



Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol. 36 No. 5

Sullivan, NH

March – April 2017

TOWN ELECTION DAY March 14th - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Town & School Elections

Elections for Town officials and Planning Board Ballot items will take place on Tuesday, March 14 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 changes to the Community Planning Ordinance. A complete list of those running for office and the ballot questions follows.

Register to Vote

If you have not registered to vote, you may do so at the polls on March 14, with the Supervisors of the Checklist on March 4 at the Sullivan Library 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 15. **Registrations will not be accepted on March 15.**

Absentee Ballots

If you are worried that you won't be able to get in and vote, don't despair! Contact the Town Clerk's office to find out how you can vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are available for both Town Elections and the Planning Board Ballot articles. Call 847-3316 or go in for an application.

Photo ID's

Please remember to bring your photo ID. 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.

The Town Clerk's Office will be closed on Election Day!

SCHOOL & TOWN MEETING

March 15 - 7 p.m.

Voting on the school and town warrants will take place at the Town Hall Wednesday evening beginning at 7 pm. **You must be a registered voter to vote, either by hand, voice or ballot, at the town and school meetings. The last day to register for this will be March 14 at the polls.**

The Sullivan web page has copies of the ballots posted.

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

FOUND IN THE TOWN HALL PARKING LOT!

Found in the Town Hall Parking is a diabetic testing kit. If this is yours, please call the town hall on Tuesday thru Thursday from 10 – 2, Thursday night from 6 – 8 at 847-3316 and ask for the Town Clerk's Office.

SEE INSIDE – CANDIDATE STATEMENTS, PLANNING BOARD BALLOT ITEMS, TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY, MAPLE WEEKEND IN SULLIVAN AND MORE!

Our apologies - Due to the number and size of the articles submitted this month, we had to change the size of the print and some articles/ads to reduce the number of pages. It should be back to normal for the next issue.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Selectman – 3 years

Laura Merrifield: (incumbent) I have lived in Sullivan since 1993, a newcomer compared to many! For the last four years I have served on the Board of Selectmen and am running for re-election to a 3-year term. Serving the Town of Sullivan is often times challenging, sometimes frustrating, but overall it has been mostly rewarding to participate in town affairs. My previous 30+ years of municipal employment has been a great resource in navigating through the Selectmen duties and responsibilities. I would very much appreciate your vote on March 14th.

Selectman – 2 years

Jeffrey Burbank: My wife and I are recent additions to the Sullivan area. We bought a house in June and have been steadily repairing it ever since. I am prior Air Force and continue my long career in Information Technology. I am running for a Selectman position because it is a nice way to help the community. I appreciate your vote.

Trustee of Trust Funds – 3 years

Write in! Hello, my name is John (Chip) Woodbury (incumbent) and I would like to be considered as a write in candidate for another 3 year term as a Trustee of Trust Funds for the Town of Sullivan. I have been a member of this board for the last 9 years and have attended many of the training sessions offered by the State of NH for this position. I have been a resident for the past 46 years, and have served as a member of many town committees.

Road Agent - 2 years

Randy Smith: (incumbent) I have been your Road Agent since October 1997. I would like to serve the residents of Sullivan for another term and would appreciate your vote on Election Day

Tax Collector/town Clerk – 3 years

Mary Hull: (incumbent) 2017 makes ten years since I've been here as your Town Clerk. I absolutely love this job and seeing everyone here from town. You are truly my friends and neighbors and I am hoping you will vote me in so I can continue to work for you.

Library Trustee – 3 years

Charles "Chris" Pratt: (incumbent) I have submitted my name for another term as one of the Sullivan Public Library Trustee. I would appreciate your vote on March 14th.

Zoning Board of Adjustment - 3 years – vote for two

Richard Hotchkiss: (incumbent)

Supervisor of Checklist – 6 years

Becky Cummings: (incumbent) I have enjoyed being a Supervisor of the Checklist for several years and would like to continue. It is fascinating working with the computerized state election system and also a good way to meet new people in town. I would appreciate your vote.

Budget Committee – 3 years

No candidates

Cemetery Trustee – 3 years

James Casey: I am running for the office of Cemetery Trustee. I have served as a cemetery trustee for Sullivan since the summer of 2016. My wife and I have owned our home in Sullivan since 2009 and we moved here full time after retiring in 2014. We have very much enjoyed getting to know our great neighbors and being involved with the town. I enjoy serving with my fellow cemetery trustees to assure the town's three cemeteries are properly managed, and I would appreciate your vote. Thank you.

Town Clerk News: Please remember that it is close to dog license renewal time. Don't forget your 4 legged friend(s). If you are not sure if their rabies vaccination is up to date, please call the town office on Tuesday thru Thursday from 10 – 2, Thursday night from 6 – 8 at 847-3316 and ask for the Town Clerk's Office as we have that information available for you.

13th Annual Sullivan Fire Department Yard Sale

Are you ready to throw out that snow shovel and all of the other clutter that has accumulated...along with the snow? Step away from the trash can and donate it to the Sullivan Fire and Rescue for the 13th Annual Yard Sale Fundraiser. Donations of all types (except oversized furniture and televisions) are being accepted. To arrange donation, pick up or drop off please contact Bonnie Blanchard at 847-9680 or leave a message at the fire station at 847-9020.

The Yard Sale will be held at the Fire Station, rain or shine, from 9:00AM – 3:00PM on May 26th and May 27th.

ON THE BALLOT...
CHANGES TO THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE

Article 2: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE ARTICLE IV, GENERAL PROVISIONS, C, (FLOOD ELEVATIONS) AS FOLLOWS:

Replace "manufactured home trailer" with "manufactured housing".

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Article 3: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE BY MOVING TWO SENTENCES CURRENTLY IN ARTICLE XI, DEFINITIONS, TO ARTICLE IV, GENERAL PROVISIONS AND ARTICLE XI, DEFINITIONS, AS FOLLOWS:

Community Planning Ordinance Article IV.I, Seasonal Dwellings, would read as follows:

I. Seasonal Dwellings. Any seasonal dwelling may be converted to a permanent dwelling unit provided that local and State sewage disposal regulations and all other local regulations are met. Applicants should also consult Article III. C for the property dimensions, setbacks, and density requirements; and Article V for building permit requirements.

and Community Planning Ordinance, Article XI, Definitions, (Seasonal Dwelling Unit) would read as follows:

Seasonal Dwelling Unit. Any structure intended for shelter or housing, meant for casual and intermittent occupancy (not greater than nine (9) consecutive months); not the principal place of abode for owner, tenant or occupant. See also, "Dwelling Unit."

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Article 4: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE ARTICLE IV, GENERAL PROVISIONS, J, (PERMANENT FOUNDATIONS), BY REPLACING: BOCA National; WITH: New Hampshire?

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Article 5: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE ARTICLE III, USE APPLICATION, C.7, (AREAS AND DIMENSIONS FOR STRUCTURES AND/OR BUILDINGS) AS FOLLOWS:

III.C. Areas and Dimensions for structures and/or buildings:

1. The minimum lot area is 2 acres.
2. The minimum lot width at the building line is 200 feet
3. The minimum lot depth from the front property line is 200 feet.
4. The minimum lot width at the road frontage is 200 feet on a class V or better road.
5. The minimum set back from the highway right of way is 50 feet.
6. The minimum set back from adjacent property lines is 20 feet.
7. The maximum density allowed (including multifamily developments, and with the exception of one attached or internal Accessory Dwelling Unit) is one dwelling unit for every two acres.
8. The minimum total interior living area for a Principal Dwelling Unit shall be 700 square feet, of which not less than 600 square feet shall be on one level.
9. The minimum total interior living area for an Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be 400 square feet and its area shall not exceed the area of the principal dwelling unit.

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Article 6: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE ARTICLE IV, GENERAL PROVISIONS, H, (ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS) AND ARTICLE XI, DEFINITIONS (ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT) AS FOLLOWS:

Community Planning Ordinance Article IV.H would read as follows:

H. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). One internal or attached accessory dwelling unit per single family dwelling will be deemed a permitted accessory use for all single family dwellings.

1. An internal or attached ADU shall be permitted for all single family dwellings, subject to the following:
 - a. Only one internal or attached ADU shall be permitted for each single-family dwelling.
 - b. the ADU shall have an independent means of ingress and egress, or shall have ingress and egress through a common space such as a shared hallway to an exterior door,
 - c. in order to be considered attached, there must be a common wall between the principal dwelling unit and the ADU, and
 - d. provision shall be made to meet local and State regulations for adequate water supply and sewage disposal service, and all other local regulations.
2. A single detached ADU located on the same lot as and incidental to the principal dwelling unit shall be permitted for lots of 4 or more acres. A maximum of two detached ADUs located on the same lot as and incidental to the principal dwelling unit shall be permitted for lots of 10 acres or more. An approved septic system design is a prerequisite to construction.

Refer to Article V for building permit requirements. Applicants should also consult Article III.C for the proper dimensions, setbacks, and density requirements.

and Community Planning Ordinance Article XI, Definitions, (Accessory Dwelling Unit) would read as follows:

Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU). A residential living unit that is within or attached to, or detached from, a single-family dwelling that is the principal dwelling unit, and that provides independent living facilities for one or more persons, including provisions for sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the same parcel of land as the principal dwelling unit it accompanies. This may also be referred to as an accessory apartment, camp, cabin, in-law apartment, bunkhouse, apartment, cottage, caretaker's apartment or other similar name.

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Article 7: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE ARTICLE XI, DEFINITIONS, (DWELLING UNITS), AS FOLLOWS:

Dwelling Unit. A building or part thereof designed for residential occupancy providing complete independent living facilities for one or more persons that includes permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation. A Principal Dwelling Unit is an allowed residential structure to which an accessory building or accessory dwelling unit is subordinate.

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Article 8: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE ARTICLE IV, GENERAL PROVISIONS, BY ADDING:

N. Alternative Development. Alternative development shall be granted only where the Planning Board finds that such development will be superior to conventional development in

1. Preserving open space for agriculture, conservation or recreation.
2. Preserving historic, archeological, and cultural features located on the site.
3. Utilizing natural features of the land.
4. Preserving those areas of the site that have the highest ecological value (for example, wildlife habitat and water resources).
5. Locating buildings and structures on those portions of the site that are the most appropriate for development and avoiding developing in areas ill-suited for development such as areas that have excessively steep slopes, and
6. Allowing more efficient provision of public services; and at least equal to a conventional plan in other respects.

Alternative development of lots 20 or more acres in size and other methods of preserving open space are specifically allowed. Alternative development will require that the landowner provide a minimum of 2 acres per principal dwelling unit. In the determination of such additional acreage requirement, wetlands shall not be calculated. Minimum lot width at the road frontage shall be 200 feet on a class V or better road, and the minimum setback from the highway right of way shall be 50 feet. Under such development plan, individual lot size may, at the discretion of the Planning Board, be less than 2 acres, but only in such circumstances as ownership of additional land held in common, and adjacent to the subject lot, provides a minimum of 2 acres per principal dwelling unit.

BY ADOPTION OF ARTICLE 8, THE CLUSTER HOUSING ORDINANCE WOULD BE DISCONTINUED.

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Article 9: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE ARTICLE V, BUILDING PERMITS, A, (When Required) and ARTICLE V, BUILDING PERMITS, C, (Accessory Building Permit) AS FOLLOWS:

Community Planning Ordinance Article V, Building Permits, A, (When Required) would read as follows:

A. When Required. A building permit shall be required for all dwelling units, including ADUs, seasonal or permanent. A building permit shall also be required to erect or place any type of building or other structure, attached or detached, which will be over 400 square feet. A permit shall not be required for normal repairs to, or redecoration of, a building. Exemption from permit requirements of this ordinance shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of any other laws or ordinances of this jurisdiction.

And Community Planning Ordinance Article V, Building Permits, C (Accessory Building Permit) would read as follows:

C Application for an Accessory Building Permit. Written application for a building permit, over 400 square feet shall be filed with the Board of Selectmen or their agent to include size and location on the lot. Applicants should also consult Article III.C for the proper dimensions, setbacks, and density requirements.

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Article 10: ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF AMENDING THE COMMUNITY PLANNING ORDINANCE ARTICLE VII, ADMINISTRATION AS FOLLOWS:

VII. ADMINISTRATION

The Board of Selectmen shall administer the provisions of this Ordinance in the name of the Town. The Selectmen may appoint an agent to administer this Ordinance. The fire chief or his/her designee shall have the authority to make inspections in accordance with NFPA 101 - The Life Safety Code to determine the condition of dwellings located within the town in order that the health and safety of the occupants of all dwellings and the general public shall be safeguarded. The Health Officer shall have the authority to conduct sanitary investigations into complaints and nuisances that may endanger public health. Whenever a health officer knows or has cause to suspect that any nuisance or other causes of danger to the public health is in any building or enclosure, he/she may obtain an administrative inspection warrant under RSA 595-B, which may include, when necessary, authority for forcible entry. Remedies provided in RSA 676:15 and RSA 676:17 are hereby made available to the Selectmen except that no fine shall exceed \$100.00 per day for each day a violation continues.

YES, YOU ARE IN FAVOR 0

NO, YOU ARE NOT IN FAVOR 0

Community Planning Ordinance Ballot Items (A Detailed Explanation of the Ballot Questions)

Submitted by: Leslie Casey, Chairman, Planning Board

From time to time sections of Sullivan's Community Planning Ordinance, or "CPO," are revised and updated. The Sullivan Master Plan and NH State Law guide the process. Here is a preview of proposed amendments to the CPO and the reasons behind them, as background for the CPO-related ballot questions that precede this and that you will see at the 2017 Town Election. The final decision on whether to approve the amendments (or not) rests with you, the voters!

On January 4th, the Planning Board held a public hearing to elicit public input on draft amendments to the CPO. The Board then deliberated and the proposed amendments were finalized. A marked-up copy of the CPO showing the proposed revisions is posted on the town website and a hard copy is displayed in the Town Hall lobby, showing the amendments in the context of the whole document. Voters are encouraged to take a look since it may help make the individual amendments easier to understand.

One set of proposed changes to the CPO pertains to new NH statutes on Accessory Dwelling Units, or "ADUs" (RSA 674:71-73, effective June 1, 2017). The statutes require that towns allow one internal or attached ADU per single-family dwelling. Sullivan's CPO already allows for detached ADUs, but amendments to bring Sullivan's CPO into compliance with the new statutes going into effect are needed:

*Section III (Use Application), C (Areas and Dimensions for structures and/or buildings), subsection 7 as amended would have an addition, shown here in *italics*: "The maximum density allowed (including multifamily developments, *and with the exception of one attached or internal Accessory Dwelling Unit*) is one dwelling unit for every two acres." Additionally, "shall" would replace "is" and "may" throughout section III.C.

*Section IV (General Provisions), H (Accessory Dwelling Units) as amended would include the statute provisions for internal or attached ADUs. The text of section IV.I (Additional Dwelling Units) would be folded into section IV.H.

*The definition of an Accessory Dwelling Unit in Article XI would be updated to match the State's definition. A sentence referring the reader to the definition for "Dwelling Unit" would also be added.

Another change to the CPO is intended to allow for alternative development of large parcels of land (20 acres or greater) through an approach other than subdivision, consistent with the goals of Sullivan's Master Plan: preserving open space for agriculture, conservation or recreation; preserving historic, archeological, and cultural features located on the site; utilizing natural features of the land; preserving those areas of the site that have the highest ecological value (for example, wildlife habitat and water resources); locating buildings and structures on those portions of the site that are the most appropriate for development and avoiding developing in areas ill-suited for development such as areas that have excessively steep slopes; and allowing more efficient provision of public services. The amendment would add a new section to the CPO, IV (General Provisions), N (Alternative Development). It would still require that the landowner provide a minimum of 2 acres per principal dwelling unit. By adoption of the amendment, the Sullivan Cluster Housing Ordinance (1992), which is out of date, would be discontinued.

Changes to the CPO intended to safeguard health and safety are also proposed:

*The requirement for building permits for all new dwellings, including Accessory Dwelling Units (attached or detached) would be clarified in CPO article V (Building Permits), A (When Required) as amended.

*The maximum area for new construction exempt from a building permit would be reduced from 700 sq ft to 400 sq ft. For comparison, the NH Building Code cut-off is 120 sq. ft. CPO sections V.A and V.C (Application for an Accessory Building Permit) would be amended to reflect the change to 400 sq. ft. In addition, section V.A. would include a sentence clarifying that even absent a building permit requirement, other pertinent laws or ordinances still apply. Section V.C. would include a sentence directing the reader to section III.C for the proper dimensions, setbacks, and density requirements.

*CPO section VII (Administration) as amended would clarify that the town Fire Chief and Health Officer can enter one- and two-family dwellings for investigations or inspections under certain circumstances, such as responding to a complaint that a building is unfit for human habitation or that a condition exists that is injurious to public health.

Finally, four "housekeeping" amendments would improve organization and wording of the CPO:

*CPO section IV (General Provisions), C (Flood Elevations) as amended would substitute the term "manufactured housing" for "manufactured home trailer." This housekeeping amendment would update terminology in the Sullivan CPO to the current terminology for manufactured housing.

*CPO section IV (General Provisions), I (Seasonal Dwellings) would be a new section that moves two sentences out of XI (Definitions) to the appropriate section of the CPO. This new section would read:

I. Seasonal Dwellings. Any seasonal dwelling may be converted to a permanent dwelling unit provided that local and State sewage disposal regulations and all other local regulations are met. Applicants should also consult Article III. C for the property dimensions, setbacks, and density requirements; and Article V for building permit requirements.

CPO section XI, Definitions, (Seasonal Dwelling Unit) would be amended accordingly, and would have an added sentence referring the reader to the definition for "Dwelling Unit."

*CPO section IV (General Provisions), J (Permanent Foundations) as amended would substitute "New Hampshire Code" for "BOCA National Code." This housekeeping amendment would update the CPO to cite the applicable building code under RSA 155-A (NH Building Code). The BOCA National Building Code is no longer current.

*CPO section XI (Definitions, Dwelling Units), as amended, would include an added sentence defining "Principal Dwelling Unit."

The Planning Board is in favor of these changes, which would: (1) improve organization and wording of the CPO document (e.g. move sentences regarding seasonal dwellings; update terminology), (2) bring the Sullivan CPO into alignment with a new NH law and statute change on accessory dwelling units, (3) update and replace the obsolete Cluster Housing Ordinance in accordance with our Master Plan, and (4) help safeguard public health and safety by ensuring that all new dwelling units and new construction greater than 400 sq ft have building permits, and that complaints of living conditions injurious to public health can be investigated.

We hope you will use this information to help you as you preview the ballot questions. And please remember to vote at the Town Election!

"LIBRARY FOOTNOTES"

The library collection is growing. This past year saw an increase of close to 1000 books thanks to library purchases and the generosity of our patrons. The **Large Print** section has also seen an increase in selections of popular authors. As we have placed orders, we have been trying to complete series most frequently requested. Stop in and see our new acquisitions or call before-hand to reserve a particular book or author.

Our book groups have been growing in popularity. **The Cookbook Group**, which meets the first Tuesday of each month, is still in its infancy stage, but has been growing. We have used cookbooks from the Pioneer Woman to the grand dame of cooking Julia Child; sampled dishes from Asia to Italy and from appetizers to soups and salads to main courses. The selection of recipes is left up to the taste buds and the skill level of the individual member. None of the members are food critics and everyone leaves feeling full and satisfied. We are using *The Bread Bible* by Rose Levy Beranbaum for the March 7th meeting/tasting. Don't be intimidated by the title. The book contains sections on quick bread, spoon bread and non-yeast recipes. Soup will also be available as well. Come join us in March – your taste buds will thank you!

The Thursday Book Group just finished reading *The Uninvited Guests* by Sadie Jones, an enjoyable read with a different sort of ending. Next up for the March 16th discussion, *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Bachman. This is a very popular novel with other book groups throughout the state as our copy is frequently out on Inter-Library Loan.

Saturday's Book Group just finished reading Janet Evanovich's first novel, *One for the Money*. As with most first books in a series, the group has found out that authors improve with experience. Our Saturday readers gave this one a good review and plan to read the next book in the Stephanie Plum series at a later date. Currently, the group is reading *Death of a Dishonorable Gentleman* by Tessa Arlen. The book was nominated for the Cozy Mystery award in 2015. If you liked the PBS series *Downton Abbey*, you'll like this novel. Stop in the library, pick up a copy and join in the discussion on March 11th.

The next **Library Movie Night** will be held on March 3rd. The movie will be *Passion Fish* starring Mary McDonnell and Alfre Woodard. McDonnell's character was a successful soap opera star whose career is abruptly ended by a car accident which leaves her paralyzed from the waist down and confines her to a wheel-chair-bound life. Woodard plays a no-nonsense nurse who is the last resort for McDonnell's character who had gone through a succession of care-givers due to her excessive drinking and bitterness. The story follows the interaction between the two characters.

The weekly **Saturday Coffee and Conversation** group is also thriving. Even in the snowy weather, this hardy group of your neighbors has been stopping by to relax, visit with each other and forget about the snow totals and cold temperatures. Come and join in the conversation. It's a good cure of cabin fever.

As ever, the support and contributions of our patrons helps our library survive in this era of cut-backs and tight budgets. Our heartfelt thanks to the following people as well as to those who choose to remain anonymous: Marsha Cook, Becky Cummings, Virginia Howard, Dave Jakway, Peter Miles, Rachael Richardson, Ann & Roger Sweet, Dan Tuttle, BJ Wahl, Kathy & Chip Woodbury and Ginny Yarwaski.. A special thanks to our 'always ready repairman' Jim Casey and our 'snow shovel wielding strongman' Jeremiah Tuttle.

Your Librarians,
Dott Miles & Paulette Tuttle

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold its monthly meetings on March 9, April 13 and May 11, 2017 at 2 PM at the library. The purpose of the meeting will be to formally receive any donations, hear reports and conduct any business related to the administration of the library. As always the public is welcome.

From the Archives by Chris Pratt

I will write up part two of the “dump history” next time. For now, here is the annual look back at previous town meetings.

10 years ago. The 2007 warrant contained 34 articles signed by selectmen Michael Carney, Richard Hotchkiss and Richard Labadie, Sr. The long simmering issues with the Monadnock Regional School District were expressed in Article 7 which called upon the Selectmen to form a committee to study the feasibility of withdrawing from the district. This particular committee would reach no conclusion on the issue. However, the move to withdraw would emerge again in a few years. Article 27 was a “sense of the meeting” on the issue of climate change and called on our congressional delegation to develop policies to limit greenhouse gasses and promote clean energy. The fire department reported to the meeting on the new pumper and how the efforts of Scott and Susan Lake got the vehicle built on time and under budget. The meeting also marked the end of Lois Woodbury’s career as our town clerk. She thanked the town for electing her to the post for 41 consecutive years.

25 years ago. The 1992 warrant contained 26 articles signed by selectmen Leslie Goodnow, Matthew Burke and Charles Toutant. Voters approved a cluster housing ordinance. The town meeting approved moving from an annual tax bill to one every six months. Article 17 to combine the positions of road agent and cemetery sexton was defeated, but the road agent’s term was extended from 1 year to 2 years. The meeting also approved authorization for the planning board to create a formal capital improvements program.

50 years ago. The 1967 warrant contained 12 articles signed by selectmen Gardner Turner, Harvey Swett and Walfred G. Wiklund. The town meeting voted to establish a capital reserve fund for purchasing new highway equipment. The selectmen noted that our equipment was getting old and... “...having money in the bank, we can get replacement needs without putting an undue bulge in the budget.” To “sweeten the deal” the first appropriation represented the unexpended funds for the year rather than new tax dollars. Frank Glazier offered a resolution to be sent to the New Hampshire State Legislature calling on them to fully fund all aid to education. The resolution passed and was one of several from around the state calling on the legislature to live up to its fiscal responsibilities—an argument that continues to this day.

100 years ago. The 1917 warrant contained 12 articles signed by selectmen Herbert S. Currier, Eugene Marston and Carl M. Barrett. The board of health reported 29 cases of measles and 3 cases of scarlet fever. They also reported vaccinating 46 children. The school report notes that one school had to be closed for two weeks due to sickness. My guess is that the measles report may have something to do with that. The school board noted that 4 schools were opened for a total of 31 weeks which means that all schools were functioning for the required 3 terms instead of some only being open for 2 terms.

200 years ago. The 1817 warrant contained 12 articles signed by selectmen Roswell Osgood, John Wilson and Stephen Foster. Aside from the usual appropriations, an article called for the “map from the state” to be kept at Rev. William Muzzy’s home. This is probably a reference to the Philip Carrigain map of New Hampshire published in 1816 with a copy going to each town. Each township was required to submit a map of the town showing the exact boundaries, major highways, location of the meeting house, physical features and any other details. Sullivan’s submission was pretty simple—omitting our hills and ponds and showing only one road through town as well as the meeting house. The information was compiled around 1804, but many of the boundary surveys did not agree and several towns were required to redo their maps. Carrigain, who was Secretary of State, was charged with leading the project which he continued even after he left the office. He contracted with some engravers in Philadelphia and the final product is an impressive, multi-colored map with many decorations and sometimes fanciful views of scenes around the state.

So, this raises yet another question, what happened to the map? It’s pretty large (48 inches by 60 inches) and contains a distinctive cartouche in the upper right corner that clearly identifies it. Seward does not mention it. It’s possible that it hung around in an attic and was later sold to an antiquarian. Several copies are listed for sale from a number of dealers on the internet. It’s also possible that it was lost or destroyed.

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL BEGINS IN MARCH!

March 18, 22 & 25 and April 8, 19 & 29 and May 13, 17 & 20 .

All collections run 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Free for Sullivan Residents!

Keene Recycling Center, 55 Old Summit Road, Keene

<http://www.ci.keene.nh.us/departments/public-works/divisions/recycling-center>

Many thanks to our Sullivan Community

As we sit here in our camper with our dog, Yogi, and two cats we can't help but feel blessed. A month ago we lost our home to a fire. The black smoke that raged thru the walls leaving nothing untouched felt like glass slicing your throat. Leaving nothing untouched, personal belongings, memorabilia, furnishings and clothes, all taken as victims. What did not succumb to the devastation was Daryl, myself and our animals. With that said we lost nothing of value. In fact we gained gifts that don't have a monetary tag hanging from them. These gifts being love and support from people in this town, some we knew while others came to us as strangers, leaving as friends.

The outpouring of physical, emotional and financial support brings us to our knees. People coming together to assist in any way possible is so beautiful and refreshing. I had not returned from the hospital where I was treated for smoke inhalation when the first gifts from the community arrived at Judy Dueker's home. It was a box from the church's food pantry. That is the beauty of a small town; news travels fast, this time to our advantage! To The volunteer fire personnel that give so much of their personal time assisting those in need; we thank you for your service. To those who donated money to the jar at the town hall, it's the kindness that heals not the value of the money collected. To the neighbors who opened their home to us, donated to the Go Fund Me fund raising campaign, made us homemade soup and continue to check on us during the snow storms and cold spells; we thank you.

Today, we are settled into our camper on the property so as to be near our animals. A home is not the structure and all the "pretty things", it's the love shared with each other that makes a dwelling a home. We are home !

Thank you for all your support, and many blessings for each and every one of you. Please come by and visit with the animals, if you have some love to give or need some love, Amazing Grace Sanctuary welcomes you.

The love that surrounds our Animal Sanctuary is so healing.

Donna and Daryl Watterson
Amazing Grace Animal Sanctuary (check us out on Facebook)
161 Centre St
Sullivan NH

NH MAPLE WEEKEND March 25 & 26

The New Hampshire Maple Producers Association will be hosting the 21st Annual Maple Weekend on March 25 & 26. Join the fun at a local sugar house! Sugar makers statewide will open their doors inviting the public to share in the centuries-old craft of maple sugaring. Come and talk to the producers in Sullivan!

J & G Maple Farm

(also known as the old Clark Place or Malaguti's)

Jim & Ginni McByrne

641 Centre St.

Sullivan

March 25 & 26, 9am - 5pm

Boiling (weather permitting), syrup for sale, coffee & donuts served.

<http://www.nhmapleproducers.com/>

Spring Hospice Volunteer Training

Hospice at HCS is offering a volunteer training program for those who are interested in becoming volunteers. The training will begin on March 14 and continues on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00pm to 4:00pm through April 25. 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 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 scheduling 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 Keene. Care is provided wherever a person calls home – their own home, or in an assisted living facility or nursing home.

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.

Feb. 19, 2017

Dear Friends,

I write this letter from my kitchen table in Sullivan! We are in the USA for about two weeks in order to see our daughters, catch up on routine doctors' visits and try to touch base with some friends (Doug has a board meeting in Chicago and a visit with his father in Indianapolis). I am still feeling the jet lag from our 3 day journey back to the USA in between snow storms. It's so disorienting to go from hot summer weather to cold, snowy winter weather. But let's talk about Lesotho.

The biggest news is that we now have a small house on the hospital grounds. Since Doug is working for the Lesotho Government, they are supposed to provide us with housing. Because of much red tape and other uncontrollable things we had been living in the LeBoHA Guesthouse (the organization Doug works for). It is simple but comfortable, and we frequently had visitors staying in the house with us for a couple of months at a time. Although that was fun (and interesting), it was time for us to have a little more privacy with our own kitchen, etc. So on January 1st, after much cleaning, we moved in to our own house. We have a little neighborhood with kids playing on the street, men washing their cars, and people tending their gardens. It's really wonderful and so relaxing, a great place to really kick back.

Our Christmas was quiet, we spent a few days in Johannesburg, and then Doug returned to work. I just hung out, did my usual visiting with friends, taking Sesotho lessons, doing laundry and going grocery shopping. Many people return to their "haeno," place of origin to visit with family, during the holiday.

Help Lesotho reopened on the 9th of January, and I jumped right into work organizing and leading a preschool teachers' workshop for those preschools that receive some funding from Help Lesotho. Most preschool teachers do not have any specialized training as they have finished secondary school (and some haven't even done that). I focused on several things during the 3 day workshop; the stages of child development, pre-literacy skills and how to develop them, the importance of making mistakes, how to create stories of your own to share with the children, and nurturing creativity using only the things you have in your home or environment outside. During my workshop I told each participant to bring in something they had at home which they were going to throw away. The teachers brought: empty toilet paper rolls, egg cartons, empty plastic bottles, used string, empty matchboxes, empty food boxes and so forth. On the second day of the workshop, I had the teachers make "something from nothing." I showed them how to make binoculars from empty toilet paper rolls; they created trains, cars, herd boys, houses, eyeglasses and many other things. They had a blast and learned that 1) they could do this at their schools, 2) it's fun to create and 3) it helps develop problem solving skills as well as creativity - important skills needed for learning. The teachers loved it and so did I!

I visit these preschool classes about once a month. I usually develop a few lessons to share with the teachers, all based around a central theme/concept. I review the lesson with the teacher, model the lesson, then have the teacher do it. Often I take something with me, which the teachers can use in their classrooms (e.g. plain white paper, glue sticks, crayons...). I also leave a storybook, which has been translated into Sesotho by a friend's daughter.

The physical facilities at the preschools are very basic. Frequently they don't have running water, electricity and sometimes they don't even have an outhouse. There is some kind of "playground equipment," such as tires partially buried in the ground, or a slide and swing set. Inside the school there are few books, some children's chairs, and the alphabet and numbers posted on the wall. There are very few toys as there isn't much money to purchase them. The focus is usually on learning the alphabet, counting, learning what sounds different letters make, body parts (in English and Sesotho), singing songs and dancing. I was so happy that the teachers are beginning to see that play is an important part of learning. You can see that the topics I covered at the workshop were very helpful to the teachers.

Primary schools are "free" here; however, each student must purchase a uniform for school as well as paper & pencils and books. The secondary schools (grades 8-12) are not free; one must pay tuition to attend with the additional expense of books. This can be quite costly for those who are not working, and even those who are. As you would expect, some students don't go to primary school and many don't go to secondary school because of the money. Classes are very large, upwards to 40-50, and information is taught in a call and response fashion. This makes it very difficult for those who do not learn well by listening. The teacher says some information, and the students repeat what the teacher has said. When answering a question the students usually only have one chance to answer correctly, if they're wrong, the teacher goes on to the next student.

Teachers in Lesotho have many challenges including class size, behavior, teaching children with learning differences and lack of resources. I have become friendly with a woman who works in the Ministry of Education. 'M'e Mankhasi works with children who have special needs. I have worked with her a few times doing some informal evaluations of children because the classroom teachers need some ideas on how to work with these kids. There are very few special education services for children. (The nearby school for the deaf has one classroom devoted to children who have special needs. No PT, OT or speech/language therapy. That's all that's available in our town!).

I enjoy writing this blog. **If you have any questions that you'd like me to answer**, you can drop Mary Hull an email and she can forward it on to me. I'll then try to answer your questions. In the meantime, stay well, enjoy the rest of your winter and remember that when you are in the middle of summer we'll be in WINTER! Brrrrr!

Risa

Note: The Sew & Sew's will not meet on March 13th, the day before Election Day.



VOLUNTEERS ENABLING TRANSPORTATION, INC.

Need a Ride to Medical Appointments?

**Are you a Veteran, Senior, or individual with a disability
and no access to transportation?**

Introducing VET

“Volunteers Enabling Transportation, Inc.”

We May Be Able to Help

**VET is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, all-volunteer organization formed to provide rides from most of
Cheshire County to medical appointments primarily for veterans, seniors and others with disabilities.**

For more information, to volunteer or to schedule a ride call:

VET

(603) 499-8956

SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH WELCOMES NEW PASTOR!

First, let me say hello to you all. My name is Christopher Cornell, and this February the United Congregational Church called me to be their new pastor. These past few weeks I have been trying to familiarize myself with the town of Sullivan and I look forward to getting to know this community better. If you see me around town, please don't hesitate to say hello.

On behalf of the church, I would also like to thank the many people who attended our recent Silent Auction & Dessert Buffet. It was a great success, and wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of this community.

In the church we are looking forward to the season of Lent, which begins this year on the first of March (Ash Wednesday). This year we will be joining with the Nelson Congregational Church for the imposition of ashes at 7pm (at Nelson Congregational Church).

And looking forward to April, we will celebrate Palm Sunday at our 9:30 am service on April 9th and we will hold a service of tenebrae the evening of Maundy Thursday (April 13) at 6 pm. Easter morning (April 16) we will hold a Sunrise Service at 6:30 am at Seward Mountain Farm followed by coffee in “the cottage” and/or an Easter Breakfast at the church, and our Easter Festival Worship at 9:30am.

I hope you can join us for any of these special events, or any Sunday at our weekly worship service which begins at 9:30am and is followed by a time of fellowship at 10:15.

Easter Services Planned

Ash Wednesday – March 1, shared service at Nelson Congregational Church; 7pm in Nelson

All other services are in Sullivan.

Palm Sunday Service – April 9, 9:30am

Maundy Thursday – April 13, Service of Tenebrae with soups & breads, 6pm

Easter Sunrise – April 16, Seward Mountain Farm on Boulder Rd., 6:30am

Easter Breakfast at the Sullivan Church follows Easter Sunrise

Easter Festival Worship – 9:30am

Sullivan Food Pantry - The pantry is in need of the following food items: Cereal, Canned meats (Tuna, Ham, Chicken, Spam), Sugar, Flour, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Ramen Noodles, Canned Fruit (small and large cans), Skillet Dinners (Hamburger Helper, etc.), Rice, Rice-a-Roni, Mac & Cheese, Instant Potatoes, Pasta, Tomato Sauce, Hash, Vegetables (regular sized cans), Tomato Sauce. Donations may be dropped off at the Sullivan Public Library, Town Hall and the Sullivan Congregational Church. We are a small town with a big heart - **Thank you for your continued support of your neighbors in need!**

AUCTION

NELSON SCHOOL PTO

**THIS IS IT! THE ANNUAL AUCTION IS SET READY FOR YOU TO JOIN
US FOR A NIGHT OF EXCITEMENT!
SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL AND THE EVENTS THAT OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
PLAN TO ATTEND AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN TAKE HOME. BRING YOUR FRIENDS.**

Auction Date: April 8, 2017

Time: 4:00pm

Location: Nelson Town Hall

If you can donate an item for the auction, please contact me (Tammy Rondeau)

Trondeau@myfairpoint.net

Or 603-499-3768

Nelson/Sullivan School PTO Update

Hi- my name is Tammy Rondeau and just before the last Sullivan newsletter I was elected the PTO president. The PTO wants to provide the community with events but we need your help to be successful. In December we provided a shopping evening in which we had approximately 42 children attend. The PTO offered Crafts, Movies & Pizza while the parents were able to take an opportunity to Christmas Shop. This was huge success all the way around.

In February we had a new event.....a spaghetti dinner at the school with a basket raffle containing gift certificates from Small City Cinemas (Keene Cinemas), Marissa's Nails and Papagallos Restaurant along with some hand-painted wine glasses and a variety of other goodies. This was a success; community members and school families were able to enjoy a night of dining. We had about 65-70 people enjoy this new event.

March 17 we are hosting Bingo with your Grandparents or Parents! 6:30-7:30 pm Children from school can **RSVP** to bring their grandparents out for a Bingo night. There is no charge for this evening and prizes for each game.

April 8th at the Nelson Town Hall is the 10th Annual Nelson School PTO auction. This is the major fundraiser the School does. If you can donate an item or gift card, please let us know. All donations need to be turned in by Friday March 31st.

We need volunteers to help collect auction items and a couple of adults who may be able to help with childcare on the night of the auction. Call me 847-9703 or 603-499-3768, if you can help us out.

The next PTO meeting is March 2 at the Nelson School at 4:30 and the first Thursday of each month moving forward. Additional meetings will be held to coordinate the auction.

"Visit & Like" our face book page for up-to-date details about Nelson School PTO.

Thanks,
Tammy



Community Volunteer Transportation Company (CVTC)

375 Jaffrey Road, Suite 3

Peterborough, NH 03458

1-877-428-2882, ext. 5

www.cvtc-nh.org

info@cvtc-nh.org

CVTC WELCOMES NEW VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Volunteer Drivers are the life-blood of CVTC. Without them, the organization would not exist. They give their time to take people to medical and social service appointments, grocery shopping, banking, and to the pharmacy. In 2016, the drivers will clock in over 84,000 miles. The new drivers join our team of 61 active drivers.

Higher volumes of trip requests are coming in from Keene, Swanzey, Troy, Hinsdale, Winchester, & Fitzwilliam. Consider becoming a Volunteer Driver and give us a call.

CVTC is a not-for-profit organization. Through Volunteer Drivers we serve those living in the Monadnock region that have no access to transportation for non-emergency medical appointments. Please visit our website at www.cvtc-nh.org and "like" us on Facebook. For more information call 1-877-428-2882, ext. 5 or email to info@cvtc-nh.org. We are a Monadnock United Way Partner Agency.

SULLIVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness? -John Steinbeck

The upcoming town meeting and Sullivan School District (SSD) meeting to be held at the town hall on March 15, 2017 at 7pm shall address the following topics pertaining to the SSD:

- Overview of 2016- enrollment, tuition and budget
- Projected changes for 2017- enrollment, tuition and budgetary changes
- Next Step for SSD: Securing our position with Keene and Nelson District through long term contracts, Nelson school expansion topics and impact on tuition
- Tuition reserve fund purpose, goals and current status of fund

Each year a limited number of residents from our town attend town meeting, but anyone is invited. If you have never attended town meeting, please try it out this year. It's simple and the topics are relevant to the town you reside in, so I find it is very interesting.

This year, to touch upon each of the topics above, I've included key summary items to better prepare everyone coming to town meeting (below).

Overview of 2016:

TUITIONS

	Nelson K-5	KMS - Grade 6-8	KMS - Grade 6-8	KHS - Grade 9-12	KHS - Grade 9-12	PREK	MRHS	Out of District (OOD)
	Regular/ SPED	Regular	SPED	Regular	SPED	age <3 with IEP only		OOD/Tran sportation
		(AREA/No n-Area)	(AREA/No n-Area)	(AREA/No n-Area)	(AREA/No n-Area)	Srvcs \$ converted to Ave Tuition \$		*Variable
2016-2017 Rate \$	\$13,346	N/A /\$12,312	N/A /\$30,056	N/A /\$13,388	N/A /\$29,930	\$14,400	\$26,176	50,400*/ 18,000*
2017-2018 Rate \$	\$14,414	\$12,126/ \$12,351	\$30,697/ \$31,051	\$13,242/ \$13,803	\$29,451/ \$31,199	\$14,400	N/A	

ENROLLMEN T	CURRENT YR	2016-17							Tota ls
2016-2017 projected as of 12/2015	33/8	9	2	27	4	7	1	0	91
2016-2017 actual as of 12/2016	31/4	11	2	25	6	5	1	0.1	85.1

Comparing Average Per Pupil Cost: SSD vs State Average

Average Per Pupil cost SSD student last year: \$17,967 (using the all operating expenditures formula, deducted tuition reserve fund appropriations and deducted building loan payments)

State Average (reported 2 ways): \$17,648 (all operating expenditures) vs \$15,033 (Calculated by subtracting tuition and transportation from K-12 current operating expenditures, and then dividing by the average daily membership in attendance (ADM-A). The Cost per Pupil (2015-16) represents, with certain adjustments, current expenditures from all funding sources (local, state and federal) associated with the daily operation of schools. Payments to other school districts and private schools have been subtracted. Revenues from the sales of lunches have also been excluded.)

Thank you for taking the time to prepare for our discussions. Any questions can be emailed to me ahead of time and I'd be happy to schedule a call before the town meeting date to go over more details. Stephanie Jacques Kleine, Sullivan School Board Chair SullivanSchoolDistrict.chair@gmail.com . You may also reach out to Ken Dassau, SSD Superintendent at 209-3315 to address your questions/concerns/comments. Your ability to speak directly with a board member about items on the budget is one of the benefits of our being a small, independent school district.

Projected Changes 2017:

The goal, long term, for SSD is to secure its placement with the Keene School District and Nelson School District long term, and to ensure the fair and reasonable tuition rates are met by quality of education provided.

Grades k-5:

School year 2016-2017 was the first year Sullivan and Nelson 6th graders attended Keene Middle School. It is the intention of both towns to continue sending 6th graders to KMS, so the Nelson School can focus on providing adequate education, and meeting the educational needs, of K-5 students from both Nelson and Sullivan. The communities are alike, both rural and both falling short of adequate student population on their own to sustain their own school. The integration of Sullivan has not only fulfilled the needs of both towns, but has encouraged the joining of two communities who work together towards a common goal. The long term arrangement (contract) between the two districts is currently being reviewed by the boards to ensure continued sustainability of what has proven to be 3 ½ years of success.

Nelson School Board and Sullivan School Board have communicated about the proposal of a school expansion for the near future. The expansion design would "fit" the current train-style design and costs would be kept low by keeping the shape simple. The space would allow for better overall function within the school building to accommodate the educational needs of Sullivan and Nelson students. Currently the school classrooms are combined grades, with 2nd grade being split between grade 1 and 3. There is a Kindergarten classroom, Grade 1 and 2 classroom, Grade 2 and 3 classroom, Grade 4 and 5 classroom. At times, hallways and even the principal's office are utilized for additional space. Today's educational model is different than we remember, where classes now are divided several times daily for small group work; individual services and treatment require private spaces, and students are not kept together in one classroom setting all day long. The expansion provides the best solution to the issues faced in the past 3 years together combining Nelson and Sullivan students.

A bond would be required by the town of Nelson to pay for the expansion. The preferred length for Nelson's \$1,000,000 bond is 10 years. This will be proposed to Nelson voters in March, and was recently discussed during their budget hearing. Several forums took place over the summer of 2016 to discuss the concerns and issues. More forums are expected to be held.

The impact to Sullivan would be indirect, as the school is not owned by Sullivan, though these indirect costs would raise the Nelson operating budget which would reflect in increased tuition rates charged to Sullivan. Alternatives would be to send Sullivan K-5 grade students to Keene (if Keene accepted) which would have, hypothetically, raised next year's tuition rates by \$170k.

It is the Sullivan School Board's opinion that long term collaboration with Nelson remains the best option for Sullivan elementary aged students and SSD is discussing contract revisions with Nelson to secure a longer-termed agreement, so Nelson School District can secure the bond if the vote for expansion is passed.

Grade 6 at Keene Middle School:

It is the intention of SSD to ensure 6th graders are placed at KMS for the long term and an agreement being called AREA is being proposed between Keene and Sullivan School District. This includes a long term agreement between the districts for Keene to education SSD 6th graders, and provides a tuition rate reduction in exchange.

Grades 7-8 at Keene Middle School:

There is already an AREA agreement in place between Keene District and several area towns to educate their 7-8th grade students at KMS. The proposal is for SSD to be included in this agreement and in exchange for a long term commitment from Sullivan, a tuition rate reduction would be provided.

Grades 9-12 at Keene High School:

There is already an AREA agreement in place between Keene District and several area towns, as described above for grades 9-12. The same proposal is being made which would provide a long term arrangement for SSD high school students in exchange for a tuition rate reduction to our district.

For thoughts...

One way to look at the latest proposed changes above is, if Keene passes the AREA agreements with Sullivan, we save approx.. \$25k/year. If the Nelson school expansion is passed, we realize a \$50k/yr increase. The reality is that this increase would be offset by \$25k as a result of the AREA agreements. \$25k is the amount of 1 student tuition of Special education. This is a very reasonable investment toward our long term goals.

Tuition Reserve Fund:

We projected 92 students in our budget for next year. There is much volatility and many rental properties that are a cause for students moving in/out throughout the year. The composition of the students (general education vs. special education) is impossible to predict and the tuition rates vary greatly between the two categories. Budgeting challenges are ever present as we cannot predict if a new student might move into the district requiring the special education rate, or the Out of District Placement rates.

The tuition reserve fund is in place for helping the district get through a year when the budget is overspent due to unanticipated tuition expenses typically caused by students moving into the district after the budget has been set. The ideal amount to have in the reserve fund is \$300k. Our district has \$96k currently and it is the strong recommendation of the Sullivan School Board and other district boards to appropriate funds into this reserve account each year.

Serving with the Sullivan School Board: If you have interest in serving with the Sullivan School Board in the future, please email Stephanie Kleine, Chairperson at SullivanSchoolDistrict.chair@gmail.com with your stated interest. The school board is a 5 member board meeting once monthly. Occasional variations may be required of the schedule but we typically meet from 6:30 through 8:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday. **Our current need is for a Treasurer. We can provide training to the right person**

with some financial background. It has been a pleasure to serve my community as Chair of the Sullivan School Board this year once again.

Sincerely, Stephanie Jacques Kleine, School Board Chair

Please feel welcome to attend our monthly school board meeting or to contact Ken Dassau, Superintendent 603-209-3315 or krdassau@gmail.com or Stephanie Kleine, school board chair 603-209-4151/SullivanSchoolDistrict.chair@gmail.com should you have any questions along the way.

We would love to hear about your children! What great things have they done so far this year? Please email SullivanSchoolDistrict.chair@gmail.com with any news, achievements and stories about your children which we can share in next month's newsletter!

RECIPE CORNER

with Ginni McByrne

I've been on Pinterest and found some really good Crock Pot recipes. So if you are looking for something easy to make check these out Please email your recipes and a brief story and/or helpful hint to sullivanrecipecorner@gmail.com.

Crock Pot Chicken & Gravy

2 packets dry chicken gravy mix	2 cups water
1 (10.75 oz.) can cream of chicken soup	½ cup sour cream (optional)
1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts	1 tsp. garlic powder
Salt & pepper to taste	
Rice, mashed potatoes or noodles, for serving	

Season chicken breast with garlic powder, pepper and a tad bit of salt on both sides. NOTE: the chicken gravy and cream of chicken soup already have salt in them, so don't go overboard on seasoning with salt. In your slow cooker, whisk together the gravy packets, cream of chicken soup and water, until smooth. Add the seasoned chicken breasts. Be sure to get them covered in gravy. Cover and cook on low for about 6-8 hours. Once cooked, break chicken up into chunks using a fork. Stir in sour cream (if using). NOTE: I think the sour cream adds great creaminess to this so I definitely recommend adding it in. Serve over rice, mashed potatoes or noodles. ENJOY!!

Crock Pot Broccoli Beef

1 ½ lbs. flank steak	4 cups broccoli florets
1 tbsp. minced garlic	1 cup beef broth
2/3 cup low sodium soy sauce	1/3 cup brown sugar
1 tbsp. sesame oil	¼ tsp. red chili flakes
2 tbsp. cornstarch & 4 tbsp. cold water	

Grease the inside of a slow cooker. Add (thinly sliced and chopped into 2" pieces) steak, beef broth, soy sauce, brown sugar, sesame oil, garlic & red chili flakes (optional). Cover and cook on high for 2-3 hours or low 4-5 hours. Minutes before serving, uncover the slow cooker and stir. Cover & allow to cook another 20-25 minutes. Just before serving, place broccoli in a large container, filled with ½ " of water & place the lid on in an off-set manner so that the container can vent. Microwave on high for 3 minutes. Drain, stir broccoli into slow cooker, and serve. ENJOY!!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN?

Check out these pages for the answers!

<http://ci.sullivan.nh.us/> Official Town Website

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sullivan-Public-Library> - Sullivan Library

<https://www.facebook.com/SullivanSchoolDistrict> - Sullivan School District page

<https://www.facebook.com/Sullivan-NH-Fire-Rescue> – Sullivan Fire Dept.

<https://www.facebook.com/Nelson-School-PTO> - Nelson PTO

<https://www.facebook.com/sullivanucc> – Sullivan Congregational Church

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ImFromSullivan/> - I'm From Sullivan

<https://www.facebook.com/SullivanNH/> - general Sullivan information

<https://sullivanfun.com/> - a personal blog about Sullivan

SPRING ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP & LUNCH!

May 6

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

Meet in the Town Hall/Church parking lot at 9 am for road assignments and to pick up a few of the familiar blue bags.

Afterwards, a noon lunch sponsored by the Sullivan Conservation Commission will be served in the Fellowship Hall at the church. The food is good and the company even better. For those new to town, it's a great opportunity to meet your neighbors! There is no fee for lunch.

If you can't make it on the 6th but would like to help, trash bags will be available at the Town Hall or call Roger Sweet at 847-3463 to get bags ahead of time.

Getting to know you...

By Marsha Cook

I'm late. I'm late for a very important date. What is the date you ask? It is the newsletter deadline. I am expecting a note or call from the editor any minute.

Now why is that deadline important? Because the newsletter is our most important means of communication in Sullivan. Yes, we have Facebook and a Blog. Not to mention the official town website. But not everyone in town has the internet. And if they do, they many not read the town's social media sites. The Sullivan Newsletter goes to EVERY household in Sullivan and a few outside of Sullivan.

It is your link to what is going on in our small town. The last issue contained not only recipes but a very informative and important article from the Selectmen explaining some of the budget items coming up. I believe this issue will include information from the planning board on several changes to our master plan. These changes are important and dictated by the state regarding Additional Dwelling Units (think in-law apartment or that small shed you are converting into an apartment for the child that will not leave). If you don't read about it before you get to the ballot box, good luck in figuring out what it means.

The newsletter lets you know of events in town. What is happening at the library, when the town committees or selectmen meet, and so on. Did you know the church just had a wonderful silent auction and dessert night? You weren't there, you say. Well, you would have been if you read the newsletter. Now you can only feel sad because you missed it.

When I first moved to town a little over three years ago (Yes, a very short time ago!), I have to admit, I laughed at the newsletter. I came from a world where the town had a real NEWSPAPER. Then I realized this newsletter had all the important stuff I needed to know, just in a smaller format. I can read the New York Times, Boston Globe or Washington Post, if I really want to know what is going on in the world. But what is going on in Sullivan is just as important to me.

So thank you to the volunteers who help edit, seek out new writers, keep everyone on deadline (they have a hard time with me but I have to be inspired to write), pay attention to everything going on in town to insure it is included, then put it all together, copy it, staple it and mail it.

Nelson Agricultural Commission 2017 Lecture Series

- March 25 - Growing Mushrooms with Dave Wichland**
Learn about varieties and the proper conditions for success when growing your own mushrooms. Did you know there is a mushroom farm in Nelson? Learn from the expert!
- April 15 - Pruning Blueberries with Ted Lenk**
This will be a hands on demonstration pruning blueberry bushes at the Nelson Library.
- May 20 - Wattle Fencing Basics with Kathy Schillemat**
Learn the basics of wattle fences and put these new skills to practice while building a small wattle fence around a demonstration garden.

All lectures are free and open to the public.

They take place at **11am** in the

Olivia Rodham Public Library, 1 Nelson Common Rd, Nelson, NH.

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SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday service 9:30 am
Pastor Christopher Cornell
Phone 852-0895
Minister of Music: Phil Crotto (847-3217)
Diaconate Chair: Gaynelle Pratt (847-3271)
Trustee Chair: Phil Crotto (847-3217)
Facility Rental: Chip & Kathy Woodbury (357-3445)

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352-8821

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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.
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Sun 7:30A - 5:30P
Proprietors: The Little Family of Apple Hill
847-9383

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MAPLE SYRUP FOR SALE

All sizes - 1/2 pint - 1/2 gallon
Gardens Rototilled
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