



## ***Sullivan Community Newsletter***

**Vol 34 No. 3**

**Sullivan, NH**

**Nov. – Dec. 2014**

### **GENERAL ELECTION DAY - Nov. 4**

NH's General Election is Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> with voting from 8 am to 7 pm at the Sullivan Town Hall. You do not need to declare a party to vote in this election. Absentee ballots are available from Town Clerk, Mary Hull. Stop by the Town Hall during regular office hours or call 847-3316.

Not registered to vote? You may register to vote on the day of the Election. Please bring proof of residency, citizenship and age. **The Town Clerk's office is closed on Election Day.**

### **COUNTRY CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR Nov. 8, 2013**

The Friends of the Sullivan Library are hosting their annual Country Christmas Craft Fair at the Sullivan Congregational Church on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> between 9 am and 2 pm.

Featured items will include: crafts, book sale, quilted items, berry bowls, baked goods, jewelry, painted chairs, decorations and more! There will also be a raffle for a handmade quilt.

A luncheon of homemade soups, sandwiches, beverages and desserts will be served between 11 am and 1 pm.

### **SANTA DAY IN SULLIVAN - Dec. 6\***

Santa is visiting Sullivan on Saturday, December 6\* from 1 to 3 pm in the Sullivan Town Hall. Visit with Sullivan's own Santa Claus, here on a special trip just to see you! You can have your picture taken with Santa - free.

Do your holiday shopping – gifts only 25¢ each! There will be lots of gift items for you to choose from for family and friends. Select gifts and have the elves wrap them or wrap your own at the gift wrap table. Come and join the holiday fun!! Sponsored by the Friends of the Sullivan Library.

\*Snow date is December 13, same time and place.

### **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER - Dec. 14**

The Sullivan recreation Committee will be hosting their annual Christmas Dinner on December 14th at the town hall. The dinner will be from 6 pm - 7 pm, followed by a visit from Santa from 7 pm - 8 pm.

All Sullivan residents are invited to attend. Each family is asked to bring food items to the potluck. All children that will be attending need to be registered by December 1st. There cannot be any late registrations due to Santa's visit. The committee will be mailing a form to each resident to provide the required information. We are looking forward to the third annual night of fun. Questions? Call 355-6667, Barbara Atwood.

### **SELECTMEN TO RESUME WEEKLY MEETINGS**

The Sullivan Selectmen will resume weekly meetings on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm. Please call to get on the agenda ahead of time! Town Office – 847-3316.

## “LIBRARY FOOTNOTES’

**Looking for that certain book?** One of the services the library offers to our members is **interlibrary loan (ILL)**. If an item is available for loan in New Hampshire, I will do my best to get it for you from another library if we do not already own it. It's a way to bring you materials that our budget would not support. Behind the scenes, the New Hampshire State Library delivers these items for libraries via several van routes, so we do not have to charge ILL postage fees. The state librarians sort the materials for the routes, and they also fill in when a driver is ill or on vacation. Even Michael York, our State Librarian, sometimes drives the vans. The Keene Public Library generously provides space for this and other neighboring libraries to receive deliveries at their facility; on a typical week, we have three deliveries and pick-ups. ILL items usually arrive within one to two weeks from the time they are requested. We are fortunate to have such an outstanding ILL delivery system.

Part of the agreement libraries who participate in ILL in New Hampshire have made is that our new holdings would be added to the statewide online catalog in a timely manner. This summer, the module in the database that allowed libraries to do this failed. The NH Office of Information Technology determined it is not repairable and the State Library has had to find new ways for libraries, especially for those that are not automated, to add their holdings to the catalog. A successful ILL program depends on new holdings being added on a regular basis. The new way is more tedious, both for those learning the new methods of finding, editing and sending records and for the staff at the State Library who have to upload them for us. I am getting the hang of it though.

Through all of this, ILL requests to and from our library have remained steady, and to those of you who have requested them, I hope the hiccups haven't been noticeable. When requesting an item, please keep in mind that most libraries will not ILL an item for six months after they have acquired it.

Upcoming events and closings:

November 3 Genealogy Workshop with Peter and Jeanne Jeffries.

November 6 Friends of the Library

November 8 Country Christmas Craft Fair

November 13 Trustees Meeting

November 15 International Game Day at Your Library

November 20 Third Thursday Book Group – The popular PBS mini-series book, *Call the Midwife*, discussion.

November 27-30 Closed

December 6 Santa Day

December 11 Trustees Meeting

December 13 Santa Day Snow Date

December 18 Third Thursday Book Group

December 25 Closed

January 1 Closed

We have also had a **story program for preschoolers** on Thursday mornings at 10.

For more details, see our event web page <http://ci.sullivan.nh.us/content/library/library-event> or our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/pages/Sullivan-Public-Library/77424404019](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sullivan-Public-Library/77424404019)

Before closing, I'd like to especially thank Chip and Kathy Woodbury for donating materials and time to mend both our book drop and sign. It's nice to have them perpendicular at the same time, and they look terrific!

I'd also like to thank the following people for their gifts of materials, monies or time the past few months: Barbara Atwood, Becky Cummings, Cliff Dempster, Max Goddard, Dr. & Mrs. Hartzell, Peter and Jeanne Jeffries, Virginia Howard, Dott Miles, Chris & Gaynelle Pratt, Rachael Richardson, Warren Thayer and Ginny Yawarski. This is such a generous community.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Denise McFarland

Librarian

## **From the Archives**

**by Chris Pratt**

This month I would like to take some time and discuss some new acquisitions at the archives.

A new volume has been added to the book collection. Historical Notes With Keyed Map of Keene and Roxbury, Cheshire County, New Hampshire was compiled by Samuel Wadsworth (1846-1931) and published shortly after his death. Wadsworth was a jeweler and watchmaker who started a second career as a surveyor. He was also a naturalist, mapmaker, and historian who combined his skills to draw a number of maps detailing the historical uses of the land around the county. He is also the author of the 1905 map of Sullivan that is included within the town history.

The book contains a map of Keene and Roxbury as well as adjacent towns including the southern end of Sullivan. Each section of the map contains a number of letters and numbers that are explained in the text. The book also includes an index which is handy if you are interested in a specific family farm. The book is useful to Sullivan researchers who are looking for the physical location of families that later moved to our town from Nelson, Gilsum, and Roxbury.

The book is not particularly valuable monetarily, but it is rare. Good copies are hard to find and now we have one in the archives.

I was contacted last spring by the New Hampshire State Grange. They are in the process of reducing their archival collection of Grange records and asked if the Sullivan Town Archives would be interested in assuming custody of the Sullivan records. The collection consists of a total of 8 record books of the Honor Bright Grange, No. 153 which met for many years in the old Union Hall (now 30 Center Street) in East Sullivan.

The Honor Bright Grange was formally established on 20 May 1890 which was relatively late for a Grange. While it met in East Sullivan, it was opened to anyone who had an interest in the society and attracted members from other towns—especially Roxbury and Munsonville. The first two record books have apparently been lost as the acquisition starts with Record Book No. 3 in 1897.

The purpose of the Grange was to promote agricultural enterprise as well as fraternal union among the men and women engaged in agriculture. The early minutes detail the order of the meetings which included lectures, debates and the rituals usually associated with fraternal groups. There was even an officer known as the “chorister” who was tasked with leading the group in song. The membership was a “who’s who” of Sullivan with almost all families—men, women and children represented.

The records also indicate the ups-and-downs of our community. The Grange thrived until the 1920s, but as our town declined in population and the younger generation moved away, the Grange minutes reflect the trend. Meetings became smaller and shorter. The record book stops suddenly after the meeting on 14 October 1931 which was when our town hit its nadir. Then, the records resume on 4 October 1935 when a representative from the State Grange oversaw a “resumption” of the Honor Bright Grange. Once again the membership list included young people and residents from surrounding towns.

That continued until 1947 when the organization again went into hibernation to be revived again in 1949. However, the revival only lasted 10 years. Again, membership declined although there are entries for committees who mounted displays at the Cheshire Fair as well as fund raisers to keep the organization going. The membership level, however, continued to decline until 21 November 1958 when the Honor Bright Grange voted to “return the charter” and disbanded. All of its bills were paid and the left over funds (\$4.00) were donated to the New Hampshire Retarded Children Association and the Crotched Mountain Center.

Finally, I have just taken in the financial and membership records of the East Sullivan Young People’s Society of Christian Endeavor. Christian Endeavor was a society that served as a social group within churches around the country. They were also involved in fund raising for missionary societies. This group was an auxiliary for young people mostly teenagers and twenty-somethings.

These are not minutes, so the story they tell comes from income and expenditures. Every meeting took up a collection and there was at least one donation per year to various missionary societies. Occasionally, they held fund raisers as well. A supper at the Union Hall in 1910 netted \$6.10. A sugaring party in 1905 took in \$1.36. In 1913, the group put on a play called “At the Junction” which earned \$4.55.

The records stop on 1 January 1918, but that seems to have been a “fiscal close.” So there are possibly other record books for this group out there somewhere.

## **Public Notice.**

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on November 13, December 11, 2014 and January 8, 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.

## **Chris Pratt Appears in Play**

The Branch River Theatre is presenting “Old Radio Daze, A Murder Mystery” in November. The farce is a classic “play-within-a-play” featuring a group of has-been actors performing a murder mystery which is an actual radio play first broadcast in 1937. The performance goes haywire as each player dies under suspicious circumstances. Everyone is a suspect, but the show must on! Chris plays a minor role as Gerry Grimes—a washed up vaudevillian who is totally confused by the goings on. Playdates are October 31<sup>st</sup>, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM. Matinees are on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. All performances are at the Marlborough Community House on 160 Main Street (Route 101) in Marlborough. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for seniors and students.

Getting to know you, getting to learn all about you...



Day... by ... day.  
**By Marsha Cook**

Hi to my neighbors and friends. I moved to Sullivan one year ago. I came from a small community in Massachusetts, small by their guidelines. My town was about 6 square miles but had over 10,000 people. Now, here I am in 8 square miles with a little less than 800 people. Quite a difference! But my purpose here is not to talk about differences in places I have lived. I want to talk about Sullivan.

I have been thinking back over that year with joy and would like to share some stories about my adventures in getting to know Sullivan.

My first experience was purchasing my home. I needed phone service, internet, TV, septic inspection, home inspection, electricity, all kinds of things and I had no idea where to go for any of it. Moving to a new state comes with the added burden of learning how to live in that state.

In order to figure all this out, I went to the town hall for some help. My first lesson in Sullivan is that things are not always open 5 days a week from 9 to 5. So I went back when the town hall was open.

My afternoon at the town hall with Mary and Marie was one of the most helpful and productive I have ever had. As a bonus, it was fun!! They showed me how to register my car, pay my taxes, use the town web site and register my dogs. They helped me find the services I needed and explained that cell service was not an automatic assumption up here in the hills. But that is a story for later!

These two wonderful ambassadors for Sullivan even invited me to the Sew and Sews meeting on Monday night. Well, I don't sew but the group welcomed me anyway. What a great group of women and a great place to find out about my new town. I am pretty sure they were all sick of my questions but every time I asked one, I got a very patient answer. I found out about Apple Hill, Chapman Pond, Bolster Pond, Four Corners, South Road to Rt 9, and many other helpful things.

Then I went to the library to see what was available. The Sullivan librarian, Denise, is a true gem. She keeps the library

hopping with creative ways to get you into the library and learn what they can do for you. Before I knew what was happening, I was a member of the book club. (Not to go down a side path, but why are there not more people in the book club? This is a well-read group of people that can discuss anything from Degas to recipes, From HELA cells to Native American history. And they do it with enjoyment!). I have a problem with focus and a hard time reading anything but murder mysteries. Denise suggested audio versions of the books and has gotten them for me ever since. The library has a computer, a copy machine, a Wii game. It has comfortable chairs for reading, excellent archives for the town (I checked out a book by Chris Pratt on the history of Sullivan's roads. A must read to those new to town.) If you are looking for a particular book, I don't think anyone will work harder than Denise to find it for you.

I promised to only take up a small part of your newsletter with my ramblings so I will end here. Back soon with stories of the Sullivan Country Store, the town road clean up, the Ice Bucket Challenge and more.

## **PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWN MASTER PLAN**

### **Dec. 3 7:00pm**

A town Master Plan serves as a guide to future planning by town boards by reviewing town history and trends in population, housing and other features of town life. The Sullivan Planning Board will be ready to adopt the 2015 edition of the Sullivan Master Plan before Town Meeting in March of 2015. Citizens have been invited to comment on desirable trends in the town in a questionnaire distributed at the end of 2012 and by attending planning board meetings throughout this year. You are all invited to the hearing on the text of the updated Master Plan, which will be held at the regular planning board meeting December 3, 2014. Be sure to check out the draft copy of the updated plan at: <http://sullivannah.weebly.com/documents.html> to learn more about the plan.

It should be posted by November 25.

## **IS THERE AN INVASIVE PLANT NEAR YOU?**

This summer the quantities of invasive plants have been more obvious than ever.

There are many burning bushes, even in front of town hall. Do you have one in your yard? They spread and take over space of native plants. Consider planting blueberry bushes for the same fall color (not to mention blueberries).

Along the roads, there are stretches of Japanese knotweed. It has long roots. It is spread whenever it is cut. Again, it takes over native plants.

Glossy buckthorn appears in single plants looking like wild cherry saplings, except that their stems are clearly spotted. Again, it will take over. The birds love the berries, but they spread the plants (and the berries lack the nutritious value of native berries).

Japanese barberry spreads in fields and is NOT loved by cows.

Purple loosestrife is beautiful, but it spreads and clogs native growth, especially in wet areas but also in yards and along highways.

Bittersweet produces an attractive orange/yellow berry, but it is a tenacious vine that climbs around trees to their very tops and strangles them.

There are a number of other invasive species. Check out the following website for lots more information: [www.invasivespecies.info/unitedstates/nh](http://www.invasivespecies.info/unitedstates/nh)

## **SULLIVAN SEW & SEWS**

The Sullivan Sew & Sews meet once a week in the lower meeting hall of the Sullivan Church, Monday evenings at 6:30 – entrance at rear. Anyone interested in getting together once a week with a congenial group to sew, knit, craft or just visit is invited to attend. Want to learn to quilt or knit? There are people who can help. Questions? Call Mary Hull at 847-9718 or see her at the Town Clerk's office.

No meeting the Monday before Election Day or the Monday before Christmas.

## **DONATIONS APPRECIATED FOR SANTA DAY**

New or gently used items are being accepted for Santa Day - suitable for children, teens and adults. They may be dropped off at the library or the town hall.

## **SULLIVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

### **Fall Foliage, Fun and Learning!**

The Sullivan School Board continues to meet once per month (typically the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month though recently our times have varied-please look for postings). We meet in the lower town hall. Families and residents are invited to attend any of our meetings to discuss any school district related matters.

**Sullivan School Building:** At the time this newsletter was written, the Sullivan school building is anticipating a transaction sales closing very soon. We hope to report this closure in our next newsletter. Thank you for all of your positive thoughts and support as we work to sell the property.

**Late Bus Schedule:** At this time we are trialing a period of late bus 1x/week to determine if it is beneficial to families of students attending KMS and KHS. The late bus is available on Wednesday afternoons. Should the bus not be utilized the service will be terminated in December. To discuss our weekly late bus route on Wednesday afternoons, please contact First Student directly.

**Where Sullivan Students attend school:** Nelson School is the elementary school for Sullivan students attending public school. Sullivan 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders attend the Keene Middle School and high schoolers attend Keene High School. Post-withdrawal from the Monadnock Regional School District, some high school students from Sullivan were grandfathered and allowed to finish out their high school career at MRHS.

In order to register, you must be a resident of Sullivan and 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.

**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](tel:603-209-3315)/[krdassau@gmail.com](mailto:krdassau@gmail.com) or Stephanie Kleine, school board chair [603-209-4151](tel:603-209-4151)/[stephaniejacques@masiello.com](mailto:stephaniejacques@masiello.com) should you have any questions along the way.*

**We would love to hear about your first few weeks at school! Please email [Stephaniejacques@masiello.com](mailto:Stephaniejacques@masiello.com) to report how it went and share anything you would like to have included as a “Sullivan Student Success Story” for our next newsletter! Here’s what some parents had to say:**

One morning last week trying to get Katelyn (kindergartener) out of bed for school she asked drowsily “Is it a stay home day?” When I (mom) said no it was a school day she said “Yeah!” That used to be her response when she found out it was a stay home day, (and there are still days) but by and large that isn’t the case anymore.

We as a family have found the Nelson School to be very welcoming – from the teachers, to the other parents and the older kids. Katelyn is in Kindergarten and she has made friends in the first and fifth grade classes. And academically she has grown so much even in just this short amount of time including counting in Spanish up to 10 and has learned all the months of the year and things like when and when not to use capital and lowercase letters. Things she did not know when entering the school in August. We love Ms. Benner and her nice small class size of 14. She gets a lot of individualized attention which is great!

April loves school. I think her favorite thing to do is read and they have worked with her so much with this. She is doing exceptionally well and I am very thankful for the Nelson school for taking the time to work with her as much as they do.

Two of Aiden's favorite things to do at school are doing science experiments and guessing what will happen and returning the next day to find out what happened and why?!?! He also is developing a love for reading and he often asks to read one more book. He exceeds his reading time requirement!

## **Holiday Grief Support Group**

*Keene-* Hospice at HCS will offer a "Dealing with Grief and Loss at the Holidays" bereavement support group starting on Monday, November 17 from 5:00pm to 6:30pm, and continuing on Mondays through December 29. This group will offer strategies and support for coping with the holidays and establishing new traditions after the loss of a loved one. The group will meet at HCS, 312 Marlboro Street in Keene.

The group is open to anyone who has recently lost someone significant in their lives. There is no charge to participate, but registration is necessary. Call Lynn Anne Palmer at 352-2253 to register and confirm location.

Hospice at HCS is a local non-profit hospice program providing care and support to those who are terminally ill. Care is provided at home, in nursing homes or in assisted living facilities. For further information about hospice, call 1-800-541-4145 or 352-2253.

## **SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

The Sullivan Church welcomes and invites people to attend their Sunday services at 9:30 am. The small town congregation would love to see some new faces for worship, fellowship and community service projects. Currently they are seeking a new minister but at the same time are very fortunate to have a good supply of interesting pastors to fill in.

Community service projects include but are not limited to: a food pantry, mission kits for all ages (infant to adult) for people around the country and abroad hit by disaster, Thanksgiving baskets and service projects as needed.

The **traditional family Christmas Eve Service** will be held at 7pm on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> with special music, reading of the Lessons and the singing of familiar Christmas Carols. The service closes with candlelight singing of "Silent Night". Light refreshments are enjoyed in Friendship Hall following the service. All are invited.

### **Visiting pastors for Nov. & Dec.**

Nov. 2 Rev. Larry Smith  
Nov. 9 Rev. Debra Hill  
Nov. 16 Rev. Don Hashem  
Nov. 23 Rev. Emily Preston  
Nov. 30 Rev. Lewis Stone  
Dec. 7 Rev. Nancy Wood  
Dec. 14 Rev. Larry Smith  
Dec. 21 Rev. Nancy Wood  
Dec. 24 Candlelight - TBA  
Dec. 28 Rev. Don Hashem

Worship services will be held in Friendship Hall during the winter months, beginning in January.  
**We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year ahead.**

## **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.

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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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## 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 December.** 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) .

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