

Winchester Used To Safeguard Property

A subject for discussion, the Gilmanton Town Pound sat unattended with recently along Route 107. Vandalized of its flat rocks topping its four walls, the gate hung ajar, and the metal sign, its lettering illegible from age and weather, the pound long went unnoticed. To its res-

cue came the Gilmanton Historical Society and knowing the right man for the job they sought out Gilmanton's own Steve Winchester. A master craftsman Winchester, provided the materials by the Historical Society, took time from his schedule and without any cost to the

community donated his energies and skills in constructing and erecting a new sign for the Gilmanton Town Pound. Crafted from a 3 inch slab of pine, the sign is solid and appears natural beneath protective applications of linseed oil. The lettering, expertly routed into the slab, is square and cleanly painted in white, while topping the finished sign a sheet metal cap is tightly fitted to further protect it from the elements. As for the gate, backed by galvanized metal, Steve has found it to be more than six inches out of plumb and that it has snapped a bottom hinge while loosening others. To repair this, Steve says, a volunteer with

heavy equipment will most likely be needed to reposition the sign unlike the one he recently repaired at Leavitt Cemetery on Middle Route. The grounds within the pound will also require attention and like many forgotten Gilmanton Cemeteries, will most likely fall to the care of dedicated volunteers like Steve, Marion McIntyre, and the few others whose work and respect for the past often goes unnoticed. Let the generosity of the Gilmanton Historical Society and Steve Winchester become a sign of the times and hope others follow suit. Hats off to them, they deserve our thanks this month!