: While the role of the chairperson is new to me, the organizational leadership required of the chair is not so unfamiliar. I tend toward diplomacy and like to engage many voices in decision making. Looking at the whole picture while listening to various perspectives and objections is my approach to gaining grand scale support for what decisions end up being made. I've been involved in the school district withdrawal study committee for nearly 2 years now and have continued on to serve as chair of the pro tem school board. I have a masters in organizational development and leadership and have served as your local Realtor for 11 years. Thanks to everyone for your ongoing support! Sincerely, Stephanie Jacques Kleine

One Year – vote for two

Christi Hanson: My name is Christi (Monroe) Hanson, and I have lived in Sullivan for most of my life. I work at the MRSD Before and After School Program serving Sullivan and Gilsum children and have for the past 4 years. Before that I worked with the children of Sullivan in the YMCA Daycare Center. I am on the Recreation Committee and try to be very active in town and school functions. I am running for School Board Representative because I care about our children and their well-being.

Jen Labadie: Jen Labadie has been a Sullivan resident for 15 years. She is currently representing Sullivan at the MRSD board. She and her husband Billy, their kids Tucker & Sahara and her father-in-law, Dick, built their log home on Gilsum Rd. She is a passionate advocate for education and kids in general. She was raised in VT, has a BA in Sociology from Purchase College, SUNY and has had family in Sullivan her whole life. Having lived in and around NYC, and having travelled some, including Russia, Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Canada, Mexico, Hawaii and most of the lower 48, there is no place in the world she would rather have raised her own children than right here in the heart of New England.

Dana Briggs:

Moderator – 3 years

Chris Pratt: I have served for a number of years as your town moderator and I am asking for your vote to be Sullivan School District Moderator as well. I believe my experience will help to make our school district meetings run smoothly and fairly. Thanks.

Treasurer – 3 years

Toni Ellsworth: I am pleased to submit my name for the ballot. I have lived in Sullivan for more than 25 years and have served for the past five years as the Sullivan representative on the MRSD Budget Committee. I believe this is an exciting time for Sullivan to establish once again our local school district. It is an opportunity to assure that a great education is available for all our children. If elected, I will fully commit myself to participating in the budget development and implementation while keeping in mind the financial capacity of our community.

I have been very impressed with the process thus far. We have a hard-working pro-tem school board, committed administration and town officials and we have heard from many of our citizens in the meetings and hearings thus far. Everyone has worked hard and brought a great deal of thought and expertise to come up with a good plan. I believe the first year will be the hardest and the most expensive as we pay start-up costs and deliver on our responsibilities to the old school building. Beginning the second year the cost should be lower with greater benefits to our community. We have a great plan in action and much has already been accomplished in a short period of time. If elected, I look forward to working with you and for you for the benefit of all our children.

Clerk – 3 years

Mary Hull:

2013 Dog licenses are now available. Why wait for the last minute? \$6.50 for spayed, neutered or puppies. \$9.00 if they are not fixed and \$2.00 for seniors (owners that is).

Updates from the Sullivan School District

History

On November 24, 2010, Sullivan and Gilsum received an invitation from Keene School District.

On March 2011, a study committee was commissioned by the Sullivan Board of Selectmen. The members of this committee were:

- Stephanie Jacques Kleine
- Paul Bolduc
- JJ Prior
- Jen Labadie
- Malinda Scherpa
- Chris Pratt
- Julie Wilber
- Dana Briggs

After nearly one year of studying various education options, comparing costs and opportunities, the committee presented four options to the Board of Selectmen that the town could reasonably pursue. They were:

1. Remain in the Monadnock Regional School District
2. Withdraw from MRSD and send all students (K-12) to the Keene School District
3. Withdraw from MRSD and form a cooperative school district with Gilsum, send middle and high-school students to attend the Keene School District
4. Withdraw from MRSD and send all middle and high-school students to Keene, and seek another local school to send elementary students.

*The study committee found the cost of operating the Sullivan Central School exceeded the town's reasonable funding resources, thus it was not presented as an option in conjunction with any withdrawal action.

On Sept. 2011, MRSD school board held its regular public meeting at Gilsum School, inviting Sullivan/Gilsum study committees to hear concerns.

On March 2012, residents at the Sullivan town meeting vote to request a withdrawal study by a MRSD withdrawal study committee and \$10,000 was allocated for legal expenses.

On March 2012, MRSD board votes to close Sullivan School in 2012-1013 school year.

MRSD formed a withdrawal study committee consisting of one school board member and one selectman from each MRSD member town, as listed below:

- Jen Labadie, Sullivan rep, chair
- Mark Paquette, Sullivan BOS
- Dick Thackston, Troy rep
- Mike Cummings, Troy BOS
- Jim Carney, Richmond rep
- Sandra Gillis, Richmond BOS
- Pat Bauries, Swanzey rep
- Deborah Davis, Swanzey BOS
- Phyllis Peterson, Fitzwilliam rep
- Susan Silverman, Fitzwilliam BOS
- Ed Jacod, Gilsum rep
- Ray Britton, Gilsum BOS
- Mark Funk, Roxbury rep
- Karen Cota, Roxbury BOS

The MRSD withdrawal committee approved Sullivan's withdrawal plan on Sept. 5, 2012.

The State Board of Education approved the withdrawal plan and sent it to MRSD voters, Nov. 27.

On Dec. 19, the State Board of Education issued a certificate of withdrawal and appointed a Sullivan school board pro-tem.

In January 2013, Open Houses were held at the two elementary school options in Nelson and Harrisville.

On Jan. 8, meeting at Sullivan town hall for public to ask questions of the Nelson/Harrisville schools.

On Jan. 9, Sullivan pro tem school board chooses Nelson elementary school and final budgeting begins with notification of family decisions for enrollment.

The Nelson school board and Sullivan pro tem school board held joint meetings in January and February.

Visiting new schools and transition planning

Parents who would like to plan for the transition of their students to a new school are being urged by the Sullivan pro tem school board to contact school principals now to inquire about upcoming "jump up" days, schedule visitations, learn about any orientation dates and for 2013-'14 registration.

If you entering this grade for the school year 2013-14....

K-4*
5-6**
7-8
9
10-12**

This will be your school option...

Nelson Elementary*
Nelson, or Gilsum **
Keene Middle School (KMS)
Keene High School (KHS)
KHS, or MRHS **

*Nelson Elementary is offering a few visitation options. Please read their invitation within this newsletter.

**Families of students who wish to remain at Gilsum or MRHS as indicated above must notify that school's principal this month if they have not done so already.

Preschool

Families with preschool students who currently have an IEP will receive notice in the near future regarding transition planning. Preschool option is only available to children age 3 -5 with an IEP.

Elementary School

Sheila Vara, Principal has included an invitation for incoming students wishing to explore their new school:

On April 12 parent teacher conferences are scheduled at the Sullivan/Gilsum School. The Nelson School would like to extend an invitation to any Sullivan students who are transitioning to Nelson School the opportunity to join us for the whole day or part of the day.

If students would like to spend the entire day with us we begin classes at 8:00 a.m. and are dismissed at 2:45. The cost of hot lunch will be \$2.50. If milk is purchased it would be \$.50 cents. We ask that parents call Kim at 847-3408 to let her know that their child will be attending so that the classroom teacher is able to prepare materials and we are able to order lunch.

***We would need to know by
Monday, April 8, 2013.***

Sheila Vara
Nelson Elementary School Principal

Middle School

Dottie Frazier, school principal is your contact for all questions regarding registration, transitioning, visitation and orientation for your middle school student. More information will be communicated as we have it.

High School

All high school students who will be attending Keene High School are urged by KHS to register before May 1st to ensure best selection of classes. You are invited to contact the school principal to discuss registration and any questions about orientation, transitioning and class selection.

School Budget

In response to the budget hearing on Feb. 12, 2013 the Sullivan pro tem School Board has revisited the proposed budget and, with the collaboration of the budget committee, presents more favorable figures as new information about NH state adequacy and enrollment figures have come to light. Preparing a first year's budget has challenged us to gather information from many different sources, but the foundation is being laid for the coming years to support our growth and evolution as a successful school district.

Information about the school district's budget will be distributed at town business meeting on March 13, 2013 though highlights may be found below:

Article 1. To choose all necessary School District officers for the ensuing year (vote on March 12)

Article 2. Deficit Appropriation: This sum of \$40,000 covers expenses incurred before July 1, 2013 and include contracting superintendent and business manager services, legal expenses, liability insurance, and IEP meetings. The Budget Committee and the School Board recommend this appropriation.

Article 3. Main Operating Budget: This sum of \$1,407,062 represents student tuitions, transportation, special education expenses, evaluations, SAU management services, and minimal facility maintenance costs until the Sullivan Central School is sold. It is important to note that the state will reimburse the district nearly \$571,000 and possibly up to \$600,000 from the sum above, though the more conservative figure will be applied to the budget. The Budget Committee and the School Board recommend this appropriation.

Article 4. Sullivan Central School: This is to raise and appropriate the sum of \$185,000 to reimburse the MRSD for the costs of capital expenses, less what Sullivan has already paid, within the past 50 years. It must be noted that the Budget Committee has included a revenue within the town budget for the sale of the building, causing this sum to have no impact on taxes. The Budget Committee and the School Board recommend this appropriation.

Article 5. Expendable Trust Fund (Special Education and Tuition Trust Fund): This sum of \$10,000 acts as a buffer in the event of unanticipated tuitions such as a new student. The School Board initially recommended \$50,000 as this is less of a risk to the town but to reduce tax impact to residents the Budget Committee and School Board are recommending \$10,000.

Article 6. Contingency Fund: The sum of \$30,000 is to cover unanticipated expenses and the Budget Committee and School Board recommend this appropriation.

The Sullivan pro tem School Board recognizes the individual challenges each of you have presented, and shares in the enthusiasm heard from so many. Thank you for your continued interest. It has been over 50 years since the town of Sullivan has had such voice around education. Your participation at various levels is not unnoticed and is very much appreciated.

On behalf of the Sullivan pro tem School Board, thank you!

Stephanie Jacques Kleine
-Sullivan pro tem School Board Chair

To Sullivan Taxpayers and Voters

A Few Words Regarding the Purchase of the Sullivan School Building by the Sullivan School District

Article 4 of the Sullivan School District's Warrant asks for the taxpayers in the school district to Raise and appropriate \$185,000.00 to purchase the Sullivan School building from the MRSD.

My investigation indicates that we are **not specifically required** by State Statute to make this purchase and there is **no contractual obligation** for us to purchase this building. MRSD has done its best to try and convince people that we must buy this building though that is not true. This building is a white elephant and the Sullivan School District should not be stuck with the building and all of its associated operating and maintenance expenses.

A vote to buy this building will mean a significant tax increase for all Sullivan taxpayers. In order to pay for the building in one year, a tax increase of over \$3.00 per thousand or by over \$600.00 on a \$200,000 home will be needed.

I personally recommend that the Voters of the Sullivan School District vote against Warrant Article 4 and the purchase of this building.

Best Regards,
Rick Hotchkiss

"Library Footnotes"

For those of you who are wondering if spring will ever arrive, I assure you it is coming; the vernal equinox will occur at 11:02 a.m. on March 20.

There are a number of **new titles** on our shelves, waiting to fall into your hands: *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie*, *Private Berlin*, *Killing Kennedy*, *Tenth of December*, *The Racketeer*, *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker*, *Thomas Jefferson*, even *I Could Pee on This and Other Poems by Cats*. We also have a number of new children's and young adult books on our shelves.

The **Third Thursday Book Group** will discuss *Harriet Tubman: the Road to Freedom* by Catherine Clinton on March 21 at 7. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library.

On Monday, April 22, at 2 p.m. Jeanne and Peter Jeffries will lead a **genealogy workshop** at the library. Class size is limited, so please reserve your spot by calling the library at 847-3458 during business hours or e-mailing sullivanpubliclibrary@gmail.com. Just beginning? Start with what you know. The genealogy workshop pages at www.walpolehistory.org have pedigree and family group charts as well as research logs. The librarian can help you get started with these resources if you need assistance.

The **New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc.** (NERGC) is holding its twelfth genealogical conference, Woven in History – The Fabric of New England 17-21 April 2013 at the Radisson Hotel & Expo Center, Manchester, New Hampshire. For details on the conference and workshops offered, see <http://www.nergc.org/Conference-Home-Page.html>.

During April vacation week, we will have a game program Wednesday night and a story program at 10 on Thursday morning.

I'd like to take a minute to thank all of you for the many ways you support the library, whether it be using our materials or Wi-Fi, donating new and gently used materials, attending programs, or giving of your time. This is a wonderful community in which to work. The library would especially like to acknowledge the following people for their recent gifts: Roger & Ann Sweet, Carole Little, Cliff Dempster, Chris & Gaynelle Pratt, Chip & Kathy Woodbury, Mary Parker, Cathy Bersani, Nancy Bergeron, Donna Philbrick, Laurie Waninger, Paulette Tuttle and our anonymous donors.

Denise McFarland
Librarian

Public Notice

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on March 14, April 11, and May 9, 2013 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

It is time once again for town meeting and the annual look at the archives collection of annual meetings from the past.

10 years ago. The 2003 warrant contained 32 articles signed by selectmen Douglas Washburn, Eric Martin and Richard Hotchkiss. Voters approved a change from the old flood hazard ordinance to a new ordinance in line with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations. The passage made home owners eligible for FEMA assistance in case of floods. The meeting voted 67 to 3 to purchase a new fire truck. The fire department reported members had received over 2200 hours of training and spent over 1000 hours in responding the emergency calls. The highway department spent most of the summer planning and installing new culverts on the Gilsum Road and widening the Corey Mine Road slightly so they would have a place to pile up snow. The first half of winter had so many ice and freezing rain events that much of the sand and salt supply had been used. The conservation commission reported that the annual roadside clean up had picked up over 1000 pounds of trash including some 150 tires.

25 years ago. The 1986 warrant contained 26 articles signed by selectmen Leslie Goodnow, Joe Mosley and Harvey Swett. The meeting voted 68 to 57 to adopt an ordinance regulating building in a flood hazard zone. This action cleared the way for homeowners in such zones to be able to purchase flood insurance. The meeting voted to discontinue a portion of the Old Apple Hill Road, but rescinded its discontinuation of the upper end of the Boulder Road after residents on the Stoddard side of the road complained to the Town of Stoddard. Since Boulder Road was their only access to the outside, Sullivan found that it had to maintain the road for the full distance to the town line. The town voted to accept the gift from the estate of Stanley Dvorachek to establish a trust fund to help maintain Jewett Park. Also on the agenda was a proposal to join the Ashuelot Regional Waste Disposal District. The alliance of several towns in the Monadnock Region would have constructed a regional landfill. However, the project was never fulfilled. Money was also appropriated to upgrade the town hall (the old Community Hall at 30 Centre Street) by adding an entrance ramp, fire escape and other changes. The building committee reported that there was still a lot to do including the addition of a bathroom. The bicentennial committee reported on its first year of activity and listed plans for the celebration to be held on August 14-17, 1987.

50 years ago. The 1963 warrant contained 19 articles signed by selectmen Armand Dube, Howard Brooks and Harvey Swett. The meeting voted to ratify the fire department's membership in Southwestern New Hampshire District Mutual Aid. This agreement allows the fire department to aid other towns and call upon others to aid us. The agreement had been worked out in 1958. This action approved the membership. The meeting turned down an effort to hire an independent organization to conduct property assessments rather than the board of selectmen. The meeting also instituted a building permit system and required that owners of mobile homes obtain building permits if their trailers were on their property for more than 7 days.

100 years ago. The 1913 warrant contained 12 articles signed by selectmen Eugene Marston, Winfred J. White, and Herbert S. Currier. Most of the articles were appropriations. Other articles dealt with hiring a janitor for the town hall (now the Sullivan Public Library, 436 Centre Street) and to give the authority to rent the building to private gatherings. The meeting decided to leave the matter to the selectmen. Another article called on the town to appoint a committee to settle a boundary dispute between the town farm property (Winch Hill) and adjacent land owners.

200 years ago. 1813 may have been a year when there was no annual meeting or at least one that was not properly recorded. J.L. Seward states in the town history that selectmen Roswell Hubbard, Samuel Seward, Jr., and John Mason called a meeting for 8 March, but there is no record of the meeting in the town clerk's book. Perhaps there was nothing to discuss that year. That seems unlikely for a town meeting! The clerk's book does mention a special meeting in September to adjust two road rights-of-way. Things got back to normal in 1814.

SPRING ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP

April 27

Everyone's help is needed to clean Sullivan's roadsides again this spring. Unfortunately, spring and snow melt generally means many cans, bottles and "you name it" become visible along our roads. If you could just take one section of your road and pick up the rubbish, it would be a great help.

Meet at the Town Hall at 9 am for road assignments and to pick up a few of the familiar blue bags. Afterwards, meet back at the Town Hall for lunch at noon, sponsored by the Sullivan Conservation Commission. The food is good and the company even better. For those new to town, it's a great opportunity to meet your neighbors!

If you can't make it on the 27th but would like to help, call Roger Sweet at 847-3463 to get bags ahead of time.

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

April 22 at 2 p.m.

Jeanne and Peter Jeffries, who have conducted free genealogy workshops in the region, particularly Walpole, for many years, will be at the Sullivan Public Library on April 22 at 2 p.m. to help people interested in learning about their ancestors

What Happens at the Genealogy Workshop?

A group of 5-9 people assemble, some have no genealogy experience, and some have been hunting ancestors for years. Each one starts a pedigree chart starting with self, parents, grandparents. Discussions cover Family Group Sheets, vital records, census, libraries, books and computer searching. Sometimes the issue is "where do we go after we reach a stone wall". In one session, we were able to have Diane Gravel, stone wall expert come to Walpole and share her knowledge. One beginner couple, tracing his family, found ancestors all the way back to Colonial Times. A man was surprised to find information about his Revolutionary Ancestor and pursued an application to the Sons of the American Revolution. A woman from Keene has attended many sessions and expanded her knowledge of her family and had new questions for an elderly aunt. Participants come from Vermont as well as NH towns.

The website of the Walpole Historical Society describes workshops given there (as well as those upcoming) and gives forms you may find helpful: www.walpolehistory.org

Please call the Sullivan Library (847-3458) or send an email (sullivanpubliclibrary@gmail.com) to save yourself a spot.

NOTES FROM NELSON

Invitation to Visit School

Nelson School is hosting an **Open House** for Sullivan transitioning to Nelson School on Tues., **April 9th** from 6:30-7:30 pm. This will provide an opportunity for parents to meet teachers, tour the facility, learn about our programs and ask questions.

On **April 12** parent teacher conferences are scheduled at the Sullivan/Gilsum School and the Nelson School would like to extend an invitation to any Sullivan students who are transitioning to Nelson School the opportunity to join us for the **whole day or part of the day**.

If students would like to spend the entire day with us we begin classes at 8:00 am and are dismissed at 2:45. The cost of hot lunch will be \$2.50. If milk is purchased it would be \$.50 cents. We ask that parents call Kim at 847-3408 to let her know that their child will be attending so that the classroom teacher is able to prepare materials and we are able to order lunch. We would need to know by Monday, April 8, 2013.

Nelson School Band

Nelson School looks forward to incorporating Sullivan Elementary students into our school. One source of school pride is our band. We hope many of the Sullivan students would like to join! We maintain a few starter instruments at the school to help encourage prospective band members to try playing an instrument without their parents having to make a purchase only to find out their fledgling musician turns out to prefer flute over trumpet. To this end, if anyone has an instrument languishing in their closet that they would like to donate to the school, donations would be greatly appreciated.

Please call the school at 847-3408 or contact Sheila Vara at svara@sau29.org

PTO Auction

Nelson School will host their 6th Annual Live PTO Auction on Saturday, **April 6** at 6:00 pm. The auctioneer is Ckris Wallenstein and the sale will feature, art, local crafts and services galore! This will support the PTO budget for the 2013-2014 school year! Donations and volunteers are welcomed!

Pancake Breakfast to Benefit School Trip

Nelson School's third and fourth grade class will be hosting a spring pancake breakfast! It will be on Saturday, **May 4th**, from 8:00 - 11:30 am in the Nelson School multi-purpose room. Let the 3rd and 4th graders of Nelson School serve you! Come on down to enjoy local resident, Charlie Lang's, delicious pancakes and hashbrowns. We will also offer sausage, fruit, juice, and coffee! Cost is \$7.00 per plate.

We will also be holding a 50/50 raffle.

We are very excited to send out a special invitation to our Sullivan families and friends. All of us at Nelson School are looking forward to their arrival in the fall and we can't wait to start making connections. What better way to get to know someone new than over a plate of pancakes and hashbrowns?

*All proceeds from this breakfast will go into the third and fourth graders funds for their future sixth grade trip.

Nelson Church Suppers

On Saturday, **March 9** at the Nelson Congregational Church there will be a **traditional corned beef dinner**. Charlie Lang and his staff cook up this feast! The menu includes corned Beef, cabbage, carrots, onions, Irish Soda Bread, beverage and dessert. Two seatings: 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Live music will be provided by Celticladda (playing later at the Saturday night Contra Dance). Wear your Green! Adults \$9.00 and children under 10 \$6.00.

On **April 20** there will be an **Italian Extravaganza** sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 530 and the Nelson Congregational Church. It will feature Caesar salad, garlic bread, fettuccini Alfredo, chicken parmesan and spaghetti and meatballs, a dessert and beverage. There will be two seatings at 5 pm & 6 pm and the cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for under 10.

Reservations are not required for either one.

MONADNOCK PONY CLUB - Equestrian Group Kicks off Membership Drive

The Monadnock Pony Club invites new members from age 6 to 25 to join the fun in 2013! Members of the club meet throughout the year for instruction in horse care and riding skills including dressage, show jumping, eventing, games, foxhunting and tetrathalon. Un-mounted meetings are held on Sundays throughout the winter months and mounted meetings begin in the Spring. The French Farm in nearby Nelson, NH hosts the club and has a large outdoor ring area abutting scenic Center Pond.

The Monadnock Pony Club was founded in the 1960's and is part of the United States Pony Club, the largest non-profit youth equine organization in the world. Many members of the US Olympic Team formed their riding foundation through Pony Club and several renowned national riders spent their formative years with the Monadnock Club. Pony Club competitions are team-based and Monadnock has sent several successful teams to compete at national competitions in the past several years.

The club encourages members to have access to an appropriate pony or horse, tack, equipment and transportation to attend the mounted lessons, but interested children without a horse can participate in all un-mounted activities. Yearly cost is \$150 for new members, with a discount for multiple members from the same family. This includes 12-15 weekend meetings throughout the year and preparation for local, regional, and national competitions. For information: Kathy Blaudschun at 603-847-9082 or Bud French at 603-THS-FARM (847-3276).

PLANNING BOARD SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to all 106 of you who thoughtfully filled out the survey the planning board distributed earlier this winter. Some responses were heavily in favor of one option to a question, others were more evenly divided. It is very clear that almost everyone treasures Sullivan's small town atmosphere and its natural beauty. Most want the town to remain rural and residential in the future. A substantial number want the town to actively encourage agriculture. A few more than half think a commercial zone is needed in town, mostly along Route 9. Everyone had concerns about Sullivan's future, mostly for the maintenance of its rural character, its open space and its forests. A large number feel the need for a gas station. Many think developers should be encouraged to cluster housing to leave open space around houses. There was little interest in any housing type except single-family, although about 1/5 of the respondents would like elderly housing. Most people want either a certificate of occupancy or a housing inspector to ensure safety of construction. Sharing road equipment, facilities and personnel with other towns to reduce cost of services was very popular, as was encouragement for energy conservation through workshops on insulation and solar power.

Thank you to Kevin Wheeler for spending hours on the tabulations. If you want those tabulations by email, call Ann Sweet @ 847-3463.

The planning board would like new members. We are currently working on the update of the 2005 edition of the Master Plan, by state law the basis for zoning and other town regulations. Come join us and learn a lot about your town. Steve Hamilton, Chairman, Sullivan Planning Board

SOLAR ENERGY PRESENTATION

March 28 at 6:30 pm in the Town Hall

Have you thought about providing your home with solar energy to reduce electricity costs?

Revision Energy of Exeter will make a "Solar 101" presentation to town residents on Thursday, March 28, at 6:30 pm in the town hall. Everyone is invited. The representatives of this solar energy company will speak about the benefits of solar energy and then provide an open forum for residents to get their questions answered, whether about photovoltaics or solar hot water.

The company will also look at town buildings to see whether the town might benefit from solar installations. To read about the company, look up its website: www.revisionenergy.com.

To see a video of the company's meeting in Andover sponsored by the energy committee in that town, click on www.andover.nh.us. The audio is not crystal clear, but you will have an impression of the company and the questions raised by the people in town.

Sponsored by the Sullivan Energy Committee

BLUSTERY HIKE TO THE TOP OF WINCH HILL

Sunday, February 17 was bitterly cold with wind gusts up to 50 miles per hour. Eight sturdy people arrived at the library with their snowshoes, four by car from other towns and four from Sullivan who came on foot. The snow pack was close to perfect and in the woods the wind was less piercing. On the way up the old road to the monument glimpses of Mount Monadnock stirred the climbers. At the monument itself (the site of the first Sullivan Meeting House, built in 1791) the view through the leafless trees was clearer. Hikers smeared the face of the rock with snow, the better to read the inscription on the great stone "unveiled" in 1905 to commemorate the early settlers. Monadnock emerged ever sharper in outline as the climbers clambered up the slope until they reached the peak from which the mountain appeared in full profile. Everyone agreed that on a balmy day it would be a great spot for a picnic. From there, the snowshoers made their way over the hill to the old road and back to the library, glad of the opportunity to learn a little Sullivan history and proud of their endurance in the cold and wind.

SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH EASTER SERVICES

A **Maudy Thursday** Tenebrae service, preceded with a soup and bread meal will be held on March 28 at 6:00 pm in Friendship Hall at the church. **Palm Sunday**, March 24 will include the traditional procession with palms. This service will mark a return to the sanctuary after the cold winter season.

An **Easter Sunrise Service** will be held on March 31 at 6:30 am in front of the church followed by a light breakfast. There is no charge for the breakfast but donations will be gratefully accepted. The family **Easter Service** will be at 9:30 am in the sanctuary. Please join us for any or all services – everyone is welcome!

Members of the church wish to thank all who came to the community potluck dinner on Feb. 16th. A good time was had by all with a delicious selection of home-made dishes, a wonderful pie auction and great music!

Programs and Volunteer Opportunities at Hospice at HCS Sudden Loss Support Group

Hospice at HCS is offering a grief support group for anyone who has experienced the sudden or traumatic loss of a loved one. The group starts on March 13 and continues on Wednesdays from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm through April 17 at HCS, 312 Marlboro St. in Keene. Registration is necessary. Call Lynn Anne Palmer at 352-2253 to register or for more information. This support group is open to the public and is offered free of charge as a community service.

Spring Training for Hospice at HCS Volunteers

Hospice at HCS is offering a volunteer training program starting in March for those who are interested in becoming volunteers. The training will begin on March 19 and continue on Tuesday afternoons from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm through May 21. Volunteers are members of the hospice care team, providing support to the patient and to family members. After completing the training, volunteers assist hospice patients with interests such as writing letters, reading, playing board games, scrap booking, or they may accompany a patient to a community event or to visit friends. Volunteers also provide respite to family members. Hospice volunteers are especially needed during the day but time can be very flexible and work around work and travel commitments. The training program is offered free of charge but class size is limited and pre-registration is required. To register, contact Lorraine Bishop, Hospice at HCS Volunteer Coordinator at 352-2253 or lbishop@HCSservices.org. The Hospice at HCS is a not for profit hospice. Care is provided wherever a person calls home – their own home or in an assisted living facility or nursing home.

NOTES FROM A MESSY GARDENER

Just had a call from Becky and I have missed all the preliminaries to getting the newsletter dealt with. I did intend to write an article for this and haven't done this and somehow I wasn't paying attention and I thought that the 20th was not this soon. So I am writing this at the last moment which isn't quite what I had planned. Last year I moved roses to my front bed and I am now on tenterhooks (anxiously) watching the gardens through the snow and feeling that I should be doing things for the garden and I haven't the faintest idea what this should be.

I am still worrying over how to turn straight edges into circles and so far I haven't come to any earth-shaking resolution about how this is possible. I am thinking that perhaps it is possible to make a garden that combines both the idea of permaculture and straight edges into one garden and this then makes it possible to have permaculture in straight gardens. I should think that this would be possible but I am not quite sure. I have started seeds already and am waiting to move them outside. My artichokes are good sized and working on getting into second pots. I was going to plant them in my hoop house but the ones I planted in the late fall along with some really nice tomatoes were frozen so I will have to rethink this and try to find another way to plant them. I also planted some tuberous begonias and they are a monumental failure - so far they haven't sprouted - I tried and planted them again but so far not a sign of growth.

My garden is still and not really growing and I am feeling much older and unfortunately not wiser - aren't these supposed to go together? I am contemplating how I can accomplish the same amount but actually do less work - if I do manage to figure it out I'll be sure to let you all know.

What I am doing this winter is finishing quilts - so far I've gotten the drunkards path quilt to the woman who is going to quilt it for me - and I am almost finished with a quilt for my son with gecko lizards all over it. I have several other quilts that I am trying to finish - some are even Christmas quilts that I hope to get done.

I have been going over catalogs with seeds and the like but I am really broke and this seems to take a lot of time and has very little return so far. I do dream about exactly what I want in the garden this year but so much will depend on what has survived the winter - back to the roses again. I stopped transplanting roses when they said it was too cold to transplant - this left roses still unplanted and unmoved. At least there were about 4 that should have been moved and about 4 more that were planted in pots many years ago and have been thinking about growing even outside of the pots - so in the spring I will have to move these last few into their location for the next few years. The concept is not to have to move them again in my lifetime - about 20 or so years, I figure. Mayhaps I'll have another party to celebrate the newish rose garden - I can't give another party for the smoke bush until 2015 when it will have been in that location for 110 years - I should give assorted parties for various plants that have been here forever. How long ago were the lilacs planted, the various trees, the assorted hedges that are now spreading out in width? I am truly sick about the forsythia that seems to be spreading and the Diane witch hazel which blooms red and I don't have a yellow blooming witch hazel and perhaps this is the year to get one. I have all sorts of lilacs that have grown in the last 15 years but don't ask me to name them. I can name several but these are exceptions not the norm - I seem to have forgotten names of assorted plants and in some cases I didn't know the names to start with.

I have a flowering quince that has roots down to China and is spreading like mad. Many years ago I thought it would be nice to have a set of shrubs to go with the old lilacs, mock orange and so I planted the flowering quince. It blooms beautifully but it does spread along with the lilacs, mock orange, forsythia, witch hazel and so on - I even planted a Japanese maple in the cleared place that was supposed to be for daffodils - the daffodils are over-crowded, the Japanese Maple seems to be holding its own - not exactly thriving but managing to grow slightly each year - it is now lost in Phlox - anyone want pink phlox? I have lots of it. And I want it gone and no more. Special deal on pink phlox this year - come and take lots of it and it will spread like crazy. **Come and see what I've got growing** - and take some home with you. It will grow for you as it does for me - I really want to spread the word about perennials and how growing them can make you satisfied - I am not a wild type so come and see me and enjoy gardening for itself.

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.

CONSERVATION PLANT SALE

The Cheshire County Conservation District is holding its 2013 Conservation Plant Sale and is accepting orders through March 12th. Offerings include deciduous and evergreen trees, mushrooms, fruiting trees and shrubs, wildlife and landscaping shrubs, perennials and medicinals. For details or to place an order call 603 756-2978 or email amanda@cheshireconservation.org or visit 11 Industrial Park drive in Walpole.

Keene Indoor Farmers Market - next to Elm City Brewery, Colony Mill

March 9 & 23 April 13 & 27
10am – 2pm

Farmers Appreciation Night - Stonewall Farm

March 8th 5:30pm - 11:00 pm

NH MAPLE WEEKEND

March 23 & 24

Borden's

Tom & Dan Borden
152 Wyman Road
Keene, NH 03431
603-357-5332

Hours: Sat. only 11-4.

Coffee, sugar on snow weather permitting, corn fritters, syrup samples, sap gathering tours. Syrup for sale.

Boutwell's Sugar House

Lee Sawyer
196 Main Street
Jaffrey, NH 03452
603-532-7621

Hours: Sat. & Sun. 10-4.

Explanation of syrup making plus demonstration if sap is running. Samples of recipes using maple syrup. Syrup, sugar and cream for sale as available.

Clark's Sugar House

David & Alvin Clark
Crane Brook Rd., (off Rte. 123A)
Acworth, NH 03601
603-835-6863 or 835-2111

Open Saturday & Sunday 10-4

Serving doughnuts & coffee, bison burgers, cotton candy. All maple products for sale. Come see our herd of bison and mini donkeys.

Fieldstone Farm of Rindge

Dana & Becky Ryll
38 Fieldstone Lane
Rindge, NH 03461
603-899-6009

Hours: Sat. 8-5 & Sun. 9-3.

Saturday: Free coffee, donuts and hotdogs. Sunday: Free coffee and donuts. Maple syrup samples available both days. Come see Abe the buffalo!

Great Brook Farm Sugar House

Andy & David Westover
437 County Rd
Walpole, NH 03608
603-756-4358

Hours: Sat. & Sun. 12-4

Serving Walpole Creamery Super Premium Sweet Cream ice cream with our maple syrup. No charge! Note: we will not be open if there is no sap to boil. Please check ahead with us.

Millbrook Sugar House

Ted & April Ferguson
907 Rte 63
Westmoreland, NH 03467
603-399-4470

Hours: Sat. & Sun. 11-5

Sugar on snow weather permitting, doughnuts, free samples!! Syrup for sale. Working Scottish Highland farm. Medium sized sugar operation. Tours.

Morning Star Maple

John & Karen Keurulainen
1596 Main St.
Route 101, Dublin, NH 03444
603-563-9218

Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4

Oil fired modern equipment. Tours and samples. Maple candy, syrup, cream, sugar and cotton candy. Sugar house & gift shop open year round. Will ship.

Stonewall Farm

Glenn Yardley
242 Chesterfield Rd.
Keene, NH 03431

Hours: Sat. & Sun. 10-4

Saturday – draft horses gathering sap. Sat & Sun – boiling demonstrations, education, samples and ice cream.

603-357-7278

Stuart & John's Sugar House
Stuart Adams & John Matthews
Jct. 31 Route 63
Westmoreland, NH 03467
603-399-4486

Open Saturday & Sunday 7-3
Full breakfast and lunch menu. Breakfast: pancakes, waffles,
French toast, eggs, omelets. Lunch: sandwiches, grinders,
burgers, salads, specials.

GRANITE STATE

CARPET CARE

Commercial, Residential

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

Wood Floor Cleaning

Tile & Grout Cleaning

Brian Bezio - Sullivan, NH

358-3457

SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday Services 9:30 a.m.

Deacon – Libby Beede 358-0135

Church rentals - Chip & Kathy Woodbury 357-3445

Pastor: Rev. Phyllis Evelyn 903-5818

JACQUES CARPENTRY & REMODELING

Small and large jobs

Kitchen and bathrooms

Windows and doors

Odd jobs, basement finishing, additions and sheds built
on-site

Fully Insured, located in Keene

JeanNoel Jacques 860-690-3050

**Buy or sell real estate with your
neighborhood REALTOR**

352-5433 X1948

Stephanie Jacques, Associate Broker

BKG The Masiello Group

10 years experience selling real estate in the
Monadnock Region

JOHN BOLLES CONSTRUCTION

Excavating

Builders & Riggers

Septic Systems Concrete Work

South Rd Sullivan

352-8821

SULLIVAN'S LITTLE COUNTRY STORE

We have a bit of everything for your household needs.

Fresh Subs & Sandwiches Made to Order!

Salads, Meats & Cheese

Try one of our breakfast sandwiches!

Fresh vegetables & some fruit available.

Mon – Thu 6A - 7P Fri 6A – 8P Sat 7:30A – 7P

Sun 7:30A – 5:30P

Proprietors: The Little Family of Apple Hill

847-9383

SEPTIC MANAGER

Septic Pumping & Maintenance

Ed Csenge & Son, LLC

Septic Inspections, Septic Tank Pumping

Septic systems installed & repaired

Portable Toilet Rental

PO Box 1, Sullivan

847-9158

Licensed NH Septic Installer

Certified Inspections

ERIC WHITE CARPENTRY

Quality work for over 25 years.

Specializing in remodels and renovations.

From design to finish.

Old Concord Road, Sullivan

847-3038

MAPLE SYRUP FOR SALE

All sizes – ½ pint – ½ gallon

Gardens Rototilled

6' wide rototiller

Driveways York raked

Chuck Moore

886 Centre St. Sullivan

847-3016

(please call before 7 pm)

OTTERBROOK CONSTRUCTION

847-9673

PO Box 203 Sullivan NH

Building & remodeling

Free estimates/consultations

All phases of construction

Earl Creasey

DOMESTIC GODDESS CLEANING SERVICES

Openings now available!

Locally owned cleaning service for your home or small business.

Contact Mellanie L'Abbe.

603-209-4865 or 603-847-3011

e-mail: domesticgoddesscleaningservice@gmail.com

HOLLOW OAK FARM COUNTRY SHOP

Featuring primitives, tea-stained items, antiques & collectibles, handspun yarns, soaps & lotions, local honey & maple syrup, quilted items and more!

Tues. – Sun. 10 am to 6 pm

108 Centre St. 847-3417

Marlo Paju – Proprietor

NH PIONEER CHIMNEY & HOME REPAIR

Route 9 Antrim

Specializing in all types of chimney work including: chimney repair, cleaning, installations (masonry or metal), relining, pointing, waterproofing, critter removal, caps, rebuilds, relining and leak stopping.

Is your roof stained? No problem for Marcel. He can clean that dryer vent for you, too.

Veteran & Senior Discounts

Insured – Free Estimates

Marcel Couturier 588-3908

Keene Indoor Farmers Market - next to Elm City Brewery, Colony Mill

March 9 & 23 April 13 & 27

10am – 2pm

Farmers Appreciation Night Stonewall Farm

March 8th 5:30pm - 11:00 pm

NH MAPLE WEEKEND

March 23 & 24

www.nhmapleproducers.com

Check the website or phone these sugar houses

for hours – Weather permitting activities may include:
sap making, sugar on snow, syrup sales, free samples,
tours and more!

Borden's in Keene 357-5332

Boutwell's in Jaffrey 532-7621

Clark's in Acworth 835-6863

Fieldstone Farm in Rindge 899-6009

Great Brook in Walpole 756-4358

Millbrook in Westmoreland 399-4470

Morning Star in Dublin 563-9218

Stonewall Farm in Keene 357-7278

Stuart & John's in Westmoreland 399-4486

KEENE TRANSMISSION EXCHANGE

Transmission repair, Rebuilds, Remans
Install clutches – Trans filters
State Inspections
Pickup & Delivery Available
251 Gilsum Rd., Sullivan
Call Kevin Wheeler 847-90

CONSERVATION PLANT SALE

The Cheshire County Conservation District is holding its 2013 Conservation Plant Sale and is accepting orders through March 12th. Offerings include deciduous and evergreen trees, mushrooms, fruiting trees and shrubs, wildlife and landscaping shrubs, perennials and medicinals. For details or to place an order call 603 756-2978 or email amanda@cheshireconservation.org or visit 11 Industrial Park drive in Walpole.

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 20 April.** 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.

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