



Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol. 37 No. 5

Sullivan, NH

March – April 2018

SCHOOL & TOWN ELECTION DAY March 13th - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Town & School Elections

Elections for Sullivan School Board Members and Town Officials will take place on Tuesday, March 13 from 11 am to 7 pm at the Town Hall. When you vote, you will receive 2 separate ballots—one for town officers and one for school district officers. A complete list of those running for office follows inside.

Register to Vote

If you have not registered to vote, you may do so at the polls on March 13, with the Supervisors of the Checklist on March 3 at the Town 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 14. **Registrations will not be accepted on March 14.**

Absentee Ballots

Just a reminder - 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 the Town Election and School Election. If at the last minute you find that you are unable to make the March 13th elections and you still want to vote, there still is time. The Town Hall will be open on Monday March 12th, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. You may come in and vote by absentee ballot. Please bring your photo ID along with you.

The Sullivan web page has copies of the ballots posted.

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

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 14 - 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 13 at the polls.**

Note: The Sewing/Quilting Group will not meet on March 12th, the day before Election Day.

SEE INSIDE – CANDIDATE STATEMENTS, WARRANT ARTICLES, BUDGET ITEMS, TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY, FROM THE ARCHIVES, MAPLE WEEKEND IN SULLIVAN AND MORE!

Some Coming Events

March 9 – BINGO Sullivan Town Hall, 6:30P

March 10 - Pancake Breakfast, Nelson School, 8 – 11

March 17 – Rabies Clinic, Monadnock Humane Society, 10 to 1

April 14 – Nelson School Auction, Nelson Town Hall, 6pm

May 5 – Town Clean-up Day, meet at Town Hall, 9a

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

TOWN OFFICES (school candidates follow town information)

Selectman – 3 years

Marsha Cook: My name is Marsha Cook and I am running for Selectman. Since moving here 5 years ago, I have enjoyed the town as well as the folks who live here. This is a special town and very much like the farm town in Southern Illinois where I spent summers growing up.

I have met many people through committees and groups. Stitch and Sew was the first group I joined. Others include Friends of the Library and two book groups. I am the current Assistant Town Treasurer, Chairman of the Library Trustees and an alternate member of the Trustees of the Trust Funds. One of the town committees I served on that gave me a new perspective is the Budget Committee. Here I learned about the difficult but thoughtful distribution of our limited financial resources.

My goal in being Selectman is to maintain the town we love as well as set a good base for the future. If you have questions or concerns, send me an e-mail, marshacook@gmail.com. I would appreciate your vote. No matter who you vote for, please vote. It is important for our future.

Trustee of Trust Funds – 3 years

James Casey: I am running for the office of Trustee of the Trust Funds. I have served as a trustee for Sullivan since 2015, first as an Alternate and currently as Chairman. My wife and I have owned our home in Sullivan since 2009, and we moved here full time in 2015. We have very much enjoyed getting to know our great neighbors and being involved with the town. My career had been in trust and investment management, and I have experience overseeing trusts, establishing investment policies, developing and maintaining procedures and controls, and overseeing vendors such as investment advisers and bank custodians. I enjoy serving with my fellow trustees to assure the town's trusts funds and capital reserve funds are properly managed, and I would appreciate your vote. Thank you.

Library Trustee – 3 years

No candidate

Zoning Board of Adjustment - 3 years

Roger Sweet: I am running for the Zoning Board of Adjustment and would appreciate your vote. The ZBA is an important town committee which is semi-judicial. It is responsible for rendering opinions on applications for special exceptions or variances to the Community Planning Ordinance.

Moderator – 2 years

C. Christopher Pratt: My name is Chris Pratt, and I am a candidate for re-election as Town Moderator. The town has undergone a great deal of change since I was first elected to the position 20 years ago. One thing that is constant, however, is our annual gathering to decide on issues facing the community at our annual town meeting. Thank you for your past confidence in me as your moderator, and I hope to continue in that capacity for another term.

Budget Committee – 3 years

David Jakway:

Cemetery Trustee – 3 years

Mary Hull: I am running for re-election for Cemetery Trustee. I have been involved with the expansions and maintenance for some years now and would like to continue. I would appreciate your vote on March 13th.

A look at the Selectmen's Proposed 2018 Budget

Submitted by: the Sullivan Board of Selectmen

Once again the Selectmen have formulated an "overall" budget based on input from department heads, committee chairs and staff. The proposed overall budget is submitted to the budget committee who formulate the budget that is presented for voting at Town meeting on March 14th.

This article covers the Selectmen's process in preparing the proposed budget. The "overall" budget includes operating expenses, special warrant articles and capital reserve contributions. The Selectmen also consider warrant articles submitted by the public.

Because the newsletter is available a little earlier than the Town Report, the Board of Selectmen is submitting an article in this edition to help the citizens gain a better understanding of how the Board arrived at its recommendations for the coming year as well as what is behind the proposed warrant articles.

Operating Budget

The operating budget funds day-to-day operations of the selectmen (which includes elections, financial, legal/audit, assessing, personnel, building maintenance, insurance, ambulance services, fire mutual aid, health agencies and welfare), policing services, library, planning, cemeteries, fire/rescue, highway/special projects, recreation and conservation.

By law a municipality cannot spend more than the total appropriated at Town Meeting, except in extreme circumstances. Further, it is the town's policy that the total amount of a department's budget cannot typically be overspent. It is not uncommon

to over-spend one line item and under-spend another so long as the total is not exceeded. In those cases where an individual department budget is overspent, it becomes necessary to absorb those overages from other unspent funds.

The 2018 operating budget as proposed by department heads and committee chairs was \$725,421. After review, the Selectmen put forward an operating budget of \$722,689 for consideration by the budget committee. The small difference of \$2,732 is explained below.

Cemetery: A request by the Cemetery Trustees for \$13,700 was trimmed to \$10,700. In addition to regular expenses of \$3,700, the Trustees explained their request included extensive tree work (\$4,000) and headstone repair (\$6,000). Subsequently, the amount requested was amended to \$11,800 because some of the tree work was completed in the 2017 budget year. The headstone repair project is a newer process where a deteriorated headstone is pieced together on a bed of sand and then protected with a frame. The Trustees estimated a cost of \$200 for 30 stones. While the Selectmen support the repair, it was suggested the Trustees might start with a smaller scope to fully understand the cost and success of the restoration and seek additional funds the following year.

Fire/Emergency Management: The Fire Department requested \$33,027 and the Board recommended \$32,527. The minor reduction (\$500) is in the heat/oil line and was based on historical use.

Highway: The Highway Department requested budget of \$278,676 was trimmed to \$277,544. The recommended reduction of \$1,132 is due to a reduction in the diesel line (from \$8,000 to \$6,000), an increase to the propane line (\$1,300 to \$2,200) and a decrease in the social security/Medicare line (\$8,600 to \$8,568).

Special Warrant Articles: The Fire Department requested and the Selectmen proposed a special warrant article in the amount of \$12,500 for breathing apparatus. If approved, this appropriation, combined with existing capital reserve money, would allow the department to replace four or five SCBA air packs.

Capital Reserves: Capital Reserves are established for the purpose of setting aside funds in order to make a future significant purchase or improvement. It is a mechanism to offset the potential layout of large sums of money at any one time.

The 2018 capital reserve budget as proposed by department heads and committee chairs was \$81,300. After review, the Selectmen put forward a capital reserve budget of \$67,000 for consideration by the budget committee.

The difference of \$14,300 is found in the Fire Department Vehicle capital reserve request. The Fire Department requested \$25,000 and the Selectmen proposed \$10,700. In the more immediate future there is a need to replace the rescue vehicle at a cost of about \$50,000. Currently there is about \$70,000 available in the capital reserve. If approved, a contribution of \$10,700 would bring available funds to over \$80,000. Unspent funds would remain in the capital reserve and could possibly be used toward acquiring a new pumper in the next 10 years or so, along with future contributions and other funding sources.

Non-Monetary Warrant Articles

Discontinuance: There are two warrant articles to discontinue (1) the Town Library Energy Efficiency and (2) the Library Expansion Capital Reserves. The Library Energy Efficiency project is complete. There is a balance of \$15.96 that will be returned to the general fund. The funds in the Library Expansion capital reserve were fully expended in 1997. Both warrant articles are housekeeping in nature.

Transfer of funds: Though of no monetary impact, there is another special warrant article to transfer \$7,392 from the general fund to the Forest Fire Fighting Liabilities & Equipment Capital Reserve. In 2016 the Fire Department assisted a neighboring town during a forest fire. The Town paid associated costs from its capital reserve account. Reimbursement for those expenses was received in 2017. In order to make the capital reserve whole, a transfer from the general fund to the capital reserve account is necessary.

Highway Road Agent: The Selectmen are recommending the Highway Road Agent position be changed from elected to appointed. While going through the process of filling the Road Agent vacancy, one common theme heard is that interested candidates do not want to go through the uncertainty of election every two years. Also, appointment broadens the pool of candidates since election to the position requires residency.

Property Tax Exemption: Through a request brought forward from a resident, the Board of Selectmen is proposing the adoption of an exemption for (1) solar energy systems and (2) wood heating energy systems. Each exemption would be in an amount equal to 100% of the assessed value, up to \$10,000, for qualifying systems. Many NH cities and towns offer an exemption for these improvements, and the amount of the exemption is set by the residents. (Note: A property tax exemption is a reduction from the property's assessed value versus a property tax credit which is a sum of money subtracted from the amount of tax due).

Other

During December's discussions with the budget committee, the topic of ambulance services arose primarily because of a recent incident where a paramedic was unavailable when our primary provider, DiLuzio Ambulance Service, responded to a call. It was suggested Sullivan investigate the possibility of entering into an agreement for secondary ambulance service.

In an attempt to identify what services would be provided and when, as well as estimating a cost, it was learned that secondary ambulance service would be provided only when there is a need for a paramedic and one is not available through the

primary provider; in addition to an annual fee of \$1,600.00, the Town would be responsible for any unpaid portion of the ambulance bill (usually if there is no insurance or there are restrictions on the amount paid by a private insurer); as well as covering an intercept fee of \$390 per call (if the secondary provider responds to a call, but the patient is not transported).

At the time of the discussions, our primary ambulance provider responded to 31 calls between April 1 and December 4, 2017. There were 16 transports and 15 no transports. There was one call where no paramedic was available but the responding ambulance personnel were able to provide the necessary care. Based in part that entering into a secondary contract does not guarantee a paramedic response and our primary provider is increasing its paramedic staff it was determined to not include an appropriation for secondary service this year. However, if the Town so directs, a minimum of \$5,500 must be added to the overall budget to fund secondary service.

Summary

As proposed by the Selectmen, the 2018 operating budget (\$722,689) is slightly less than the 2017 approved operating budget (\$723,304); the 2018 capital reserves (\$67,000) is slightly increased over the 2017 approved capital reserves (\$66,500); the special warrant articles equal \$19,892. The overall 2018 budget is \$809,581 where the approved overall 2017 budget was \$807,804.

In closing, the department heads, committee chairs and staff are to be commended for submitting reasonable budget requests. When the Selectmen's budget recommendations differ, it isn't a reflection on those individuals, the services they provide or the goals they have. The Selectmen's objective is merely trying to keep a balance between how to provide the best services possible and planning for the future, yet keeping the budget affordable to the citizens of Sullivan.

We look forward to seeing you at the polls on Tuesday, March 13th and again at Town meeting on Wednesday, March 14th.



“Old” 1997 MSA Pack

Sullivan Fire & Rescue Department 2018 Town Meeting

Things to ponder...



“New” 2017 MSA Pack

With the approaching town meeting time, we thought it important to bring to your attention some pressing issues from your fellow fire and rescue personnel.

We are an all-volunteer department that doesn't receive any reimbursement for any calls, whose members invest many personal hours toward certifications and training to help the town's department be able to function. This year, we need your help to support much overdue upgrades to essential equipment. We have a warrant article this year requesting \$12,500 (to be combined with the Breathing Apparatus Capital Reserve) for the purchase new airpacks.

Our current SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) packs are in dire need of replacement. These SCBA are crucial to our ability to safely and quickly enter burning buildings to rescue persons in trouble as well as to fight a fire with an interior attack if needed. Our current packs are from 1997 and are pushing the limits of their use. They are no longer covered under warranty and repair parts are becoming unavailable. In addition, they are currently **NOT** NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) compliant, but more importantly, their age potentially compromises our ability to effectively and safely rescue and fight fires within our town.

We encourage you to support this warrant article. If anyone in town is interested in joining the Sullivan Fire and Rescue Department, please feel free to drop by the station on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. We would love to show you around and would welcome an extra hand.

Thanks for your continued support over the years. Chief Henry

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL BEGINS IN MARCH!

March 24, 28 & 31 and April 14, 18 & 28 and May 12, 16 & 26 .

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

Free for Sullivan Residents!

Keene Recycling Center, 55 Old Summit Road, Keene

<https://ci.keene.nh.us/public-works/household-hazardous-waste-schedule>

Planning Board Is Seeking New Members

Submitted by: Leslie Casey, Planning Board Chair

Are you interested in helping make Sullivan a better place to live? Join us! The planning board is seeking new members: we currently have slots for 2 alternates. We only meet once a month for 1 to 2 hours in the evening, and you will find that we deal with a lot of interesting issues!

A key objective of the planning board is to help implement the Town's vision for the future, as spelled out in the 2015 Sullivan Master Plan (available at the Sullivan Public Library and at the Town Hall). By periodically updating, improving, and streamlining our regulations and ordinances, we get closer to that goal line. It is a team effort, and the more perspectives and expertise we can bring to bear, the better the final product will be for everyone.

If you are interested, or just want to check things out, please come to one of our meetings – we meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm in the Town Hall. We hope to see you there! If you would like more information, you may contact Leslie Casey: phone 847-3154, or email lcasey29@hotmail.com.

Important Information about Dog Control

Submitted by: the Sullivan Board of Selectmen

In the 2017 Town report the Selectmen stated they would be undertaking the writing of a local ordinance regarding dog control. This was in response to several complaints made to the Selectmen, Sheriff's Department and State Police about dogs running at large, dog bite incidents, menacing or threatening dogs accosting people in the public way or off their owner's property, barking dogs and dog excrement on neighboring properties.

The Selectmen reviewed State of New Hampshire RSA 466 which covers a variety of topics including licensing of dogs & cats, unlicensed dogs, remedies & penalties for injuries done by dogs, muzzling & restraining dogs, damages to game, fines & penalties, and vaccination requirements. Without a locally adopted ordinance, RSA 466 is the law and is enforceable by policing authorities.

One subsection of RSA 466 (specifically RSA 466:31) addresses dog control. In essence this section states it is unlawful for any dog to run "at large" (meaning off the premises of the owner... and not under the control of any person) except when accompanied by their owner AND when used for hunting, guarding, working or herding livestock. This means if you are out for a walk on the road, your dog must be leashed or under your direct control.

This same subsection addresses dogs as a menace, a nuisance or vicious. Under this section a dog is considered a nuisance, menace or vicious in a variety of conditions, for example:

- Being at large
- Barking for periods greater than ½ hour
- Barking during the night hours
- Digging, scratching, excreting or causing waste or garbage to be scattered on property of others
- Growling, snapping at, or chasing a person, bicycles or vehicles in the public way
- Biting a person

It became clear that RSA 466 and its sub-sections is the law enforced by policing officials even when no local ordinance has been adopted. Consequently, the Selectmen decided against writing a local, more stringent, ordinance. However, if residents of Sullivan desire an ordinance more stringent than RSA 466 they should communicate that to the Board of Selectmen.

The Selectmen also explored the possibility of appointing an animal control officer, but it seemed duplicative since there is already existing law as well as enforcers of that law.

Note: The full text of RSA 466 is available at <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/xlv/466/466-mrg.htm>

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.

Affordable Public Rabies Vaccination and Microchip Clinic for Dogs and Cats **Monadnock Humane Society**

An affordable, convenient clinic for the community! The Clinic is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Reservations are not required. Saturday, March 17th, held from 10 am - 1 pm.

PRICING: Rabies Vaccine: \$15.00, Microchip (24-PetWatch): \$20.00. Held at MHS Guinane Training Center. For more information, call MHS at 603-352-9011, ext. 101.

ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

SCHOOL OFFICES

School Board Member – 3 years

Stephanie Jacques Kleine: I have served as chair of the Sullivan School Board since the forming of the Sullivan School District and participated in the Sullivan School options feasibility study committee with several of our current committee members. I would like to ask for your support in continuing on to another three-year term serving our town and the Sullivan School District School Board.

I believe in the pathway we have laid for our children's future. I am energized by the important work done by the volunteers, our leaders, in this town. We should be very proud of our community.

Thank you for your continued support. Stephanie Jacques Kleine

School Board Member – 3 years

Write-in: Malinda Sherpa: Hi, my name is Malinda Scherpa, and I am asking you to consider voting for me as a write in candidate for the Sullivan School District. I have been on the Sullivan School Board since our withdrawal from the Monadnock School District and was also on the withdrawal committee. I am a pediatrician working in Keene as well as the mother of 3 young children, 2 of whom attend Nelson School. I feel it is very important for all of our children to have access to high quality public education that will help them reach their full potential. I also understand the importance of doing this in a way that is affordable to the taxpayers of Sullivan. Thank you and I hope you will consider voting for me on March 13.

School Board Treasurer – 3 years – HELP NEEDED!

No candidate: SSD is seeking a responsible volunteer with a financial background to act as District Treasurer. As we have a bookkeeper who manages the majority of the district's finances, the duties and time requirements of the Treasurer are manageable but do require diligence, timely communication and oversight.

The Treasurer will act as liaison between the board and the bookkeeper, attend monthly meetings, deliver manifest and report to the board on the district's financial status, attend annual audit, work with the business manager and superintendent as needed, review financial reports, ensure all records and reports are properly filed, and oversee that all checks have been signed and delivered monthly.

Sullivan School District Warrant 2018

(Article 5 has an explanation attached with it – please read)

To the inhabitants of the Town of Sullivan in the County of Cheshire qualified to vote in School District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said town, Tuesday, the 13th day of March next at 11:00 AM of the clock to act upon the following by written ballot; the polls not to close before 7:00 PM.

Article 1: To choose all necessary School District officers for the ensuing year.

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said town, Wednesday, the 14th day of March next at 7:00 PM of the clock to act upon the following subjects.

Article 2: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **\$1,712,223** for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the School District Officials and Agents, and the payment of the statutory obligations of the district for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year. **The School Board and The Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.** This article does not include appropriations voted in other warrant articles.

Article 3: To see if the Sullivan School District will vote to raise and appropriate up to **\$25,000** to add to the Special Education and Tuition Expendable Trust fund established by the voters of the District in March, 2013 and authorize the school board to transfer said sum from the year end unassigned fund balance (surplus) available on June 30, 2018. **The School Board and The Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.**

Article 4: To see if the Sullivan School District will vote to raise and appropriate **\$25,000** to add to the Special Education and Tuition Expendable Trust Fund established by the voters of the District in March, 2013. **The School Board and The Budget Committee recommend this appropriation.**

Article 5: Sixth Grade AREA - Shall the school district accept the provisions of RSA 195-A (as amended) for the establishment of an AREA school located in Keene to serve the 6th grade from the school districts of Keene, Stoddard, Sullivan and Surry in accordance with the provisions of the plan on file with the district clerk?

RE: Warrant Article #5 in the School Districts Warrant to be voted on at town meeting-

To further explain what this warrant article pertains to, it is solidifying a long term agreement between Sullivan and Keene District for the education of our 6th graders at Keene Middle School. We approved a similar agreement last year for grades 7-8 and 9-12. This agreement originally started as a 20 year plan. We jumped in half way at/near the 10 year mark. By joining in with this agreement with the 6th grade, it does also reduce our tuition rates, a benefit which we've graciously enjoyed beginning this school year 2017-18 without a formal 6th grade agreement in place.

Thank you for your continued support of important decisions for the Sullivan School District.

Article 6: To see if the District will vote to accept reports of agents and committees as printed in the School District Annual Report contained within the Sullivan Town Report.

Article 7: To transact any business which may legally come before this meeting and to listen to opinions of a purely advisory nature as regards to the conduct of School District affairs for the ensuing year.

From the Archives

by Chris Pratt

Here is the annual look back at previous town meetings.

10 years ago. The 2008 warrant contained 38 articles signed by selectmen Richard Hotchkiss and Cheryl Labadie. Road Agent, Randy Smith, recounted a harsh winter where the temperature yo-yoed from zero to well above freezing. This froze culverts and rutted the gravel roads. In the first week of March, the temperature was constantly near zero. A few days later the temperature was in the 60s. The result was that the gravel roads turned to mud before another freeze was predicted. Randy and Paul Yawarski went to work at 6:30 p.m. on March 15th to rake and smooth the gravel roads as they froze. They finished at 2:45 a.m. Through all of this, the trucks and other equipment kept breaking down leading Randy to comment "When a truck is out of commission, the town seems larger." Police Chief Karl Wheeler noted an increase in calls for the year, but the number of automobile accidents was down. He also lamented the loss of his assistant, Jason Yarosz, to the Swanzey Police Department. Fire Chief Alan Henry noted that members of the department volunteered over 6300 man hours for emergency response, training and maintenance. The new Town Clerk, Mary Hull, reported that the clerk's offices in the Town Hall were running smoothly. Since the installation of new computer systems, residents were now able to register motor vehicles in town as well as obtain marriage licenses, dog licenses and hunting licenses.

25 years ago. The 1993 warrant contained 20 articles signed by selectmen Richard Labadie, Benjamin Darby and Alan Corindia. Voters approved a new capital reserve fund for major repairs to town buildings. They also approved the dissolution of the Ashuelot Valley Refuse Disposal District which was an effort to form a regional land-fill facility. The program was never realized, and the town voted 73 to 1 to end participation in the project. Librarian Sarah Lucy reported on changes to the library including the installation of its first computer. This enabled faster inter-library loan on-line reference books as well as internet service for patrons. The walls were repainted and the Friends of the Library were a great help moving the books around, so the walls could be done.

50 years ago. The 1968 warrant contained 15 articles signed by Selectmen Gardner Turner, Harvey Swett and Walfred G. Wiklund. The Town Meeting voted to establish a committee to investigate the feasibility of having a building code and zoning ordinance for Sullivan. 7 people were appointed to the committee to be chaired by John H. McMahon. The meeting also approved a bond for \$15,000 to repair Class V roads in town. The selectmen's report noted that the town road grader (built in 1940) had been rebuilt with a new engine and transmission because there was no longer a way to get spare parts for the old drive train.

100 years ago. The 1918 warrant contained 13 articles signed by selectmen Herbert S. Currier, Eugene Marston and Arthur H. Rugg. The increasing scrutiny of local accounting practices by the state was reflected in Article 11 which asked for money to purchase the books and voucher forms required under the 1917 finance statute. \$20 was enough to cover it. There was no school report for that year.

200 years ago. The 1818 warrant contained 11 articles signed by selectmen Joseph Seward, John Wilson and Stephen Foster. There were the usual articles to support the town (\$100), the schools (\$250) and to repair the highways (\$350). This was one of the first town meetings where there were no roads to be accepted or discontinued. Finally, there was the annual squabble about supporting Minah Hibbard with the usual solution of 12 families volunteering to "keep" her for one month each.

"Library Footnotes"

I would like to start out by thanking our patrons for their patience and understanding. The Statewide Interlibrary Loan System (ILL), NHU-PAC, has been out of commission since the first part of December. Although the loss of technology has slowed down the process of ordering materials from other libraries, we are still able to obtain books from other libraries.

The 1st **Tuesday Cookbook Group** has come up with an ingenious solution to the problem of ordering cookbooks for their meetings. Until the ILL system is up and running again, the group will be making dishes that begin with the first letter of the meeting month. In February, we ate foods that began with the letter "F". At the up-coming March meeting, our focus will be on dishes that begin with "M". Already making the suggestion list are: Mississippi Mud, meatballs, macaroni and there was even talk of meatloaf. Stop by the library March 6th around 12:30 pm to see and taste the "M"arvelous, "M"outhwatering treats the group comes up with this month.

The **2nd Saturday Book Group** has been reading some diverse selections. January's book, *Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* by Alan Bradley, took place in 1950's rural England. It was about an eleven-year-old, Flavia deLuce, who is an amateur sleuth and poison expert who discovers a body in the garden. Flavia must pull herself away from the chemistry lab in order to clear her father of murder. During February, we went a little further back in time to 1137 AD and visiting Wales where the monks of Shrewsbury Abbey are searching for the relics of a saint to claim for their chapel in *A Morbid Taste for Bones* by Ellis Perry. The local clan objects to this transfer of the relic, and the next day the local leader is found murdered. Brother Cadfael is put to the challenge to bring peace and satisfaction to all parties involved. This is the first book in the Brother Cadfael mystery series and was made into a PBS series in the late 1990's starring Derek Jacobi. This month has brought us back into the 21st century while still touring the British Isles. In *Wicked Autumn* by G. M. Malliet, our hero Max Tudor, a former MI5 is now a vicar in a small, quiet village. As with all small, quiet villages, his serenity comes to a quick halt when a parishioner turns up dead at the harvest fete.

The **3rd Thursday Group** began the year reading *An Ordinary Man* by Paul Rusesabagina. This book is a compelling and horrifying account of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. The true story revolves around the author's efforts during a 100-day stand-off between the Tutsi refugees, packed eight to a room, seeking refuge in his hotel and the mob outside. February's selection was the American classic *My Antonia* by Willa Cather. It is a story of two people, Jim who leaves the East Coast to live in Nebraska with his grandparents and Antonia, a Bohemian immigrant whose family also moves to the prairies of Nebraska. The book follows their deep friendship and abiding love through the years. In March, the group has selected *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak. The book is narrated by Death – yes, that's who the narrator is. In January 1939 Nazi Germany, we meet 10-year old Liesel who is on a train with her mother and little brother on her way to live with a foster family. When her brother dies on the train, they leave the train to bury him. It is during this stop-over, Liesel steals a copy of *The Gravedigger's Handbook* from a young grave diggers coat, but Liesel cannot read. She eventually learns to read and steals more books. Liesel is befriended by the mayor's wife who gives her a blank journal in which Liesel can write her own story. Liesel titles the book *The Book Thief*.

Our **Saturday Conversation Café** has grown to the point where we need a bigger table. Come meet with your neighbors and catch up with the happenings around town on Saturday mornings. Most Saturdays, our town archivist is in attendance, dispensing a lot of local history. This is one 'club' where just showing up is the only membership requirement and there are no dues. And, of course, there is food!

It is with great appreciation that we acknowledge those library supporters whose donations of time and materials are a mainstay of the growth and success of our library.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold its monthly meetings on March 8, April 12 and May 10, 2018 at 3:30 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.

Newspapers Wanted

Do you have a few unwanted old newspapers (newsprint only)? A resident is in need of some and would appreciate it, if you drop them off at the Sullivan Library.

14th Annual Sullivan Fire Department Yard Sale

Are you ready to start your spring cleaning but don't know what to do with all of those things that aren't ready for the trash yet? Step away from the trash can and donate them to the Sullivan Fire and Rescue for the 14th 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 25th and May 26th.

Nelson Elementary School

Principal's Report

Feb. 5th, 2018

Enrollment Update.

K. / R. - 14 students (N-8, S-6) Grade 1 - 14 students (N-8, S-6)
Grade 2 - 9 students (N-4, S-5) Grade 3 - 14 students (N-7, S-7)
Grade 4 - 12 students (N-5, S-7) Grade 5 - 5 students (N-3, S-2)

Total enrollment - 68 (N-35, S-33)

Since my last report, we have honored the January SPIRIT [**S** (safety) **P** (be problem solvers) **I** (include everyone) **R** (respect) **I** (be In control) **T** (treat others nicely)] winners in each classroom. The winners were Lucia Blanchard (Ms. Benner's class), Olive McBride (Ms. Fortier's class), and Natalia Blanchard (Mrs. Roach's class). Mrs. Whippie chose not to award this to a single student this month. Our Mathlete of the Month contest is to recognize the students who show the most math growth or progress during the month as measured using the Moby Max program. The January winners were Lucas Dunn (Ms. Benner's class), Olive McBride (Ms. Fortier's class), Emma Beers (Mrs. Roach's class), and April Warner (Mrs. Whippie's class).

January was also Math Month at Nelson Elementary School. All classes focused a little more on improving their math skills. Our annual Math Bee was held on Wednesday, 1/31/18. After some practice and qualifying rounds, two students from each grade qualified for the actual Math Bee. The following are the representatives from the various grades: Kindergarten; Lucas Dunn and Amelia Faulkner, Grade 1; Cody Daigle (who was absent for the contest), Lily Pike, and Phoebe Jenkins, Grade 2; Wren Marean and Catie Yarosz, Grade 3; Caitlyn Hutchins and Zoey Milotte, Grade 4; Aiden Beers and April Warner, and Grade 5; Jillian Goodnow and Ava Ricard. In a duel for grade winners, Lucas, Lily, Catie, Caitlyn, April and Ava edged out their classmates to claim the top spot. Our overall school Math Bee winner was Lucas Dunn who answered an amazing 33 grade appropriate math facts in 60 seconds. Nice job by all the students and special thanks to Ms. Benner who organized and facilitated the contest!

Our construction project continues to progress. The finishing touches are being put on the inside of the building. We are planning on moving into the new space by mid-February. If things go as planned, we will begin to utilize the rooms for their intended purpose when we return from February break on March 5th. Additionally, we had some of the trees close to the school cleared away. This project was initiated by concerns for how tall the trees were relative to their proximity to the school. If any fell due to an ice or wind storm, the potential for damage was great. That work is nearing completion as well. Our students have gotten used to all the distracting sounds of the various projects and look forward to the projects being completed soon.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Upton, Principal

Nelson School PTO News An Auction in Nelson & BINGO in Sullivan!

The PTO is underway to plan the 11th **Annual PTO Auction** which is scheduled for **April 14th, 2018 @ 5:00PM** at the Nelson Town Hall. This is the main fundraiser for the PTO all year long. We are looking for new & gently used items to auction off. We are also looking for some large ticket items, a weekend overnight stay, concert tickets, a cord of wood or ton of pellets, summer camps scholarships, local artwork, art classes, a service you can provide-yard work, house cleaning, etc. There will also be a children's auction, if you have children's item to donate. If you have something to donate, please contact Tammy Rondeau 499-3768.

Please join us on April 14th for an evening of community fun & great food. Stop at the Nelson Town Hall during the day to preview our items, get a bidding number and sign in. The children's auction starts at 4 pm and all school children get play money to bid on items with. Once the children's auction is over, we transition into the public auction. We plan to have approximately 200 items for sale including items the children have made at school. Many local businesses support our auction by donating items and gift cards. Please visit our auction site to preview items; visit often as this is updated regularly.

<https://charityauction.bid/nelsonschoolptoauction>

Some items already donated include local artwork, T-shirts from The Mountain, 2 brand new sewing machines, pizza gift certificates, handmade jewelry, many passes to various museums in NH & MA, overnight stay at a Bed & breakfast in VT & NH, Canobie Lake Park tickets, 2 nights of camping, Car washes, Targett Cleaners gift certificate, Camp Takodah gift certificate up to 2 weeks of camp, and so much more.

Although the school is located in Nelson and most events take place at the school, the PTO is branching out to Sullivan. To bring our communities closer together **March Bingo will be happening at the Sullivan Town Hall** this year. This is a free event with prizes for each game. Children are welcome. Bring your own Bingo Dauber or marker for an hour or so of fun. March 9 at 6:30 PM.

The Spaghetti Dinner on February 9th was a success again this year! We had about 45 people come to enjoy dinner and fellowship. A big Thank you to Cindy Hutchins for cooking and to everyone who donated something to make this a success.

Check out the Nelson School PTO Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NelsonPTO/> Follow us to keep up with the happenings from the PTO.

Mar 9	BINGO at Sullivan Town Hall (6:30P)
Mar 10	Pancake Breakfast (8-11A) Mrs. Roach's class
Mar 26 - 30	Children's Stage Adventure Residency
Mar 30	"The Sword of Excalibur" play at KMS (6:30P)
Apr 12	"Lend an Ear" musical assembly at school
Apr 14	School Auction (Nelson Town Hall - 6P)

Sullivan's Little Country Store Recognized

In 2017 New Hampshire author and humorist Rebecca Rule wrote a book, *Sixty Years of Cuttin' the Cheese*, to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Calef's Country Store in Barrington, NH and Joel Sherburne who has worked at Calef's for sixty years. The last chapter of the book is titled "A Few Other Remarkable New England Country Stores Well Worth the Trip". It lists our own Sullivan store on page 101 as follows:

Sullivan's Little Country Store, Sullivan – The homemade doughnuts are legendary.
Congratulations, John, and it's great to have you back in business!

Risa Keene to Speak at Sullivan Church
April 28 – 9:30 a.m. service

Risa and Doug Keene, Sullivan residents, recently returned to the USA having lived in Africa for a little over two years. They were in Tanzania and Uganda each for 1 1/2 months and then moved to their permanent home in Lesotho.

Lesotho is a very poor, small country, about the size of Maryland, consisting of 2 million people. It is completely surrounded by South Africa. Doug worked for LeBoHA (Lesotho Boston Health Alliance) where he taught Family Practice residents from Lesotho. In addition to this teaching and administrative position, he also did weekly clinical work in nearby communities.

Although Risa did not have a job, when they arrived she quickly became involved in different aspects of the community. She developed friendships with people she bumped into on a daily basis, learned how to weave at the Crafts Center, was a frequent visitor at the School for the Deaf, did crafts with the neighborhood kids, volunteered at Help Lesotho (a nonprofit organization in the region where they lived), assisted a special educator at the Ministry of Education and learned to speak Sesotho.

Come see and hear about their time in Lesotho, learn about this beautiful country and find out what it's like to immerse yourself in a culture that is so different than your country of origin.

EASTER SERVICES at the Sullivan Church

Palm Sunday, March 25 will include traditional palms. This service will mark a return to the 9:30 am service in the sanctuary after the cold winter season.

Maunder Thursday Tenebrae service, preceded with a soup and bread meal will be held on March 29 at 6:30 pm in Friendship Hall at the church.

Easter Sunrise Service will be held on April 1 at 6:30 am at the church. A complimentary light breakfast will be served afterwards.

A traditional **Easter Service** will be at 9:30 am in the sanctuary. Please join us for any or all services – **everyone is welcome!**

MANY THANKS to all who donated to and/or attended the Awesome Silent Auction & Dessert Buffet at the Sullivan Church on February 24th. It was a fun event with great desserts and good company. We look forward to seeing you all next year!

Nelson Agricultural Commission 2018 Lecture Series

March 31 -Protect your garden and livestock, fencing options with Tiger Batchelder Ranchers first started using electric fences more than a hundred years ago as a way to keep cattle in and keep them from being injured by barbed wire. Here in Nelson electric fencing has saved many a garden from woodchucks and deer. Simple fences help chickens and sheep roam protected from predators.

April 28 - Pruning Apple Trees with Ted Lenk

This will be a hands-on demonstration pruning Apple trees at the Nelson Library.

May 19 - Soil Workshop – Instructors TBA

Curious about no-till gardening, making soil with hugelkultur, discover how to determine the make-up of your soil. Bring your questions, a jar and a scoop of your soil to this hands on workshop. Rain or shine.

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.

NH MAPLE WEEKEND IN SULLIVAN

March 24 & 25

The N. H. Maple Producers Association will be hosting the 21st Annual Maple Weekend on March 24 & 25. 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 24 & 25, 10am - 3pm

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

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

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.

RECIPE CORNER
with Ginni McByrne
Classic New England Maple Syrup Pie

Sweet, delicious and easy to make. Just make sure to leave time for it to chill in the fridge for at least 2 hours before serving. Overnight is fine too. A moderate 350-degree oven ensures that the filling bakes up silky-smooth.

Serves 8

1 (9-inch) pie dough round, baked and cooled completely
1 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups pure maple syrup
 $\frac{2}{3}$ cup heavy cream
 $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
5 tablespoons unsalted butter
2 tablespoons cornstarch
3 large eggs plus 2 large yolks
2 teaspoons cider vinegar

Serve with unsweetened whipped cream, crème fraîche or whipped cream flavored with a bit of bourbon.

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bring maple syrup, cream, and salt to boil in medium saucepan. Add butter and whisk until melted. Reduce heat to medium-low and whisk in cornstarch. Bring to simmer and cook for 1 minute, whisking frequently. Transfer to large bowl and let cool at least 30 minutes. Whisk in eggs and yolks and vinegar until smooth. (Cooled filling can be refrigerated for up to 24 hours. Whisk to recombine and proceed with step 2, increasing baking time to 55 to 65 minutes.)

2. Place cooled crust on rimmed baking sheet, and pour filling into crust. Bake until just set, 35 to 45 minutes. Let pie cool completely on wire rack, about 2 hours. Transfer to refrigerator and chill until fully set, at least 2 hours or up to 24 hours. Serve cold or at room temperature.

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

To reheat a pizza so that the base is out-of-the-oven crisp, heat your leftover slices in a fry pan on low-medium heat on the stove until warm and wave goodbye to the days of soggy microwave pizza.

*"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did,
but people will never forget how you made them feel."
(Maya Angelou)*

SPRING ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP & LUNCH!

May 5

Everyone's help is needed to clean Sullivan's roadsides again this spring. Unfortunately, spring and snow melt generally mean 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 5th 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.

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 21 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm and continues Wednesday afternoons through May 2. 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 worked 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.

We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newsletter. However, you should always call ahead or check the website to confirm dates, times, location and other information.

JUSTICE of the PEACE
and
Notary Public
Mary Hull 847-9718

SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday service 9:30 am
Pastor Christopher Cornell
Phone 852-0895
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TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AVAILABLE!

Volunteers provide rides to seniors, veterans,
disabled, etc. To schedule a ride or volunteer,
call:



(603) 499-8956 or

CVTC 1-877-428-2882, ext. 5

14th Annual Sullivan Fire Department Yard Sale

Are you ready to start your spring cleaning but don't know what to do with all of those things that aren't ready for the trash yet? Step away from the trash can and donate them to the Sullivan Fire and Rescue for the 14th 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 25th and May 26th.

TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY May 5

Meet at town hall at 9am for road assignments and to pick up blue bags. Free lunch at noon for everyone in the church meeting hall! Vegetarian lunch selections will be available. See inside for more information.

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.

SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER
PO Box 110
Sullivan, NH 03445

POSTAL PATRON
SULLIVAN, NH 03445

TOWN PHONE NUMBERS

Town Hall 847-3316
Town Highway Dept. 847-3366
Fire Station 847-9020
Sullivan Library 847-3458
Sullivan Post Office 847-9720
Nelson School 847-3408
Keene Middle School 357-9020
Keene High School 352-0640
Sheriff (non-emergency) 352-4238

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 full page. Political ads are \$25 (up to 1/4 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 May 2018.** 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

