



Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol. 38 No. 3

Sullivan, NH

Nov. Dec. 2018

GENERAL ELECTION DAY - Nov. 6

NH's General Election is Nov. 6th with voting from 8 am to 7 pm at the Sullivan Town Hall. You do not need to declare a party to vote in this election. Absentee ballots are available from Town Clerk, Mary Hull. Stop by the Town Hall during regular office hours or call 847-3316. Sample ballots are on the town website and posted at the town hall, library and post office. <http://ci.sullivan.nh.us/>

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

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Nov. 10, 2018

The Friends of the Sullivan Library are hosting their annual Country Christmas Craft Fair at the Sullivan Congregational Church on Nov. 10th between 9 am and 2 pm. Featured items will include: crafts, book sale, quilted items, knit and crocheted items, baked goods, note cards, painted tables, house plants, stained glass, decorations and more! There will also be a raffle for a handmade quilt - on view now at the library.

Snacks and a luncheon of homemade soups, sandwiches, beverages and desserts will be available.

The **2019 Sullivan Calendar** with delightful photographs taken by talented Sullivan people will be available for \$15. It would be a wonderful holiday gift for family/friends near and far! Check out the July picture of the fire truck and the March aerial view of Ellis reservoir- and all the other photos! Calendars can also be purchased now at the library. Help spread the word!

SANTA DAY IN SULLIVAN - Santa is visiting Sullivan on **Saturday, December 1*** from 1 to 3 pm in the Sullivan Town Hall. Visit with Sullivan's own Santa Claus, here on a special trip just to see you! You can have your picture taken with Santa - free. Do your holiday shopping – gifts only 25¢ each! There will be lots of gift items for you to choose from for family and friends. Select gifts and have the elves wrap them or wrap your own at the gift wrap table. Come and join the holiday fun!! Sponsored by the Friends of the Sullivan Library.

*Snow date is December 8 same time and place.

7th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER - SUNDAY, DEC. 9 - The Sullivan Recreation Committee will be hosting their annual Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 9th at the town hall. Dinner will be from 6 pm - 7 pm, followed by a visit from Santa from 7 pm - 8 pm. All Sullivan residents are invited to attend. Each family is asked to bring food items for the potluck. All children who will be attending must be registered by November 25th! Late registration for children cannot be accepted due to Santa's visit. The registration form follows in this newsletter. If you have any questions please call Peggy at 313-4929 or Barbara at 355-6667.

RUSSIAN SINGERS CONCERT AT SULLIVAN CHURCH – Monday, Dec. 3rd at 7 pm. The St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble, from St. Petersburg, Russia, an independent group founded in 2003, returns for another concert here in Sullivan at the church. This highly professional *a capella* quartet entertains with superb musicality and a bit of humor. The Ensemble has been touring the US twice a year for almost 15 years and the members are a joy to hear and meet. You won't want to miss this! Their amazing voices and the wonderful acoustics in the church guarantee to please.

Free admission; a free will offering for the ensemble will be taken at intermission and light refreshments will be served afterwards. CDs and Russian craft items will be for sale. (Cash only)

News from the Selectmen

Submitted by: Laura Merrifield, Chair

Job Opening – Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

The Town of Sullivan is accepting resumes until Wednesday, November 7, 2018, for the position of Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen.

This multi-faceted position provides assistance and administrative support to the Board of Selectmen as assigned and directed by the Board and will include a variety of general administrative tasks and minimal accounting functions. The hours are Monday from 4:30 PM to the end of Selectmen's meetings and Tuesday-Thursday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Interested persons must possess the following **minimum** qualifications: Proficiency with Microsoft Word and Excel, ability to effectively communicate (verbally and in writing) with the general public and other municipal departments, accounting and/or budgeting experience as well as general office experience. Knowledge of municipal processes, general accounting and ability to work with limited supervision highly desirable. Dependability and flexibility a must. This is a non-benefitted position with the exception of paid holidays and vacation time. Pay commensurate with experience.

Respond by Wednesday, November 7, 2018 with resume to: Town of Sullivan PO Box 110, Sullivan NH 03445
ATTN: Board of Selectmen.

A more complete job description can be obtained upon request.

Sullivan Budget Committee - Notice of Vacancy

Submitted by: Al Merrifield, Budget Committee Chair

The Sullivan Budget Committee currently has two vacancies. The term of both positions begins around December 2018 and would end with Town meeting in March 2019. The duties include attendance at, and participation in, 5 or 6 evening meetings with various town departments, Board of Selectmen and School Board in order to prepare for the upcoming 2019 budget.

The current Budget Committee is comprised of Al Merrifield (Chair), John Bolles, Dave Jakway, Mike Blanchard as well as School Representative Paul Bolduc and Selectmen's Representative Marsha Cook. If you know any of these folks, give them a call and ask them about their experience serving on this important committee. It's a great way to learn more about how your Town and School operate, help prepare for immediate and future needs and have an impact on spending.

If you have an interest in serving on this committee, reside in Sullivan and have a few evenings available, please contact Al Merrifield at 847-3183 merrifield@myfairpoint.net or contact the Selectmen's office at 847-3316 or townofsullivan@myfairpoint.net by November 1, 2018.

2019 Budget Process Coming Up

The Selectmen are beginning discussions with departments for the purpose of submitting a proposed 2019 budget for review by the Budget Committee. In December the Budget Committee will meet with the departments and selectmen to finalize the budget to be considered at Town Meeting. There will be opportunities for the public to comment on the budget prior to Town Meeting. More details to follow in the next edition of the newsletter.

Public Notice

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on November 8, 2018, December 13, 2018 and January 10, 2019 at the 3:30 pm at the library. The purpose of the meetings will be to formally receive any donations, hear reports, and conduct any business related to the administration of the library. As always, the public is welcome.

ON THE BALLOT IN NOVEMBER:

On Nov. 6 New Hampshire voters will vote one way or the other on two questions (printed below) that would amend the state constitution. One would allow any taxpayer who is registered to vote to sue local or state governments alleging misuse of public funds. The other would create a right to "live free from governmental intrusion in private or personal information." They require approval by two-thirds of voters to be adopted.

2018 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT QUESTIONS

Constitutional Amendments Proposed by the 2018 General Court

1. "Are you in favor of amending article 8 of the first part of the constitution to read as follows:

[Art.] 8. [Accountability of Magistrates and Officers; Public's Right to Know.] All power residing originally in, and being derived from, the people, all the magistrates and officers of government are their substitutes and agents, and at all times accountable to them. Government, therefore, should be open, accessible, accountable and responsive. To that end, the public's right of access to governmental proceedings and records shall not be unreasonably restricted. The public also has a right to an orderly, lawful, and accountable government. Therefore, any individual taxpayer eligible to vote in the State, shall have standing to petition the Superior Court to declare whether the State or political subdivision in which the taxpayer resides has spent, or has approved spending, public funds in violation of a law, ordinance, or constitutional provision. In such a case, the taxpayer shall not have to demonstrate that his or her personal rights were impaired or prejudiced beyond his or her status as a taxpayer. However, this right shall not apply when the challenged governmental action is the subject of a judicial or administrative decision from which there is a right of appeal by statute or otherwise by the parties to that proceeding."

(Passed by the N.H. House 309 Yes 9 No; Passed by State Senate 22 Yes 2 No) CACR 15

2. "Are you in favor of amending the first part of the constitution by inserting after article 2-a a new article to read as follows:

[Art.] 2-b. [Right to Privacy.] An individual's right to live free from governmental intrusion in private or personal information is natural, essential, and inherent."

(Passed by the N.H. House 235 Yes 96 No; Passed by State Senate 15 Yes 9 No) CACR 16

Holiday schedule for quilting/sewing group...

The quilting/sewing group (aka S & B or Sew & Sews) meets once a week in the lower meeting hall of the Sullivan Church, Monday afternoons at 1 pm – lower entrance at rear. Anyone interested in getting together once a week with a congenial group to sew, knit, craft or just visit is invited to attend. Want to learn to quilt or knit? There are people who can help. Questions? Call Mary Hull at 847-9718 or see her at the Town Clerk's office.

No meetings the Monday before Election Day (Nov. 5), the Monday before Thanksgiving (Nov. 19), the Monday before Christmas (Dec. 24) or on Dec. 31.

"Library Footnotes"

For those of you who are old enough to remember the old CCR song: "Who'll Stop the Rain?" I ask this question: "Have you found yourself humming it lately." Just remember that rainy days are good for visits to the library, and curling up with a good book and a hot cup of tea/coffee/hot chocolate (circle the appropriate choice).

The Tuesday Cookbook Club had fun with "O for October" at the last meeting – Onion Casserole, Oatmeal cookies, Orzo salad, Onion soup and n'Olio pizza (with caramelized onions, olives) just to name a few of the 'outstanding' treats enjoyed by all. Next month's theme is "N for November." If you are free, please stop in and join us for good food and good conversation. **Due to the conflict with Election Day, the meeting date has been changed to Tuesday, November 13th at 12:30.**

The Thursday Book Club just finished reading *Remarkable Creatures* by Tracy Chevalier. "It's the story of how one woman's special gift transcends class and social prejudice to lead to some of the most important discoveries of the nineteenth century as well as a revealing portrait of the intricate and resilient nature of female friendship." The group's next book is *The Martian* by Andy Weir. If you've seen the movie starring Matt Damon, you'll enjoy the book.

The Saturday Book Club just finished the second book in the Maggie Hope series, *Princess Elizabeth's Spy* by Susan Elia MacNeal. This popular series takes place in England during World War II. The October book is *The Crossing Places* by Elly Griffiths, the first book in the Ruth Galloway series. When Ruth is not digging up bones or other ancient objects, the quirky, tart-tongued archaeologist lives happily in a remote area of England once sacred to its Iron Age inhabitants. **Due to the conflict with the Christmas Craft Fair** (sponsored by Friends of the Sullivan Library), **the meeting date has been changed to Saturday, November 17th at 11:30.**

As always, we invite you to join our **Conversation Café** on Saturday mornings beginning at 9:30. If you are new to town, it's a good way to learn some of the history of your new community as well as catch up on current issues facing the town. Come meet your neighbors and enjoy the coffee. Someone always brings home-baked goodies – not to brag, but we have some of the best home cooks in the area.

The newest **Nubanusit Co-Operative DVD collection** will be available until November 9th. The titles include: *Epic; Moana; Arrival; OZ – The Great and Powerful; Kite Runner; A Powerful Noise; Lake House; Klimt; Miss Peregrine's Home ...; Tapped; La Vie En Rose; A Knight's Tale; 8 ½; Ringu; Men in Black; Girl on the Train; Amacord; Percy Jackson: Sea of A Monsters; Network; and The Zookeeper's Wife.*

Also **new this month** are the following books just added to the library's collection.

Large Print:	<i>If Not for You</i>	Debbie Macomber
	<i>A Girl's Guide To Moving On</i>	Debbie Macomber
	<i>The Glass Ocean</i>	Beatriz Williams
Mystery/Suspense:	<i>The President is Missing</i>	Bill Clinton/James Patterson
	<i>Girl in the Spider's Web</i>	David Lagercrantz
	<i>The Girl Who Takes an Eye for an Eye</i>	David Lagercrantz
	<i>Worst Case</i>	James Patterson
	<i>Gone</i>	James Patterson
	<i>Burn</i>	James Patterson
	<i>Detective Cross</i>	James Patterson
	<i>Step on a Crack</i>	James Patterson
	<i>In This Grave Hour</i>	Jacqueline Winspear
Cozy Mysteries:	<i>Murder on the Half Shelf</i>	Lorna Barrett
	<i>Not the Killing Type</i>	Lorna Barrett
	<i>Pekoe Most Poison</i>	Laura Childs
	<i>Plum Tea Crazy</i>	Laura Childs
	<i>Wild Fire</i>	Ann Cleeves
	<i>Asking for Truffle</i>	Dorothy St. James
General Fiction:	<i>Alias Grace</i>	Margaret Atwood
	<i>Carnegie's Maid</i>	Marie Benedict
	<i>The Aviator's Wife</i>	Melanie Benjamin
	<i>The Riddle of the Sands</i>	Erskine Childers
	<i>Pachinko</i>	Min Jin Lee
	<i>A Piece of the World</i>	Christina Baker Kline
	<i>Any Dream Will Do</i>	Debbie Macomber
	<i>Still Me</i>	Jojo Moyes
	<i>The Alice Network</i>	Kate Quinn
	<i>The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo</i>	Taylor Jenkins Reid
	<i>The Fireman's Wife</i>	Jack Riggs
	<i>The Second Mrs. Hockaday</i>	Susan Rivers
	<i>The Witchfinder's Sister</i>	Beth Underdown
Fantasy:	<i>The Shape of Water</i>	Guillermo Del Toro
Young Adult:	<i>A Turn of Tides</i>	Bella Forrest
	<i>A Shade of Doubt</i>	Bella Forrest
	<i>A Chase of Prey</i>	Bella Forrest
Children's:	<i>Fake Mustache</i>	Tom Angleberger
	<i>The War That Saved My Life</i>	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
	<i>Peterrific</i>	Victoria Kann
	<i>Ladybug Girl and the Rescue Dogs</i>	David Samon
Non-Fiction:	<i>Stranger in Our Own Land</i>	Arilie Russell Hochschile
	<i>Code Girls</i>	Liza Mundy
	<i>Critical Hours</i>	Sandy Stott

As November is Thanksgiving month, we at the library would like to give thanks to all those who support us during the year through time and donations. Some of those we wish to thank this month are: Barbara Atwood, Libby Beede, Becky Cummings, Virginia Howard, Laura Lewandowski, Aggie Marks, Peter Miles, Rachael Richardson, Jeremiah Tuttle, Ginny Yawarski and those shy patrons who wish to remain anonymous. We are thankful for all you do. **The library will be closed the week of Christmas and reopen on Jan. 3.**

From the Archives

by Chris Pratt

“How do you get to Gilsum?” That is an easy question to answer today, but like our other major highways the final course of Gilsum Road was a product of trial and error. What we now call Gilsum Road evolved from several other roads.

One must appreciate that Gilsum’s center was somewhat fluid until about 1775. The first road into the section of Gilsum that became Sullivan was the Gulf Road, which I have written about before. Laid out in 1771 it meandered through our town in a way that puzzles the modern eye. However, it was laid out to connect the farms of our early settlers to the site of the first Gilsum Meetinghouse. Today there are a few remnants of this lay-out, namely Jenkins Lane and Centre Street from the Four Corners Cemetery to the fire station as well as trails and traces.

The residents of Gilsum quickly realized the potential of the Ashuelot River and built sawmills and gristmills in Gilsum Village. Eventually the small village became a center for woodworking and textile production. In 1778, the town laid out a new road to connect the growing village with the Four Corners section of what would be Sullivan. In Sullivan the road followed the course of modern Gilsum Road to Chapman Pond. Then it proceeded in an almost due north line over the east shoulder of Boynton Mountain and down to Nash Corner and onto Gilsum.

This was certainly the most direct route to Gilsum from the Four Corners, but it had a major disadvantage in its steep grades. From Chapman Pond the road rises sharply to the Chapman Farm (95 Boynton Road). It leveled out to the farm of David Boynton, but then rose steeply again to reach its summit. While the road is less steep on the other side it was still a tough climb for horses, oxen or people on foot.

In 1785 Gilsum laid out the Bingham Road from the “lower village” (where Route 10 meets the River Road) along White Brook into our territory. It then followed in a northeasterly direction and intersected with the Boynton Road a short distance from the modern town line with Gilsum. The grade was much gentler as it followed the headwaters of the streams that flow into the Ashuelot. However, like the Gulf Road, it was the “long way around” to get to Gilsum Village from Sullivan, and it fell into disuse. The only remnant of the road today is the Corey Mine Road and the driveway to 509 Gilsum Road.

After Sullivan’s incorporation in 1787, the Boynton Road continued to be a major artery. Farms were soon appearing along it, and short roads were laid out to new farms. The schoolhouse for District #5 was built at the road’s summit. However, the grade apparently continued to be a problem.

In 1788, a road called the Mack Road was laid out to provide access to the Four Corners and the District #5 schoolhouse for farms that had been established in clusters along the Bingham Road. This road began at the Boynton Road near the Boynton Farm, along what became the Chapman Road to what is now the entrance to the Piper Forest. The lay-out then took a sharp turn to the north and proceeded across the Bingham/Corey Mine Road to the farms owned by the Nash family.

This road soon proved unsatisfactory. In 1803, a more direct route to the Four Corners was laid out from Chapman Road southward over some marsh land to connect with Boynton Road near what is now 201 Gilsum Road. At the same time a short road was laid from Chapman Road to the farm of Stephen Foster (402 Gilsum Road). It took a few more years, but eventually the Mack Road became obsolete. In 1830, the final section of modern Gilsum road from the Foster Farm (later the Rawson Farm), along the Wright Brook and the Hemenway Brook and into Gilsum was laid out. This finally provided a relatively easy grade to Gilsum with short stretches of steep grades.

The Boynton Road became a redundant secondary road. Most of the farms along its route only lasted a generation or less. In 1802, a new schoolhouse was built at the junction of Gilsum Road and Chapman Road. The farms on the South side of Boynton Mountain prospered so the road on that side continued to remain a public highway. The rest of the road was discontinued in stages. Today it still provides a hiking trail through conservation land and into Gilsum.

So, today we travel on Gilsum Road as a logical way to get to Gilsum and Route 10. As one travels one can note the small vestiges of its evolution. The first is the sharp corner at the entrance to Boynton Hill Road where the original lay out went straight. The next sharp corner by the entrance to the Piper Forest shows the original lay out to the Foster Farm, Chapman Road, and an often hard to see trace in the woods where the Mack Road went. At 402

Gilsum Road another sharp corner shows where the road stopped until the 1830 lay out. Crossing the intersection of the Corey Mine Road one sees the remnant of the Bingham Road and the point where the Mack intersected and moved to the long discontinued farms of the Nash Family. Finally one passes along the Hemenway Brook and into Gilsum. Like much of our history the clues are revealed in small ways hidden by trees by the side of the road.

♥Local family needs to raise \$60,000 for Aiden's life changing surgery! Can you help?♥

Aiden is the 11 year old son of David & Jamie Beers, who live in the house known as the "Parsonage Farm" on Centre St. here in Sullivan. Aiden, one of their 4 children, has spina bifida, and has already had 11 surgeries in his short life. He is slated to have a very painful, invasive surgery (removing ribs/discs, deflating lungs, crushing bones) to correct his extreme scoliosis, which makes it hard for him to walk. However, this surgery would leave him with extended recovery time and it would inhibit the flexibility and growth of his spine forever (this surgery is covered by insurance).

Because Aiden hugely uses the flexibility in his spine to walk and to adjust for his gate, preserving this flexibility would be extremely beneficial to his long term mobility!

The Beers have since found a cutting edge, much less invasive surgery, with way shorter recovery time, and it completely preserves flexibility and growth in his spine. Insurance doesn't cover this surgery, and the cost will be around \$60,000 with \$30,000 due to schedule the surgery, and the rest due within 4 to 6months.

This surgery is Aiden's best shot at preserving the mobility for which he's fought so hard. The Beers don't believe they can put a price tag on Aiden's future and are determined to find a way! If you feel you could donate to help them reach their goal of enabling Aiden to have this amazing surgery, they would be incredibly grateful!

The full story appeared in the Oct. 9th edition of the Keene Sentinel and is also on Jamie Beers' Facebook page. A special fund for donations has been set up on Facebook, "Support Aiden's Life Changing Surgery" <https://www.facebook.com/donate/1773426566088289/>. Donations may also be left at the town clerk's office here in town.

Nelson Elementary School

Our year is off to a great start. The new staff we have are settling in and getting accustomed to our routines, students and families. We are enjoying the added space created by the recent addition. While we still have a few minor things to finish up, the bulk of the work has been completed, including our paved parking lot which has received many positive comments.

The big news is that we have recently been notified that we have been designated a "**Blue Ribbon School**" and we will be receiving this distinguished award in a ceremony in Concord on 10/26/18. Only 86 out of the 431 total schools in New Hampshire will be receiving this award. Nelson Elementary is the only school in SAU 29 to be honored. The award is based on several criteria but largely is a reflection on the community involvement in support and collaboration with our school. We are fortunate to have many local community members volunteer many hours of their time annually to support our students and enrich their learning and educational experience while attending Nelson Elementary. This honor is truly a community award!

Below is the calendar of events being held at our school in the coming months. We invite all community members to attend as many of the events as possible. We are very proud of our school, staff, and students and enjoy opening our doors to the public as often as possible. We are always looking for volunteers to support our learning.

Whether you have time to read to a small group of students, help with projects in classrooms, lead student hikes in our area, share your expertise of hobbies, or volunteer to help our STEM club, we would enjoy having you stop in and sign up to be an "Otter Volunteer". Please call the school (or stop in) to find out how you can help.

Ron Upton, Principal

<http://sau29nel.ss11.sharpschool.com/>

Needed: Some First Friday Friends!

As a way of building connections with our local community members, in both Nelson and Sullivan, I am trying to kick off a new project called “**First Friday Friends**”!

I am hoping to have all children match up with adults they do not currently know. The intent would be to match up one community member with one child (or two if I can't get as many volunteers) for the rest of the school year. This volunteer would come to the school from 11:00 am - 11:30 am on the FIRST FRIDAY of each month and read to their buddy. (We may have a different day on occasion if there's a conflict in the calendar.) You can bring your own books or choose some from our classroom library. As their skills develop, your buddies will also begin reading to you.

If you would be interested in participating in the program, please contact Cindy Benner at Nelson School at 847-3408 or by email at cbenner@sau29.org. If you use email, this would be preferable, but calls are okay, too. I am very excited about this new community partnership!

Sincerely, Cindy Benner - Kindergarten & Readiness Teacher at Nelson School

Nelson School PTO News:

The PTO would like to thank everyone who participated in our PTO BBQ in September. It was great to see so many community members and parents at this fun and free event right at the Nelson Farmer's Market at the school! Also, for those who attended the Nelson School PTO Halloween Party – thank you for your donations of time and food.

Next PTO meeting November 6th 5-6 pm. Becoming a PTO member is completely voluntary. Our PTO works toward one goal: creating a strong, nurturing school environment for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. We meet once a month face-to-face in the 3rd/4th grade classroom at Nelson Elementary School, but the bulk of our 'work' is done via email and internet.

To become a member of the Nelson Elementary School PTO, you don't have to be a parent of a student. All you need is the desire to help our children uncover and discover their full potential. Come help us create the kind of school family where our teachers and our students can do their best work!

Currently, we are looking for volunteers to be on a subcommittee for the PTO Auction that happens in April – our school's biggest fundraiser! Serving on the subcommittee would require 2 to 3 hours per month from December to April. Can you help solicit donations? Manage the auction website? Help advertise? Donate items and food? Or maybe you have time that weekend to help set up or clean up? We need at least 15 committed volunteers to meet and plan with us from December to the weekend of the big event in April or sadly we will not be able to put it on this year. If interested, please contact Becky Dunn at rdunn@keene.edu.

Upcoming events at the school:

- The 5th grade is hosting a Pancake Breakfast 8-11 am – Saturday, October 27th. Enjoy a wonderful breakfast served to you by the students and help support them as they save money for their 5th grade class trip. \$5/person and don't forget to take a chance with the 50/50 raffle!
- The 2nd grade is hosting a Pancake Breakfast 8-11 am – Saturday, November 17th
- Thanksgiving Feast for students Tuesday, November 20th. Nelson school students help prepare their own Thanksgiving feast during the school day. Notices will go home in early November asking for specific food donations for the meal.
- December Childcare night: Drop your children off at the school for movies, crafts and pizza while parents enjoy a night of child-free shopping. Notices for this will go home in mid-November with the specific date and time for drop off/pick up.
- The 3/4th grade is hosting a Pancake Breakfast 8-11 am – Saturday, December 15th
- Other upcoming events include the clothing swap and December PTO meeting – stay tuned!

SULLIVAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

The Sullivan School Board continues to meet once per month (typically the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30, but please look for postings to confirm date and time). We meet in the lower town hall. Families and residents are invited to attend any of our meetings to discuss any school district related matters.

Nelson School: Congratulations to Nelson Elementary School for again being awarded blue ribbon status from the state! This honor is awarded to schools in NH which have achieved superior standards for academic excellence. Nelson elementary school was also awarded this honor in 2011. Mark your calendars for the 3rd and 4th grade pancake breakfast on Dec 15. It will be located at Nelson Elementary School. Proceeds to go toward their 5th grade class trip.

Keene Middle and High School: The school board has approved later start times for the middle and high schools that will go into effect for the 2020-2021 school year. Details are still being worked out, but per the school board's resolution, the middle and high school will start no earlier than 8:30 am and no later than 9 am. Elementary schools will start no earlier than 8 am.

SULLIVAN FIRE & RESCUE NEWS

The Sullivan Fire and Rescue Department has had wonderful couple of months. In August, we held our Open House serving Shredded Pork and Beef Brisket while sharing with our community the equipment we use including the new MSA SCBA packs, which voters supported. We also had two successful fundraising events as well. We had an Art Night offering painting and an evening of fun as well as a raffle that was supported strongly by many surrounding businesses.

We ended the fall season with the Department participating in several parades in Keene, Claremont and Bellows Falls, commemorating Fire Protection Week. This event commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 which destroyed over 17,000 structures and killed more than 250 people in Chicago. It strives to help communities recognize the importance of fire safety and honor those dedicated to fighting fires and serving their communities as first responders. We are proud to announce that Sullivan Fire and Rescue was recognized in both Keene and Bellows Falls for the Best Appearing Apparatus with Marching Unit. In Claremont, we were awarded the Oldest Apparatus in service for our Tanker.



On a concerning note, we have taken our Rescue Truck out of service. Our GMC Walk-In Rescue is almost 35 years old and is in need of many repairs which we feel are not a good investment of tax dollars and we are presently looking for a replacement. We want to ensure that we can respond with the required equipment needed in accident scenes safely and efficiently. While we search for a new Rescue Truck, we have notified Mutual Aid to send the Keene rescue unit to any accidents in the meantime.

With winter quickly closing in, we remind all of our residents to clean their chimneys ahead of the burning season. Ensuring that your flue is cleaned is vital to helping to avoid a fire which could have easily been prevented. If you are purchasing a new wood stove or heating appliance and you want to make sure that you have it installed correctly for your piece of mind or for insurance reasons, please feel free to give us a call; 847-9020. Please be reminded that **all outdoor fires MUST have a permit**. It ensures safe weather conditions to do so and avoids wasted resources due to false alarms being called in by passersby.

If you are at all curious about our department and would like to stop by, we meet every Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm. Being a fully volunteer department, our strength and effectiveness truly relies on the number of people willing to lend their time and their skills. If you are at all interested in joining, please visit us on Wednesday evenings, we would love to meet you!

THE HOLIDAYS ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Before we know it, Thanksgiving will be here and shortly after that, it will be Christmas! Do you know of someone or a family in need? The Sullivan Church can help with extra food, a family Thanksgiving basket and/or gifts for the children in the family. If you would like some help or know of anyone, please call Gaynelle Pratt at 847-3417 or email the church at uccsullivan@outlook.com.

Welcome to a Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service!

Greeting friends from near and far, luminaries will light the pathways to the front door of the Sullivan Church on Christmas Eve. All are invited to a **traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** which will be held at 7 pm on Dec. 24th with the singing of familiar carols, special music and a Christmas message. Light refreshments will be served in Friendship Hall following the service.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year ahead!

Planning Board Seeks Community Input

Public Hearing – Dec. 5 at 7 pm

Submitted by Leslie Casey, Planning Board Chairman

Sullivan's Community Planning Ordinance (aka "CPO") was last amended in 2017. New amendments are now being considered, intended to make the CPO a clearer, more usable document and to bring it into better alignment with the 2015 Sullivan Master Plan. The CPO determines how land use in our town is regulated, so your input is very important as the Planning Board strives to make improvements. Here is a preview of the proposed amendments to the CPO, and the reasons behind them.

CPO Amendment Process: As a first step in the CPO amendment process, on December 5, 2018 at 7pm the Planning Board will hold a public hearing to elicit public input on draft amendments to the CPO. Following the public session, the Board will deliberate, and the proposed amendments will be revised accordingly. It is important to know that the final proposed amendments will appear as CPO-related ballot questions for vote at the March 2019 Town Election – voters have final say!

Explanation of Proposed CPO Amendments:

One set of proposed changes for discussion would clarify what is meant by a "dwelling unit," and what town requirements are for dwelling units:

- Section IV (General Provisions), A (Manufactured Housing), as amended, would be broadened to include minimum requirements for all dwelling units, not just manufactured housing. The title of Section IV.A would be changed to "*Dwelling Units*." This amendment would also require that all new or replacement sanitary waste disposal systems be State-approved.
- Section IV (General Provisions), I (Seasonal Dwellings), as amended, would clarify the distinction between structures that are permitted for use as seasonal dwellings (up to 9 months of the year), and shelters for recreational purposes. Occupation of a recreational vehicle, tent or homemade shelter would be limited to 90 days (though an extension could be requested of the Board of Selectmen in advance). The amended section would make explicit that heating systems must be installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, per NH Fire Code. The state's definition of "*Recreational Vehicle*" would be added to CPO Article XI (Definitions).

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Other proposed changes would strengthen provisions for "Alternative Development":

- A statement of the purpose of Alternative Development would be added to Section IV (General Provisions), N of the CPO, and language from the pertinent NH statute (RSA 674:21 - Land Use Controls, IV) would be integrated.
- The Alternative Development section already allows for development of large parcels of land (20 acres or greater) in a way that maximizes important natural and cultural amenities on the site. The proposed amendment would specify the maximum percentage of the land that could be used for individual building lots, and would require the owner to place a recorded easement, permanently preserving the remainder of the open land.

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Changes to the CPO intended to safeguard health & safety, and to protect the environment, are also proposed:

- Section III (Use Application), C (Areas and Dimensions for structures and/or buildings), subsection 7 as amended would stipulate that, "The maximum height of a building shall be 35 feet above mean ground level." This proposed addition would set a common-sense maximum new building height, which could only be exceeded with town approval. The primary rationale for the proposed maximum building height is to ensure safety: the Sullivan Fire Department's longest ladder has a working height of 20 feet.
- An addition to CPO article IV (General Provisions), *IV.O. Steep Slopes*, is proposed. It would require that topography and the potential for erosion and runoff of water be considered when developing lots, as is already stressed in the Sullivan Subdivision Regulations and the Master Plan.

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

- CPO Article V (Building Permits), as amended, would have an additional section, *K (Driveway Permits)*. The proposed wording would be copied from Sullivan's Driveway Regulations. Its incorporation into the CPO would help clarify the requirement for a town driveway permit for building permit approval, even if a State driveway permit has also been granted.
- Under Article V, Building permits, the distinction between an extension of a building permit to allow construction to be completed, and a permit for temporary occupancy, would be made clear.

Conclusion: The Planning Board is seeking constructive input at a planned public hearing on draft proposed CPO amendments, which are intended to: (1) improve organization of the CPO document (e.g. incorporate driveway permits; clarify difference between permits for temporary occupancy vs. building permit extensions; add definitions), (2) bring the Sullivan CPO into alignment with NH law regarding minimum requirements for dwelling units, (3) help ensure safety by setting a height limit on new buildings, and (4) strengthen the provisions for Alternative Development of large lots by requiring permanent easements to preserve open space.

We hope this information is a useful preview of draft proposed amendments to the CPO that will be discussed at the planned hearing. The Planning Board looks forward to your input!

RECIPE CORNER

with Ginni McByrne

This recipe is yummy, gluten free and Paleo! Served with some fresh cooked broccoli, it was the best. Please email any of your favorite recipes and a brief story and/or helpful hint to gmcbyrne@gmail.com.

Maple Syrup Chicken

1-2 tbsp. olive oil		6 bone-in chicken breasts
	Salt and Pepper to taste	
½ cup chicken broth		½ cup REAL maple syrup
1 heaping tbsp. fresh thyme leaves		4 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
2 tbsp. cider vinegar		2 tbsp. stone ground mustard

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Spray a 9x13 pan with nonstick cooking spray. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Season chicken with salt and pepper. Add chicken to pan and sauté on both sides until nicely browned. Remove chicken from pan. Add broth, maple syrup, thyme and garlic. Bring to a boil, stirring frequently for a couple minutes. Add vinegar and mustard and cook for another minute. Place chicken in baking dish, pour sauce over chicken and bake for 30 minutes or until chicken is cooked through. ENJOY!

HELPFUL HINT

Before the winter hits us, do your own home inspection: **Check out your roof (missing shingles, cracked tiles & loose flashing). **Inspect your chimney (Look up the chimney for signs of bird or squirrel nests). **Check your furnace's pilot light (The flame should be blue, clear & steady). **Search for cracks and gaps in doors and windows. (At night, pull doors shut & have someone stand on the other side with a flashlight. If you see the light, they're not sealed).

"From there to here, and here to there, funny things are everywhere"

Dr. Seuss

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Hospice at HCS Offers Poinsettias to Support Care in Our Region

For the upcoming 23rd Annual Poinsettia Sale to benefit Hospice at HCS, plants will be available at the HCS office in Keene in November and December. Like Hospice at HCS, the poinsettias are local – grown right here in New Hampshire! These beautiful plants make great holiday decorations and gifts!

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Order forms must be received by Thursday, November 15. For details on delivery dates and pick-up options, or to print an order form, visit www.HCSservices.org. To request an order form be mailed or for more information, call 352-2253 x294 or email poinsettias@HCSservices.org.

HCS is a Monadnock United Way agency.

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Nelson School 847-3408
Keene Middle School 357-9020
Keene High School 352-0640
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Editor: Becky Cummings 847-3477 Assistant Editor: Gaynelle Pratt

SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER

PO Box 110
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