

Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol 43 No. 1

Sullivan, NH

July – August 2023

CONSIDERING TWO IMPORTANT ISSUES

1. After several changes in **Sullivan’s ambulance service**, our Select Board and Fire & Rescue Department are currently reviewing the best emergency response/ambulance for townspeople.
2. The other important issue is **Sullivan’s Master Plan**, including the sections affecting housing.

Information on both issues can be found inside this newsletter. See the articles “From the Selectmen’s Office” and “Sullivan Housing Update”. **Mark your calendars for the following important meetings!**

Upcoming meetings hosted by the Housing Task Force will be held in the Sullivan Church Meeting Hall.

Topics and Meeting Dates:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| • ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units) | Thursday | July 27th @ 6:30 |
| • Subdivision | Thursday | August 17th @ 6:30 |
| • House Sharing | Thursday | September 14 @ 6:30 |
| • Village | Thursday | October 12th @ 6:30 |

SOME SUMMER FUN!

SWIMMING: Otter Brook & Surry Dam

Note: New operating hours!

Wednesday through Sunday:

Opening time: 8:00 AM

Closing time: 8:00 PM

Mondays and Tuesdays will be designated as walk-in access only days. Please note that during these days, the park office and certain amenities may not be available; however, visitors are welcome to enjoy the parks and utilize the available facilities.

Carry in, carry out trash. There are no life guards; it is a swim at your own risk facility. Beach advisories may be posted at any time due to water quality issues. For more information call the Otter Brook Lake & Surry Dam office at (603) 352-4130.

Keene Wizarding Week 2023

July 26 at 10am to July 30 at 5pm

Main St., Keene, NH



<https://tlcmonadnock.com/wizarding>

Inside this issue...lots more summer fun, Sullivan Archives, Sullivan Housing Update, low-cost animal wellness clinics, a report from the Selectmen’s Office, safe walking/hiking tips, food pantry hours, hazardous waste days, Meet Your Neighbor & more...something for everyone!

Sullivan Housing Update

Submitted by Leslie Casey, Sullivan Housing Task Force

The town of Sullivan is engaged in a year-long process around housing spurred by the knowledge that lack of housing and lack of housing choice is affecting the entire state. The 2015 Sullivan Master Plan identifies housing choice as a goal, and acknowledges that large single-family houses on large lots are not the best housing choices for everyone. The Sullivan Housing Task force, working with a consultant, recently revisited this with a Housing Needs Assessment and a Zoning Code Audit funded by a Housing Opportunity Grant from InvestNH.

The Housing Needs Assessment calculates that Sullivan needs a small number of additional dwelling units to achieve what is considered by experts to be a balanced housing stock. It is important to note that the assessment merely states the aspirational target for a sustainable community and is NOT a requirement.

This work showed that Sullivan's population is not growing and, as in 2015, the only form of housing readily available or likely to be constructed under the town's current zoning regulations is single family housing. Single family units are always the most expensive form of housing and are not appropriate for everyone. Housing affordability has become a more serious issue here in recent years, putting those expensive homes out of reach for many. A new study on housing affordability in New Hampshire helps put this issue into perspective: <https://nlihc.org/oor/state/nh>. As it stands now, if the town were to have development pressures, the current code will deliver a suburban form of development, not a rural form.

Sullivan's commitment to remaining rural, coupled with the lack of municipal infrastructure, means that the most appropriate forms of housing, other than single family dwellings, are smaller units, either as Accessory Dwelling Units, as house-sized duplexes, or as a cottage grouping in a conservation subdivision. Any proposed changes to the town's zoning ordinances would be geared towards making these **smaller** housing choices easier to build, not towards allowing larger multi-family buildings. All indications are that there is an unmet need for more housing choice. However, no change to the code requires these types of housing; a landowner may always develop their property using the minimum lot size and minimum frontage permitted.

Several meetings have been set up for community information and discussion. See the calendar of listings of meetings and topics on the front page of this newsletter and again under the selectmen's report.

As the Sullivan Planning Board and the Housing Task Force continue their work, the community will be invited to consider what changes are appropriate. The town is now applying for additional HOP (Housing Opportunity Planning) grant funds to help draft and prioritize proposed amendments to Sullivan's ordinance that could make it easier to build less expensive, smaller housing units. Ordinance amendment proposals go through an extensive public process before being presented to the entire town for consideration on the ballot at Town Election.

See <https://www.nhhopgrants.org> for more information about the HOP grant program. This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRP0145 awarded to the State of New Hampshire by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Food Pantry Hours for July and August

The Sullivan food pantry will be open on July 13 and 27 and August 10 and 24 from 5:30-6:30 pm. If you would like food delivered, please contact Gaynelle Pratt at 603-847-3271. Much appreciation goes to those in town who help their neighbors by donating food, paper goods and financial assistance to the Food Pantry!! Donations may be left at the Post Office, Town Hall and Library. Thank you!

Mobile Food Pantry, Saturday, July 8th

The Community Kitchen is hosting a mobile food pantry at the Gilsum School on July 8, 3-5 pm. It is open to Gilsum, Sullivan and neighboring communities. If you need a ride to the pantry, please contact Gaynelle Pratt, 603-847-3271, to make arrangements.

FROM THE SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

Submitted by Paul Bolduc

In the scope of the role of citizenry within government, New Hampshire has a long history with an effective model. For a small town like Sullivan, the civic engagement and stewardship of the town leans entirely on the willingness of its townspeople to share their skills, knowledge and talents, but above all their time. As someone who serves on the Select Board, I am ever cognizant of the great responsibility I hold and the need for collaboration and thoughtfulness when making decisions on behalf of the town.

There are currently two important issues which the town is navigating through - most pressing is Ambulance Service, the emergency response for our townspeople. For decades, our transport ambulance service was provided through Keene. Several years ago, it was decided by the Selectmen to change providers to Diluzio Ambulance, due to fiscal concerns.

As I am sure you are aware, Diluzio has entered bankruptcy and their contracts have been carried on by Rescue Inc. from VT. Rescue Inc., the city of Keene and the county's new ambulance service had been working together to meet the needs of the many towns that relied on Diluzio. The Sullivan Fire Department's leadership has consistently desired a contractual relationship with Keene. Their responders are not only medically certified, but also fire certified which is a huge asset with motor vehicle accidents or fire scenes. Without Keene's interest, Sullivan Fire & Rescue advised the Selectmen that they would prefer Rescue Inc. over the county's Cheshire service, due primarily to the response times coming from Swanzey.

There have been several meetings held in Swanzey to discuss this issue which were attended by both the Selectboard and Sullivan Fire. The town of Swanzey recently announced that it would be contracting with the county's service. This large contract town put a great deal of pressure on Rescue Inc., and we anticipate that they will have to raise their contract offering substantially. Sullivan Fire & Rescue has worked hard to cover Sullivan's needs for patient care and will continue to do so, no matter who ends up providing transport care. For several months, the Selectmen have been courting Keene to return to a contractual relationship, and in the past week there have been some positive gestures from Keene that we are hopeful will come to fruition. We will attempt to keep you informed of what transpires with this important issue.

The other important issue is the Sullivan Master Plan. As part of the Master Plan renewal process, the Planning Board and Select Board are responsible for seeking community input to shape and/or make adjustments to the current Master Plan. In an effort to defer costs within this process as well as to engage a professional planner to help guide the town, the Planning Board took a great deal of time and effort applying for a Housing Grant to meet these needs. The town was awarded this grant and has been working with a planner from Peterborough, Ivy Vann.

The Select Board formed a Housing Taskforce to seek community input and data to help guide the crafting of the Master Plan section on housing. A large number of citizens shared thoughts and perspectives through a survey earlier this year. It was clear that many people wish to maintain the rural nature of our town. The process of seeking community input continues through organized meetings to encourage dialogue, discussion and input.

I realize that these discussions can become uncomfortable and emotions can run high, but for consensus to be possible, I encourage everyone to spend more time in listening to each other and working together to shape our future as a town. I am in no way different from you. I am coming to realize that codes and ordinances that we currently have in their own way create the parameters of changes influencing what Sullivan could become. With the realities of large parcels of land weighed against an aging population and proximity to Keene, it is imperative that we work together to have a strong Master Plan that balances growth with the fundamental and historical rural nature of our town.

Therefore, I encourage you to attend the upcoming housing meetings which will provide information on different housing options that we should indeed pay attention to for the roles they potentially play in guiding how the town may handle these approaches. I urge you to attend, learn, listen, ask questions and offer ideas on these choices. It is important for our town citizens to help guide our next Masterplan.

The upcoming meetings, hosted by the Housing Task Force, will be held in the Sullivan Church Meeting Hall.

Topics and Meeting Dates:

- | | | |
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From the Archives

by Chris Pratt

(I originally wrote this story for the Newsletter about 25 years ago. I have since found a number of factual errors. It's about time to correct the mistakes!)

James William Price was one of the many men from Sullivan who were Civil War veterans. Like most of them, he returned from the war and resumed his life. He worked as a tanner—first in Massachusetts and then at the large tannery in West Keene. He married Maria Adelpia Pelkey on 12 August 1872, and they raised twelve children. In 1888, they rented the place that is now 522 South Road where they kept a small farm. On 13 March 1897, they purchased the Perry Kemp farm that stood at what is now 247 South Road. Not long afterwards, the place burned and was replaced with a smaller house. Maria died in 1921. James began spending the winter months in Keene with his children, but returned to Sullivan in the spring and summer months. His grandson, Harry G. Price, maintained the hayfields and the forest. The story of James' service in the war might have passed unnoticed, but in 1927 at age 76 he entered a contest in Lewiston, ME, of men who had served as drummer boys during the Civil War. The contest was to see how many of the different beats they could remember. He won the prize and it was soon determined that he was the oldest living drummer boy, who was also the youngest when he enlisted. That attracted the attention of newspaper writers, and soon he was telling his story to anyone who ventured to his cottage on South Road.

His father and mother had fled Ireland during the Great Famine and settled in New Brunswick. James was born there on 18 February 1851. Around 1855, the family moved to New London, CT. At the start of the Civil War, President Lincoln made a number of decisions to increase the size of Union Army. This meant adding a number of state volunteer regiments as well as increasing the size of the regular army by 9 regiments. One of those regiments was the 14th U.S. Infantry which was constituted at Fort Trumbull, CT, in May 1861. The new regiment spent about a year recruiting and training civilians to become soldiers. On 28 June 1862, James' father, Joseph, and his brother Joseph Jr. enlisted. James also desired to join even though he was only 11 at the time. He told the recruiter that he was 15 and that he could play the drum. Thus, he was enlisted as a drummer boy.

Drummer boys were used in the band and to keep the beat on marches. As the unit maneuvered, the verbal commands of the officers could not always reach the soldiers—especially during a battle. The drummers were used to relay the commands by playing a series of beats to represent different commands. In some cases, they had to learn as many as 30 different beats. The drummers also had a secondary duty as stretcher bearers for the wounded and often assisted physicians in the make-shift hospitals near the battlefields. Drummers could also find themselves in the middle of battles and forced to defend themselves. A few were awarded the Medal of Honor for their bravery.

The 14th U.S. was assigned to the 5th Corps of the Army of the Potomac. They saw action in every major battle in the Eastern Theatre including Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. James contracted a disease and was mustered out on 16 March 1864, but rejoined the regiment after he recovered. He probably witnessed at least some of the horrific battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania and Cold Harbor. It was during that time that his brother, Joseph died of disease. The 14th was one of the units that occupied Richmond, so James lived to see the end of the war. The unit was given a place of honor during the Grand Review of the Armies at Washington in June of 1865.

James apparently kept his drum and would bring it out on occasion to practice which was probably why he won the contest. In 1928, he finally joined the Grand Army of the Republic which was the Civil War veterans' organization. He was 77 at the time, but he was one of the youngest G.A.R. members in the state. All of this provided good "copy" for the journalists who called him the "baby drummer."

James Price died a few years later on 29 August 1931 and was buried in the Woodlawn Cemetery in Keene. He probably enjoyed his brush with fame and he certainly provided a number of good quotes for journalists. Perhaps the most telling was after he had described life on the march with little sleep, little food and the horror of combat. He added, "It was like a dream to me, boy that I was. I hardly realized the full significance of it all."

Preserving a Bit of Sullivan's Past

The horse sheds behind the Sullivan Congregational Church have been in need of repair for some time and it's hoped restoration can begin this fall. Built in 1849, the sheds are part of Sullivan's heritage and character and were recently named to the NH State Register of Historic Places, along with the church building. The first phase of restoration will be replacement of the roof. The next phase will include replacement of many of the missing vertical boards between the stalls, which were stolen by vandals and also a bit of foundation work. Donations towards the preservation of the buildings will be greatly appreciated. Please send to Sullivan Congregational Church; PO Box 63; Sullivan NH 03445.

"LIBRARY FOOTNOTES"

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Summertime is here! Do you know what that means for the Sullivan Public Library??? That's right! It's time for our **summer reading program** to commence! This year we are collaborating with the towns of Surry and Gilsum to find out if together we can read a grand total of **500 lbs.** of books during the month of July. Everything counts this month. Do you read an e-book? Listen to Audiobooks? Great! All you have to do is find the book in a paperback format and write down how much that book weighs. Then come into the library and tell us, and we will keep track of all the numbers. Who can participate in this? Everyone! There is no age limit to read with us!

Mark your calendars... on **Saturday, July 15**, at 3pm at the Gilsum Ball field; we will be co-hosting a **Touch-A-Truck** event with the Gilsum Library. There will be police cruisers, fire trucks, town vehicles and hopefully a few surprises as well! We will post more details on our Facebook page.

On **Saturday, August 5**, at 3pm, we will be having an afternoon social, featuring an assortment of delicious goodies at the Gilsum Library to celebrate our fun as we end the summer reading program 2023.

The **2nd Saturday Book Group** is going strong. On July 8, we will discuss *The Lincoln Lawyer* by Michael Connelly. Then we will pass out *Peyton Place* by Grace Metalious to be read for our August 12th meeting. We hope to see new people joining us to try out new-to-them stories.

We would like to highlight a couple of books that you may enjoy. If they sound intriguing, come on in and check them out!

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle (young adult fantasy/science fiction): It was a dark and stormy night; Meg Murry, her small brother Charles Wallace, and her mother had come down to the kitchen for a midnight snack when they were upset by the arrival of a most disturbing stranger.

"Wild nights are my glory," the unearthly stranger told them. "I just got caught in a downdraft and blown off course. Let me sit down for a moment, and then I'll be on my way. Speaking of ways, by the way, there is such a thing as a tesseract." A tesseract (in case the reader doesn't know) is a wrinkle in time. To tell more would rob the reader of the enjoyment of Ms. L'Engle's unusual book. *A Wrinkle in Time*, winner of the Newbery Medal in 1963, is the story of the adventures in space and time of Meg, Charles Wallace and Calvin O'Keefe (athlete, student, and one of the most popular boys in high school). They are in search of Meg's father, a scientist who disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government on the tesseract problem.

Here is something from our non-fiction section that might grab your interest: *Awkward: The Science of Why We're Socially Awkward and Why That's Awesome*. This fun read by Ty Tashiro, PhD., is packed with research and moving stories that helps one understand how awkward people view our complex world. This book delivers a welcome, counterintuitive message - the same characteristics that make people socially clumsy can also be harnessed to produce remarkable achievements.

Your Librarians,
Sara Bolduc & Paulette Tuttle

Public Notice.

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on July 13, August 10 and September 7, 2023 at 3:30 PM at the library. The purpose of the meeting is to formally receive any donations, hear reports and conduct any business related to the administration of the library. As always, the public is welcome.

Library Hours to Change – beginning in September.

At their June meeting, the Sullivan Public Library Trustees voted to change the library's hours on Thursday from the afternoon to the morning. Starting on Thursday, September 7, the hours will change from 2 PM-4 PM to 10 AM-Noon. This will mean the library will be open on Thursdays when the Town Hall is open. All other hours will remain the same. To summarize the new hours:

Tuesday, 10 AM-4 PM and 6 PM-8 PM
Thursday, 10 AM-Noon and 6 PM-8 PM
Saturday, 9 AM-Noon

Little Free Library on Centre Street

Hooray! - the adult library has been expanded; thanks to my husband for a great job. ☺

Now that school is out, watch for fun summer items to be placed randomly in the library, so stop by often. If we are home, please feel free to stop by and say hello as well. Echo & Clover love to meet everyone and actually feel left out, if they do not meet everyone who walks by.

If you would like to see a particular type of book in the library, let me know - leave me a note - I'll do what I can to locate the type of book you are looking for.

I found this blog which I think fits what a Little Free Library is all about.

The Little Free Library movement is a book-sharing concept among neighbors or within a larger community. Families can borrow a book, read it, and then return it when they are finished, or they can replace it with another book instead. This is a great way for children to increase the number (and types!) of books they have access to while also developing their passion for reading.

Children who borrow books don't have a set borrowing time or a limit to the number of books they can take. Children also don't have to give back that specific book if they've found one that they really love. The Little Free Library movement is a good opportunity to teach children about reusing items while also increasing the number of books they can get access to.

<https://www.harpercollins.com/blogs/harperkids/everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-little-free-library-project>

Little Free Library on Valley Road

Stop by the Little Free Library at 426 Valley Road to pick up a book or leave one!

CONCERTS AT THE BANDSTAND IN KEENE

When summer rolls around, you can expect to hear the sounds of music coming from downtown Keene. During the months of July and August, Keene hosts a handful of concerts at the Bandstand, Central Square Common, which are free and open to the public. Concerts typically begin around 7:00PM. Bring a chair and join them for the 2023 lineup! In case of rain, they will meet at the Rec Center, located at 312 Washington Street, Keene, NH 03431. These family friendly shows have something for everyone! 603-357-9829

7/5: Westmoreland Town Band

7/12: Dragon Fly

7/19: Tom Foolery Band

7/26: Tumbledown Shack

8/2: In Clover

CONCERTS ON THE GREEN IN WALPOLE

The Savings Bank of Walpole's summer concerts are back - held on the town green in Walpole, NH. All shows will be held rain or shine on Sundays from 6:30-8:00 PM. Attendees are encouraged to pack a picnic basket and bring a blanket and/or lawn chair. This year marks the 40th year SBW has hosted the series of concerts.

JULY

9 – Nelson Town Band

16 – The Temple Band

23 – Springfield Community Band

30 – East Bay Jazz Ensemble

AUGUST

6 – Brattleboro American Legion Band

13 -The Residential Band

APPLE HILL SUMMER GALA - Tuesday, August 8, 6:00pm

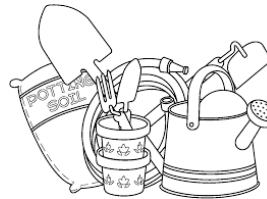
Please join us for an enchanting evening celebrating Apple Hill's 53rd summer season! Enjoy a pre-concert outdoor reception with wine, beer, and generous hors d'oeuvres. The Gala program will feature a performance of Dana Lyn's English Fiddle Tunes for String Octet by the Apple Hill String Quartet and guests, the Newport String Quartet. Relax post-concert with dessert under the stars. **Ticket per person: \$100 Dress: Summer festive**

Ticket proceeds and sponsorships help Apple Hill subsidize \$250,000 in tuition support enabling students with financial need to attend the Summer Chamber Music Workshop as well as two new community awards. To learn more about being a sponsor of the Apple Hill 2023 Gala, contact Jan Woiler Meuse, jan@applehill.org.

Tuesday Evening Dinners & Concerts - If you are unable to attend the Gala, please consider joining us for one of our remaining Tuesday evening dinners and concerts: July 4, July 11, July 18, July 25, August 1, August 15 and August 22. Bring your own picnic) and listenUP!, a free pre-concert talk at 6:45pm. Outdoor concert seating is always FREE! <https://applehill.org/concerts/concerts-apple-hill/> 603-847-3371

Tips from a Master Gardener: Better Lawns & Gardens with Less Work

Submitted by Leslie Casey



Farmland is critical habitat for many species of wildlife, but today only a small percentage of New Hampshire's total area remains in farmland. Fortunately, there are things you can do (or stop doing) to make your property's habitat more "farm-like." Toward that end, there is a great little guide put out by UNH Extension and NH Fish & Game titled "Wildlife Habitat Improvement: Farmlands and Wildlife" (2016). You can find it online, or I can email it. Some of the suggestions are:

- Plant food plots such as alfalfa or clover
- Mow in strips or patches, keeping the blade high
- Establish edges of tall grass or shrubs around fields and wet areas
- Keep dead trees, as long as they don't present a danger
- Build brush piles
- Put up nest boxes
- Let vegetation fill in around the shoreline of ponds

Notice the increase in wildlife diversity even with small changes like planting a few native shrubs or leaving a dead tree! Providing a source of clean water is also important, as important as providing food. Even a shallow water dish lined with aquarium pebbles to attract butterflies, or a birdbath (freshen it frequently!) will add a lot to your "farm" habitat.

Vegetable gardens are going strong this time of year. For some, gardening is primarily an enjoyable hobby or a way to get outdoor exercise, and for others, it is a way to cut down on grocery bills. If you are in the latter category, there are a few considerations to bear in mind to make sure to get the best return on your investment. If you want to get into whether you are really coming out ahead, the University of Florida has developed some useful tables to help track costs (<https://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/edibles/vegetables/paper-vegetable-gardening-cost-analysis.html>). The best way to save money on groceries, if that is your goal, is to grow vegetables that you purchase regularly. The folks at Iowa State Extension recommend focusing on high-yielding vegetables like beans, beets, onions, spinach, broccoli, peppers, carrots, summer squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, potatoes, lettuce, peas, and Swiss chard.

Questions about your lawn or garden? "Ask UNH Extension" is the Infoline, a free service of Extension that connects home gardeners with NH Master Gardener volunteers. They provide answers backed by the full resources and expertise of UNH Extension, any way you want -- email: answers@unh.edu, or phone: 1-877-EXT-GROW (1-877-398-4769).

I hope you have enjoyed these tips. If you have gardening questions, email me: LCasey29@hotmail.com. I will try to find you the answer or I will forward your question to one of our UNH Extension experts.

Pollinator Field is Coming Along

Last year, some of the folks in the Sullivan Church decided to turn part of the field behind the horse sheds into a pollinator field; not a formal garden, but a field filled with pollinators. It already had quite a bit of goldenrod, so it was a good start. The soil was tilled and assorted local plants and wildflowers were planted including some milkweed seeds. Things are slowly, very slowly beginning to appear – the milkweed blew into another part of the field, but it's there. Field instructions say it generally takes a couple of years for the field to take hold. There certainly hasn't been a lack of rain this spring and hopefully the freshly planted wildflower seeds didn't all drown. The gardeners are hopeful!

CHESHIRE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT FARM TOUR – July 19

Farm Energy Tour: Walk-In Cooler Efficiency & CoolBot Technology

To operate at-scale, veggie farms often require coolers to keep produce fresh during the warm summer months. Hear from the folks at Green Wagon Farm talk about what they're doing to reduce energy needs and provide fresh food to Cheshire County residents. **When: July 19, 2023, 10:00AM-11:00AM** **Where: Green Wagon Farm** at 833 Court Street, Keene, NH **Cost: Free**, Registration Required.

This workshop is part of our farm tour series for farmers, agricultural service providers and the public, focused on farm energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Fall tour stops will be announced soon!

Visit our event page to learn more and register! www.cheshireconservation.org/events

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Chris Pratt

by Risa Keene

Who is that calm, articulate man at the Sullivan Town Meetings standing behind the podium? Why it's none other than our neighbor, Chris Pratt. A native Granite Stater originally from eastern NH in the Lake Region, Chris is Town Moderator, Town Archivist, Planning Board member, Library Trustee and a volunteer at the Cheshire County Historical Society. I had the honor of interviewing Chris in the late spring.

I learned so much from him during the interview, not only about Chris and his family, but about history and the importance of the role that Town Archivists play. There is a quote by George Santayana, a Spanish Philosopher, "He who does not remember history is condemned to repeat it." (Santayana is often misquoted by many, including myself. I had thought it was, *History repeats itself.*) Chris is fascinated by history, and he is making sure that those who study history (informally or formally) will have the materials needed to do their research in an attempt to avoid repeating certain events in history.

As a young college student at Boston University, he was a history major and later completed a master's degree in education at UNH. After a period while working at Keene State College's Mason Library as an acquisitions person, he realized he was interested in Archive Management, so he completed a degree at Simmons College. An archivist is a person who accumulates & organizes records that future generations will study, not to influence WHAT they will study, but to have the materials present when it comes time to study them.

When Chris, his wife Gaynelle and two children Ella and Greg moved to Sullivan in 1985, during the town's bicentennial celebration, he volunteered to become a library trustee. In our library, Chris found a file cabinet FILLED with the town's history. Nadine Henry, another trustee at that time, directed him to the attic, and among mouse droppings and other debris, he found, "a gold mine of history!" as he excitedly stated when we met. At that point he saw the need for a Town Archivist, so the volunteer job was created. Chris has shared a trove of information with the citizens of Sullivan during various times throughout the year, in our Sullivan Newsletter, at Memorial Day observances as well as other town gatherings.

In the last couple of years Chris has become fascinated with the events leading up to the Civil War and the relationship of slavery to the war. He says that this period of history is interesting to him because it is so different than how we are living now. He states that you can't edit history, but we each see it and interpret it from our own perspective.

Chris explains that about 25 years ago the Town Moderator said he didn't want the job any longer. So, Chris went to training sessions, learned a lot of statutory information along with other procedures about administering elections and became our Town Moderator. I know I feel comfortable with the way he runs the meetings, his obvious knowledge of procedures and his awareness of the and town and state's history.

Our Town Archivist is a fascinating storyteller, and I was lucky enough to hear some of the stories, one of which took place when he and Gaynelle were going to replace their old, dilapidated barn and have a new one built. Chris relates, "Phil Hamilton came by, he was digging out the foundation for it, and he asked me, 'Can I just take away the fill, do you mind?' I said, 'No, no help yourself.' Well, he started digging and I don't think he found any dirt at all. You can't throw a shovel in the ground without hitting a boulder. I think the glaciers threw up when it got to this valley."

It is also obvious that our Town Moderator has a love of the natural environment. He noted that when they were looking in Sullivan for a house, he was struck by the fall colors of the maple trees on Cross Road in full regalia and the beautiful sound of the babbling brook in their soon-to-be backyard. He said he realized, "This is home and we're happy to be here."

And we're also glad Sullivan is your home, Chris! And I so declare.

Side note: By doing these articles, it has become obvious to me that it takes a variety of people with diverse interests, personalities, and skills to create a community. How lucky we are!

NEARBY ZIPLINES - SUMMER FUN FOR SURE!

Morningside Flight Park, Charlestown, 603-542-4416

The two Zip Line Canopy Tours are among the tamer adventures at Morningside Flight Park, where New Hampshire visitors can also try hang-gliding or paragliding. <https://flymorningside.kittyhawk.com/zip-lining/>

Mount Sunapee, Newbury, 603-763-3564

The zipline season runs from summer through early fall at Mount Sunapee's South Peak. Guides lead you through a series of eight ziplines, offering views of dense forest and surrounding mountains.

<https://lake-sunapee-living.com/mount-sunapee/mount-sunapee-adventure-park/>

From the Fire Department

The Outdoors - walking & hiking



Now that summer is approaching, and the weather is nice out, many people like to partake of the wonders of the outdoors and go for a hike. Unfortunately, some people do not plan appropriately for what they may encounter. Here are a few tips, so you are not caught off guard.

First off, and this has been said numerous times in past articles, know your limitations. Yes, you may have climbed Mt Monadnock without breaking a sweat 25 years ago. Now that you spend most of your time walking to and from a cubical, waking up one day and deciding to do a recreation of past glory may not be a good idea. Try going for a walk around the block first. If that goes well, keep doing more and more and build up to your goal.

Know the terrain. An online search can tell you what you want to know about many places you may want to go hiking. Most state or local parks will have their own web sites describing conditions and providing maps. Even if there are no specific web sites for a location, you may be able to get information from user reviews or chat forums. You may also find out about warnings specific to the trails.

Another important factor you will want to look into is weather conditions. Advance notice of poor or adverse conditions will help you decide what sort of gear to bring, or even postpone your trip. Keep in mind conditions may change rapidly depending on time of day. A comfortable afternoon can turn very cold as the sun starts going down at higher elevations. Also, higher elevations may have completely different weather than what you have at your house, when you first set out.

Proper footwear is a must when it comes to walking and hiking. You will want to wear something that protects your entire foot, provides good ankle support, has good traction, and something that will, if needed, hold up in rough terrain. Ensure you "break-in" boots before heading out for extended hikes, because blisters are not a fun thing to deal with on the trail. Flip-flops, sandals, open toed shoes and thin-soled shoes are all off road accidents waiting to happen and should be avoided.

Some other useful tips:

--Hike with a friend!!!! Even better, hike with a group of friends. If you get hurt or into trouble they can help, or at the very least, go and get help.

--Right behind proper footwear, the most important equipment you can bring is bug spray and toilet paper (that is if you are not into feeding the little vampires and getting acquainted with strange leaves).

--Make sure your cellphone is fully charged before heading out on the trail.

--Let someone know where you are going and when you should be back. If you don't return, they can start making inquiries or alert rescue crews.

--Bring what you need, but remember you will have to carry it. An overloaded backpack will only seem to get heavier the longer it is carried.

--Hydrate. That would be with water, not coffee, soda or alcohol. Also start well before you head out.

Jewett Park Update

From Kathleen Wheeler

Unwanted trees (some dangerous) were recently removed from Jewett Park by Mark Smith and it's hoped to have the park usable by fall. If that happens, there may be another Fall Festival, but nothing is definite yet. All of the wood harvested will go next door to the Town Barn, and they will use it as fuel in their wood furnace. It's good to see it staying local.

After the trees are removed, Kevin (Wheeler) will be stumping and making the ground more level. Some fill may have to be brought in. There has also been talk of starting a pollinator garden on the Church Street side. When and where the garden is able to be planted will be posted on the Facebook page as an event.

Other things on the park agenda are:

*Fixing up the pavilions.

*Installing Park grills and park benches - Some generous residents and former residents that have reached out and offered to help with the cost of purchasing these items.

*Installing electric at the street pole at Church Street.

Also, a 3rd picnic table has been ordered, built by *Bill the Picnic Table Guy*. Each table will have a donor plaque on it - thanks to donors, Marsha Cook, Shelby & Chuck Moore and the last one was donated in memory of Karl Wheeler.

FROM THE SCHOOLS

Dear Sullivan Families,

Happy Summer from all of us at Nelson School!

We had a fantastic end of the year together, and are excited for all of the adventures our students will have over the summer. Special congratulations to all of our 5th grade graduates! We are so proud of everything that all of our students have accomplished this year, and we are already looking forward to what next year will bring.

New Registrations...

Just a reminder - students who are enrolling for the first time at Nelson School, whether new incoming K families or transferring from other schools should contact the school as soon as they know they will be joining us. While we have an abbreviated office schedule for the month of July and the first part of August, I will be checking e-mail at a regular interval even when I am not in the office. If you are needing to enroll your child at Nelson School for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year, please reach out as soon as possible to ngordon@sau29.org. I will be happy to help you to navigate our registration process!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Pancake Breakfast event in May! Our youngest students had a great time serving breakfast to the community. We greatly appreciate all of your generosity and support.

Thank you also to anyone who took a moment to contribute to our celebration of Ms. Cindy Benner's 30th year at Nelson School. We appreciate the cards and notes that some of our families and alumni sent our way. We also had a pair of volunteers construct "Ms Benner's Buddy Bench" in her honor. The Buddy Bench will be located on the playground at the Nelson School, and is a place where students can sit when they are seeking a friend to play with at recess. We are so lucky to have Ms. Benner on our staff, and are wishing her many more happy years at Nelson School.

We are already eagerly awaiting the start of the 2023-2024 school year and can't wait to welcome our students back on Wednesday, August 30!

Warmly,
Nicole Gordon
Principal

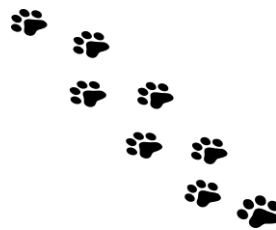
Sullivan School District News Congratulations, Graduates!

The Sullivan School Board would like to congratulate all our graduating students! Our high school graduates are Coda Colburn and Delilah Hatheway. Our middle school graduates are Katelyn Brooks, Katherine (Katie) Lemoine, Zoey Milotte, Alexandra (Alex) Scherpa and Rylee Wilcox. Our elementary school graduates are Anthony Scherpa and Andrew Smith. Congratulations again!

Hope everyone has a great summer and stays safe!
Malinda Sherpa for the Sullivan School Board

Income Eligible Low-Cost Animal Wellness Clinics!

by Eric Parker, Event & Marketing Coordinator



Monadnock Humane Society is here to help! MHS provides many services for the community in the Monadnock Region to help pet owners who might not have the ability to care for their animals like they deserve. From spay and neuter procedures to vaccinations and microchipping and everything in between.

Most MHS clinic services are open to everyone, but a few are specifically for our lower-income community members. All appointments for our clinics can be scheduled directly on our website. The spay/neuter clinic is open every Thursday and is available to everyone in the community by appointment. As of now MHS is booking pretty far out for these procedures and are only accepting cats at this time. To reserve a spot at the clinic, there is a \$25 non-refundable deposit. All cats over eight weeks old can be spayed or neutered, whether they are feral, in heat, or even pregnant. Following a full physical exam to ensure they are in good health, our onsite veterinarian will perform the surgery and give distemper complex and rabies vaccines as appropriate. The cost for the procedure is \$75 for neutering males and \$100 for spaying females and includes flea and ear mite treatment for all cats. Microchips are available for an additional \$10 per animal with a spay or neuter procedure.

The demand for these lower-cost, open to the public, services is very high. Which is why we encourage people to reach out to their local veterinarian first. In many cases they can see your pet in a more timely manner. There are several state and federal assistance programs to help with some costs of pet ownership. NH Animal Population Control Program, "State Plan B," which you can apply for by calling the Department of Agriculture: (603) 271-3697. NH Spay/Neuter Hotline at www.animalallies.org, or call 603-228-6755. Or the Friends of Animals program at 1-800-321-PETS.

The **Public Rabies Vaccination and Microchipping Clinic** is also by appointment only and is held Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. The costs are \$15 for rabies vaccines and \$20 for microchipping. New Hampshire State Law dictates that all animals need to be at least twelve weeks old in order to receive the rabies vaccine.

MHS also offers a Preventative Care Clinic for those in our community who are currently receiving state or federal financial assistance. Proof of financial aid is required at the time of service. Housing agreements, community kitchen help, utilities assistance and food stamps are all acceptable. This clinic is open Wednesday mornings by appointment between 9 a.m. and noon. This clinic is specifically for low-income pet owners living in the Monadnock Region. The MHS Preventative Care Clinic helps reduce the costs of vaccinations that your pet needs for their health and your safety. All appointments include exams, minimal diagnostics and preventative vaccinations. Pricing is listed on our website and ranges for \$10 to \$40 depending on the vaccine.

In addition to our clinics, Monadnock Humane Society also offers non-veterinary services for pet owners in the community who may be in a difficult situation. Our **Pet Food Pantry** is stocked by the community to offer free pet food for people who are experiencing financial struggles. The **Animal Safety Net Program** offers free boarding and medical care to pets of community members who might be fleeing domestic violence, are homeless, are entering a drug, mental health, and/or medical treatment program, or in an emergency situation where they are unable to care for their animal(s). MHS is also staffed seven days a week for those in our community who need to schedule an appointment to surrender a pet for any reason. <https://monadnockhumanesociety.org/> 603-352-9011

Household Hazardous Waste Collection!

A great opportunity to clean toxic wastes from your basement, workbench, garage, and cupboards.

Summer 2023

Sat. July 15 Wed. July 19 Sat. July 29

Sat. Aug. 5 Wed. Aug. 9 Sat. Aug. 19

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

Keene Recycling Center, 55 Old Summit Road, Keene

<https://keenenh.gov/public-works/household-hazardous-waste-information>

What to Bring

Products marked toxic, poison, corrosive, irritant, hazardous, flammable, danger.

If you think it's hazardous, bring it up.

What Not to Bring: empty containers (can be recycled), latex paint, ammunition, fireworks, radioactive materials, makeup & toiletries

Other Information: Containers must be labeled as to their contents. No containers larger than 10 gallons will be accepted. 603-352-5739

Collection takes approximately 10 minutes from time of arrival.

EXTENDED SATURDAY HOURS AT THE RECYCLING CENTER!

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Saturdays 7AM to 3PM**

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**MEMORIAL DAY
TO
LABOR DAY**

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7:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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Town Highway Dept. 603- 847-3366
Sullivan Church 603-847-9030
Sullivan Fire Station 603-847-9020
Sullivan Library 603-847-3458
Sullivan Post Office 603- 847-9720
Nelson School 603-847-3408
Keene Middle School 603-357-9020
Keene High School 603-352-0640
Sheriff (non-emergency) 603-352-4238
EMERGENCY 911

<https://townofsullivannh.com/>

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, \$45 per full page or \$25 for ½ page. Make checks out to Sullivan Newsletter. Mail to PO Box 110; Sullivan, NH 03445 or drop it off at the town hall with the town clerk or administrative assistant.

Deadline for the next newsletter is August 20. 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 603-847-3477

Assistant Editor: Gaynelle Pratt

For Burn Permits Call:

Al Henry, Chief & Warden 603-847-9598
Mike Blanchard, Deputy Warden 603- 847-9680
Paul Bolduc, Deputy Warden 603-498-2578
JR Guyette Deputy Warden 603-852-2815
Erik Kazlouskas, Deputy Warden 603- 903-2881

Please note: 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.

SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER

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Sullivan, NH 03445

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