

Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol. 36 No. 2

Sullivan, NH

Sept. – Oct 2016

STATE PRIMARY ELECTION DAY **Sullivan Town Hall – Sept. 13**

The NH State Primary Election is September 13th with polls open from 8 am to 7 pm. Sample ballots can be found at the town hall, library, post office and on the town website.

GENERAL ELECTION DAY - Nov. 8

NH's General Election is Nov. 8th 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. **Remember to bring your photo ID's to both Elections.**

Absentee ballots for either election are available from Town Clerk, Mary Hull. Stop by the Town Hall during regular office hours or call 847-3316.

The Town Clerk's office will be closed on Election Days.

Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session for additions and corrections on Sept. 6th from 7 pm to 7:30 pm and on Oct. 29th at the Sullivan Library from 11 am to 11:30 am. Change of party is not allowed at the Sept. 6 session. You may also register with the Town Clerk until Sept. 6 or on Election Day.

WELCOME TO SULLIVAN'S NEW POSTMASTER!

There's a new face at the Sullivan Post Office! Amy comes to us from Hinsdale and is eager to help you with all your postal needs. Assisting Amy are Stephanie (from Keene) and Kyle (from Peterborough). They look forward to meeting you and helping with all your postal needs – with a smile!

Do you realize that if you don't use the Post Office you could lose it? If you don't use it, the hours may be cut. The post office is a business and needs you! Do you purchase your stamps in Keene or on line? Do you go to Keene only because you think they have more to offer? Does your business have bulk mailing to do? Do it all here! Each post office has to bring in a certain amount of revenue in order to stay open and all these items help.

The Sullivan Post Office has everything! It has all packaging products, help to pick out the best and most economical way to send things, assorted varieties of stamps to choose from, a selection of post office boxes, no lines and the best part – top-notch fast, friendly, personal service!

SEW & SEW'S TO BEGIN

The Sullivan quilting/sewing/craft group will begin meeting each Monday, Oct. 3 in the lower level of the church (use rear entrance). Get-togethers this year will be in the afternoon from 1pm to 2:30pm. Learn to quilt, finish that project you've been going to do forever or just come and visit! For more information call Mary Hull at 847-9718.

Christmas Craft Fair

The Christmas Craft Fair sponsored by the Sullivan Library will be on Nov. 12. If you are interested in having a table, contact Gaynelle Pratt at 847-3271.

“LIBRARY FOOTNOTES”

Where has the summer gone? Can you believe it's already time to get back in the swing of the school routine again? If your students have some reading requirements to meet, don't forget to use your Sullivan Public Library! We will help you however we can.

We have added **a few new books** to our collection. Among them are the first 7 books in the *Master and Commander* series written by Patrick O'Brian, and *A Shade of Vampire* by Bella Forrest.

We are in a transition stage right now. Our books are being rearranged into a different order! Come and check it out and see for yourself!

Our **book groups** are still going strong as well. The **Second Saturday Group** (meets at 10am) is reading *Live Free or Die* by Jesse Crockett. There are extra copies if you would like to read this mystery story.

And the **Third Thursday Group** (meets at 7 pm) has finished *Saving Simon* by Jon Katz and is going to be reading Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. We also have extra copies of this book, if you would care to read it.

Feel free to come and join either (or both) group for a rousing discussion on the current books!

Beginning in September there will be a **Cookbook Group** offered as well. See more details further in the newsletter! The start date will be September 6.

Come join us for **movie night** on October 7 at 7:00pm. We will be showing *Good night and Good Luck* with Davit Strathairn, George Clooney and Robert Downey, Jr. There is no movie in September.

Volunteers wanted! Anyone who wishes to volunteer at the Library is welcome to do so. We have a lot of tasks to do! We would like to **thank our volunteer Ginny Yawarski** for covering many hard cover books for us!

Thank you also to the following people who have donated books, magazines, etc. to the Library: John and Kathy Allen, Jim and Leslie Casey, Becky Cummings, Virginia Howard, Kris Kline and Chip and Kathy Woodbury.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you at our Library!
Paulette Tuttle and Dott Miles,
Your Librarians

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold its monthly meetings on Thursdays – September 8, October 13 and November 10 at 2 PM at the library. The purpose of these 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.

Words of Gratitude...

I would like to thank everyone for their condolences and good wishes after the loss of my husband, Ron Hull. So many of you have offered your help if there was anything I might need, your kindness and especially your friendship. I am doing better and I want to thank everyone again for the support and patience. Seeing all my friends and neighbors at the town hall has especially helped me during this time. And to my close friends who became my support group, you know who you are, I couldn't have made it without you, thank you again. Mary Hull

HCS Offers Flu Clinics

Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services (HCS) will hold flu immunization clinics in the Sullivan area at the **Keene Senior Center** on Tuesday, September 20 from 9:30AM-10:30AM and at the **Nelson Town Hall** on Tuesday, September 27 from 11:30AM-12:30PM.

These clinics are open to the public ages 19 years or older. No appointment is needed. Medicare, Anthem BCBS, MVP Health Care, and Harvard Pilgrim insurances will be accepted, or there is a \$35 fee for the vaccine. Please wear appropriate attire that allows access to upper arms.

Home Healthcare, Hospice and Community Services provides wellness services throughout southwestern New Hampshire. For a complete listing of clinics, visit HCSservices.org or call the HCS Wellness Department at 352-2253

From the Archives by Guest Historian Patricia McMahon Clark

Wild Strawberries

On July 3rd, 2004, we drove from our home in Stoddard to the picture postcard town of Washington to a strawberry shortcake supper held in the basement of the church. I happened to sit beside two sisters of a certain age who remembered the traditional way to fix shortcake, which was to bake one biscuit in a cake pan, carefully cut it in half to form two layers while it was still hot, spread butter liberally on the bottom layer and spread with mashed strawberries, add the top biscuit and "ice" with the remainder of the strawberries. My mother usually added a couple of pats of butter on top, her method of enhancing flavor. The shortcake would then be cut like a cake that could serve 6 or 8 people. No ice cream or whipped cream was used. When my seatmates asked me if I knew what made the prima shortcake my reply was ready. "Wild strawberries!" Which put me in mind of stories and experiences of my youth...

My mother Edna spent childhood summers at the "old place" in Nelson, originally owned by her great-grandparents and passed down to her grandparents. Her grandmother Nellie (Holt) would promise a wild strawberry shortcake if Edna McClure McMahon (1903-1994) and sister Gladys McClure Wiswall (1900-1996) would go into the pasture and pick berries. The mouth-watering shortcake was served on a table on the porch and the taste remained in my mother's memory for the rest of her life. I have a letter that Gladys wrote as a child that tells about picking strawberries.

My mother was always on the lookout for wild strawberries. Once, during the second half of the 1940s, she had heard from Gladys that the Rugg pasture had a bountiful supply of them. My mother grabbed some pails, my brother and me, and drove from our home in East Sullivan village up the hill to the Rugg Farm (Fitzpatrick). Mr. Rugg (Arthur) had died and the farm was sold after a century of Rugg ownership to Jim Hall, a local auctioneer of some note. Gladys's husband Roy Wiswall worked for Jim Hall and had access to the farm.

The property consisted of the main house, a long ell, and a large barn. A wagon road ran between the ell and the barn. A continuous roof covered all. We walked through and started up the hillside pasture on the wagon trail that had been used for generations to farm the "back sixty". Soon my mother spied the red nodules in the grass, thousands of them. We pitched in to fill our pails. Picking wild strawberries requires infinite patience and perseverance because they are miniscule compared to the varieties at pick-your-own farms today. It also requires physical endurance. Knowing the results of our labors provided strong motivation. I imagine we complained after an hour or so, which was for the best, because my mother would have stayed there all day. She was a fast, expert picker of all kinds of berries and was addicted to the task. I believe she took great pleasure from the bounty her picking provided in the form of jams, jellies, pies, and shortcakes.

Supper (dinner happened at noon) that night probably consisted mainly of the shortcake that my mother had made using the berries so recently picked. She may have divided the shortcake 4 ways, thus providing a huge helping for each of us. The sweetness and delicate flavor lives on in memory, as it did for the generations before me. One doesn't hear about wild strawberries much anymore, perhaps because the pastures have grown to brush and woods, as at the "old place". But somewhere there must be open land that nurtures the exquisite little fruit, just waiting for someone to savor their goodness.

GREETINGS FROM FRIENDS IN AFRICA!

Risa and Doug Keene have lived in Sullivan for approximately 22 years. They are both retired; Risa from the Monadnock Regional School District as a speech/language therapist and Doug as a family practitioner at the Dartmouth/Hitchcock Clinic in Keene. They are spending a little over two years in Lesotho Africa.

20th of August, 2016

Dear Friends,

While you are anticipating fall and winter we are looking towards spring and summer. People are beginning to plant their gardens here, and although we still have frost in the mornings, our days are now in the high 50s to high 60's. Obviously we're not in Sullivan NH, but in Lesotho Africa!

Lesotho is a mountainous country within the borders of South Africa, a country within a country. In square miles it is a little larger than of Maryland, with 2 million people. In the winter we have snow in the mountains and frost in the lowlands. Everyone has a garden, chickens, usually a cow and donkey. Most houses are made of corrugated aluminum, cement bricks, or mud and clay with grass roofs, there are only very few homes with indoor plumbing. It is difficult to keep these homes warm during the cold winter days. The Basotho people are friendly, warm and helpful, and speak Sesotho, a Bantu language.

Doug and I arrived here approximately 9 months ago after spending 1½ months in Tanzania and 1½ in Uganda, while Doug was taking a course on hygiene and tropical medicine. Although Lesotho is not a tropical climate, he found the course very helpful for our stay in Lesotho, since the country has a very high rate of HIV/AIDS. At this time he is working for LeBoHA, Lesotho Boston Health Alliance. It is a collaboration between the government of Lesotho and Boston University. There are 3 fulltime family practitioners on staff for LeBoHA, Doug is one of them. He does some clinical work but his primary responsibility is to help train the Family practice registrars (residents). LeBoHA is the only program of its kind in Lesotho. There are very few Basotho doctors within the country and approximately a total of 120 doctors in Lesotho, a very big problem with their healthcare. One of the goals of LeBoHA is to help increase the number of native (Basotho) doctors who will serve the people here. Within the LeBoHA program there is a class of second year registrars/residents (4 of them) and first year registrars (5).

I have no formal job in Lesotho although I have undertaken some volunteer jobs and am trying to learn as much as I can about the life, culture and language. I work for Help Lesotho, a nonprofit Canadian organization 3 days a week and do some things with St. Paul School for the Deaf on an irregular basis. I found someone to help me learn Sesotho (the language spoken here) and for three months took weaving lesson at the local crafts center.

As I walk along the road on my way into town I usually pass people on horseback, oxen pulling carts. Along my route I also see men and women walking here and there, wearing blankets around their waists or shoulders to keep themselves warm. Some of the blankets are the special woolen Basotho style; others are synthetic fleece. These are part of the Basotho traditional dress. In the colder months people wear warm stocking caps or balaclavas and in the warm/hot months homemade straw hats are worn. The terrain in our area is hilly with mountains in the distance (to the east) and mesas right in town. The soil has a lot of reddish clay in it, and there are very few trees. Some roads are paved, others are dirt and still others are... wherever you want them to be. It's not unusual to encounter herd boys: men or boys as young as 8 years of age. They spend their days herding mohair goats, sheep, cows and/or donkeys. Since there are few fences here, people are hired to herd the animals. These herd boys can be away from home for days or weeks at a time, living on their own or in small groups, having to feed themselves. They are paid poorly and are unable to attend school because of their job.

We miss our friends and family tremendously but are finding this once in a lifetime experience to be simply fascinating and so broadening. I look forward to sharing our adventures with you over the next year or so.

Enjoy the last of your summer weather, and we will do the same with our winter weather.

Risa

Planning Board Update

In September the planning board will evaluate an application for review of the site plan for a proposed wireless telecommunications facility. Once the board deems the application complete, the site plan review process will begin. It is anticipated that a public hearing will take place in October or November; keep an eye out for notices posted at the Sullivan post office or outside the Town Hall.

Despite the fact that new construction requiring subdivision in the town has been infrequent in recent years, the planning board is busy. We have reviewed driveway applications that precede construction of new dwellings, and received a query about excavating for gravel. We will consider modifying the Community Planning Ordinance regarding cluster housing/alternative development, and updating the earth excavation regulations. Any changes that are made will be in the context of the Master Plan, which guides the overall character, growth and development of our community.

The planning board is seeking additional members!

We currently have slots for 3 alternates. Join us if you are interested in helping out!

“Calling All Sullivan Foodies”

Come join us Tuesday, September 6th, at 11:30 a.m. for the first meeting of the **Sullivan Public Library’s Cookbook Group**. At this organizational meeting, we will discuss the logistics of the group and get suggestions for future cookbooks (authors/chefs, food themes, countries, etc.). Thereafter, the group will meet on the first Tuesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Each member will be asked to read through the cookbook, select a recipe to try and bring a sample dish to the following month’s meeting along with their critique of the cookbook. The library will have a microwave available for those hot dishes which cannot be transported in a crockpot or another electrical device. After talking with several patrons about this new group, most suggested starting with one of The Pioneer Woman’s books based on the popular Food Network program featuring the recipes of Ree Dummond. With these suggestions in mind, our first cookbook of the month will be *The Pioneer Woman Cooks: Food From My Frontier*. If you cannot make the first meeting, stop in to pick up your copy of the book.

RECIPE CORNER

with Ginni McByrne

My girlfriend, Lucy, from Cuba gave me this recipe. It's very easy and done all in one pan. I do make some white rice, and I open a can of black beans and fry up some plantains to make it an authentic Cuba dish. Hope you will try it and enjoy it. Please email your recipes and a brief story and/or helpful hint to sullivanrecipecorner@gmail.com.

Picadillo

¼ cup vegetable oil	1 clove garlic (minced)
1 small onion (chopped)	1 ¼ lb. ground beef
1 small green pepper (chopped)	1 tsp. salt
¾ cup *alcaparrado (capers)	1 tsp. Accent (optional)
1 small can tomato sauce	¼ cup white cooking wine

*alcaparrado should be pitted

Sauté onions, garlic and pepper in oil, add ground beef. Cook until beef has browned. Add all other ingredients, cook 20 minutes. Serve over rice. ENJOY!

*****HELPFUL HINT*****

**To keep weeds from returning to the cracks of your patio, deck, or driveway keep salt in the cracks. **

Good, better, best. Never let it rest. 'Til your good is better and your better is best. St. Jerome

Fall Hospice Volunteer Training

Hospice at HCS is offering a volunteer training program starting in September for those who are interested in becoming volunteers. The training will begin on September 20 and will continue on Tuesday mornings from 9:00am to 12:00pm through November 1. Training will be held at the agency's Keene office at 312 Marlboro Street.

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 employment 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.

Hospice at HCS is a not-for-profit hospice with offices in Peterborough, Charlestown, and in Keene at 312 Marlboro Street. Care is provided wherever a person calls home – their own home, or in an assisted living facility or nursing home.

MONADNOCK HUMANE SOCIETY

Paws4Celebration Party at Monadnock Humane Society on September 10 at 3 p.m.- 4 p.m. This is a free, family-friendly event hosted by MHS to say "thank you" to our community. Included will be games, information, light refreshments, a chance to meet some Therapy Dogs, and much more. Scheduled directly following the celebration is our Annual Meeting where we will award the Compassionate Citizen of the Year award. Monadnock Humane Society has served the 44 towns and cities of the Monadnock Region since 1875. We are located at 101 W. Swanzey Rd., in Swanzey, NH.

Announcing Monadnock Humane Society's 2017 "**Home at Last**" calendar: on-sale beginning September 28. A great gift for the animal lovers on your list, the MHS calendar features animals who have been adopted during the previous year. Beautiful photography and a great way to support your local humane society's on-going work. \$10. Available at MHS or on-line at www.monadnockhumanesociety.org

Nov 6, 2016 - Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, November 6, 2016, **2:00:00 AM** clocks are turned **backward** 1 hour

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH?

Bible Study

The Sullivan Congregational Church is offering a three-part course called, "What is the Bible?" The first part of the course is an overview of the history of the Bible and welcomes all participants whether they follow a particular religious tradition or not. The first meeting will be Sun., Sept. 18 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm in Friendship Hall at the church. The course will be led by Rev. Debbie Hill and Dott Miles.

Please call Debbie at 352-3412 or Dott at 847-9336 to register. The student guide for Part I is \$11.00. The church will order copies in advance. For more information on this popular Bible study course visit www.massbible.org/exploring-the-bible.

Renovations

The altar curtain (dossal) was replaced on July 9th. The old one, probably there since the 1800's, had faded and even had a few moth holes in it. Thank you, Chip Woodbury and Butch Brooks, for the hours of manpower taking down the old, measuring, preparing for the new and finally hanging the new. Thank you, Kathy Woodbury, for your hours of measuring and your sewing expertise. And, thank you Linda (Brooks) Brown and Butch Brooks for your generous donation to make this perfect reproduction possible. Quoting a member of the congregation, "a work of art and heart!" That says it all...

Sunday Services are at 9:30 am. You're invited to join them as they begin their search for a new pastor under the guidance of Rev. Debbie Hill, interim minister.

SULLIVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

The Sullivan School Board continues to meet once per month (typically the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 or 7, the times have varied - please look for postings to confirm date and time). 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.

Students are back to school for another school year, and the Sullivan School Board wishes all students a great year.

Changes: The biggest change this year is that this year's sixth graders will be attending Keene Middle School due to increased student enrollment in Nelson Elementary School. In addition to improving crowding at Nelson Elementary School, moving 6th graders to the middle school allows them to transition at the same time as Keene students and gives them access to the opportunities at Keene Middle School. Nelson Elementary School will serve students in grades K-5.

Discussion continues as to the best plan going forward as enrollment continues to increase. This year the school will have approximately the same number of students with one less grade. Also, the second grade class has been split to keep class sizes from getting too large. Some of the second graders will remain with the first grade class while the rest will move up to join the 3rd grade class.

Grades 6-8 will be at Keene Middle school and grades 9-12 at Keene High School.

New to town? For enrollment information please go to the Sullivan town website (www.ci.sullivan.nh.us) and look for the link to enrollments on the right hand side of the page under "School Board".

FROM NELSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...

On a crisp June morning, 17 eager students waited in the Nelson town hall entrance for the graduation ceremony to begin. This graduation ceremony was different from others in recent years. Together, both the sixth graders and their fifth grade classmates graduated as an entire class and will move on to Keene Middle School next year. Under a large white tent, sat family members, friends, and community members on June 13th. Speeches were recited, awards were given, and fond memories about Nelson School were recalled.

In his speech, William Carlisle shared that, "So many things would have been different about me if it weren't for this school, and it's impossible for me to express my great appreciation and love for the school." Several students mentioned their favorite field trips, and learning opportunities that were able to take place outside the classroom walls. Other students mentioned favorite assignments and memories of when they learned something new, such as reading, spelling, mastering their math facts, and writing pieces they completed. Aidan Paju, a sixth grade graduate from Sullivan ended his speech by saying, "in all, this is the best school I have ever been to. There's no way any other school could be better than this small, kind, loving school with all the amazing students and teachers."

This group of students also received an award from the Cheshire County Historical Society for their beautiful writing pieces they crafted about the Blizzard of 1888. The SAU 29 press release stated that:

"Emilia Whippie-Prior's fifth and sixth graders at the Nelson School received the first Communicating the Past Award from the Historical Society of Cheshire County (www.hscn.org). The award, which was presented to the class during the end of the year recognition celebration on June 13, recognizes Ms. Whippie-Prior's class for their work using primary sources to retell the past. A framed copy of the award is on display at the Historical Society of Cheshire County located at 246 Main St. in Keene.

The Historical Society will be revamping their website to include a new "Kids Making History" page which will showcase student projects submitted by Cheshire County teachers. The papers written on the Blizzard of '88 by students in Ms. Whippie-Prior's class during the 2015-2016 school year will be uploaded to the Historical Society's new website by the end of the summer. According to Jennifer Carroll, Director of Education for the Historical Society, the Education Committee of the Historical Society supported the idea of creating an awards program to recognize schools that do great projects using primary sources. Mark Hayward, principal of Westmoreland School, and Historical Society member, will serve as chair of the awards committee as they seek nominations for 2017."

LAST CHANCE TO DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE BEFORE WINTER!

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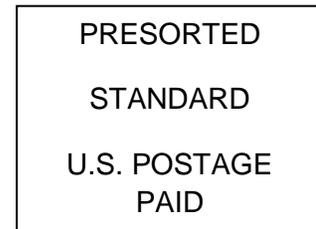
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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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 October.** News items may be left in the Sullivan Library Book Box, mailed to PO Box 110 Sullivan 03445 (labeled Newsletter) or e-mailed (preferred) to: bcummings@myfairpoint.net
Editor: Becky Cummings 847-3477
Assistant Editor: Gaynelle Pratt
Printing: Mary Hull

SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER

PO Box 110
Sullivan, NH 03445



**POSTAL PATRON
SULLIVAN, NH 03445**