

Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol 42 No. 2

Sullivan, NH

Sept. – Oct. 2022

STATE PRIMARY ELECTION Sullivan Town Hall – Sept. 13

The **NH State Primary Election** is September 13th with polls open from 8 am to 7 pm. Sample ballots can be found at the town hall, library, post office and on the town website. You will need to declare a party (either Democratic or Republican) to vote in this election. After voting, you will have the option of changing back to Undeclared or to another party. Please remember your photo ID. Masks are requested.

See page 2 of this newsletter for information on ballots, absentee voting and more!

NELSON SCHOOL PTO BBQ & FARMER'S MARKET!

Saturday, Sept. 10 – Nelson School Parking Lot

Farmer's Market from 9a to noon ~ Free vendor space for Nelson School students

BBQ to benefit PTO – 11 to 1pm

See flyers around town or

<https://nelsonincommon.org/event/nelson-farmers-market/>

Save the Date – Sept. 24! ANNUAL FIRE DEPARTMENT DRIVE-THRU BBQ!

Join the Sullivan Fire Department on Saturday, September 24th at the Fire Station from noon-5pm for our well-known BBQ Pulled Pork and Beef Brisket Meals, including sides, dessert and a drink. Enjoy your meal to-go for \$15.

Also, make sure to get your tickets for our **5th Annual October Calendar Raffle**. See any department member or stop by the fire station on Wednesday nights between 7 and 9pm. We will also have tickets for sale at our BBQ Drive-Thru. 31 prizes will be raffled off in the month of October. \$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

We hope to see you on the 24th!

CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR ELECTRIC BILL? HOME ENERGY WORKSHOP COMING TO SULLIVAN!

Sullivan Conservation is sponsoring a "Button Up Program" on **Thursday Oct. 6th at 6:30pm** at the Sullivan Town Hall and on Zoom! Learn about several energy efficient programs that provide energy audits, rebates on new technologies and products such as electric and gas appliances, high efficiency electric heating/cooling equipment and weatherization measures such as air sealing and insulating. Ask questions – talk to the experts! **Details inside.**

A FAMILY WOODS WALK with a LITTLE LOCAL HISTORY!

Sponsored by Sullivan Conservation, we're pleased to join with Town Historian, Chris Pratt on **Oct. 1** at 2pm to offer a bit of history in a different part of town, the Piper Memorial Forest on Gilsum Rd. **See inside for all the details!**

ELECTIONS 2022

State Primary Election – Sept. 13 from 8am to 7pm, Sullivan Town Hall, you will need to declare a party (either Democratic or Republican) to vote in this election. After voting, you will have the option of changing back to Undeclared or to another party.

SEE SAMPLE BALLOTS ON THE TOWN WEBSITE!

<https://townofsullivannh.com/> & posted around town
Find them under “Community” & “Voting”.

General Election – Nov. 8 from 8am to 7pm, 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 for information.

Voter Registration - Not registered to vote? You can register anytime with the Town Clerk. There will be a Supervisors of the Checklist Session at the Sullivan Library on Tues., Sept. 6th from 7 to 7:30pm and another before the General Election on Sat., Oct., 29th from 11 to 11:30am. Bring proof of residency, citizenship and age.

Election Procedure

The procedures for both elections will be unchanged from the Town Election in March and the 2020 General Election. Enter from the door facing Centre Street. Upon entering, an election worker will be on hand to greet people and advise those with questions regarding registering to vote, etc. In order to keep the check-in lines moving, PLEASE, have your photo ID out and ready to present before you enter the hall. Masks are requested, but not required.

The Town Clerk’s office is closed on Election Days.

Changes in our State Legislative Representation Sullivan is in Two Districts Now!

As the 2022 election season approaches, voters need to be aware of a change in how Sullivan will be represented in the N.H. State House of Representatives. Sullivan will now be in two legislative districts (District 8 and District 16), which means we will be voting for **two** legislators in November, instead of the usual one. This change also means that our current representative, Daniel Eaton, will not be on our ballot as he is now in another district. This change is due to a reorganization of legislative boundaries brought on by population shifts recorded in the 2020 census, and the subsequent reapportionment of legislative seats.

For many years Sullivan has been in a district with Gilsum, Nelson and Stoddard. Under the new boundaries, we will be in District 8 together with Harrisville, Marlborough, Nelson and Roxbury.

In addition, Sullivan will also be in what is known as a flatorial district (District 16). New Hampshire and a few other states use this kind of district in order to maintain a constant number of legislators and provide extra representation to clusters of towns that would not otherwise be entitled to another seat. Another way to explain it is, the seat is an “at large” representative. The new district includes Alstead, Gilsum, Harrisville, Keene’s Ward 2, Marlborough, Marlow, Nelson, Roxbury, Stoddard and Sullivan.

A FAMILY WOODS WALK with a LITTLE LOCAL HISTORY! Piper Memorial Forest – Oct. 1 2pm Sponsored by the Sullivan Conservation Commission

Join us for a woods-walk and a little local history in a different part of Sullivan. Meet in the parking area of the Piper Memorial Forest (on Gilsum Rd., about ½ mile beyond Boynton Rd., if coming from Centre St.) on Sat., Oct. 1 at 2pm (rain date Oct. 2).

We’ll venture up into the Piper Forest with Chris Pratt, town historian, who will treat us to some little-known, interesting tidbits of information about the area - the Winchester family, their nearby cellar hole, two former schools in that part of town, Mrs. Peabody and probably much more!

We will be going up and down hills on open trails, but the ground may be somewhat uneven. It’s expected to last about 1 ½ to 2 hours. No dogs please.

NHSaves Button Up Workshop Hosted by Sullivan Conservation Oct. 6 6:30PM

Button Up New Hampshire, the popular home energy savings workshop series, is coming to Sullivan! The Conservation Commissions of Sullivan, Gilsum, Nelson and Stoddard are hosting this free workshop for residents on Thursday October 6th at 6:30pm at the Sullivan Town Hall, 452 Centre St., Sullivan NH. This workshop is in person and on Zoom (see below for how to get the Zoom link). The workshop is sponsored by NHSaves and coordinated statewide by the Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI).

NHSaves is a collaboration of New Hampshire's electric and natural gas utilities (Eversource, Liberty Utilities, NH Electric Cooperative and Unitil). The utilities are working together to provide NH customers with information, incentives, and support designed to save energy, reduce costs and protect the NH environment. PAREI of Plymouth, NH is working with local groups around the state to bring these workshops to the public on behalf of New Hampshire's utilities.

The NHSaves Button Up Workshop is a 1.5 hour presentation about how to improve the energy efficiency of your home. It is conducted by a certified energy auditor and covers basic building science principles as well as examples of whole house weatherization measures that will button up your home for the heating and cooling seasons. It also covers details about the energy efficiency programs offered by NH utilities (for existing homes and new construction) that provide energy audits, weatherization measures, such as air sealing and insulating and rebates on new technologies and products, such as electric and gas appliances and high efficiency electric heating/cooling equipment.

NH residents wishing to use energy more efficiently, conserve energy and save money on their heating and cooling bills, will find the workshop presentation very helpful. The local workshop organizer, Wendy Byrn from the Sullivan Conservation Commission said, "We are bringing this workshop to Town because it offers valuable and practical information about how to **save energy** and **reduce costs** while making our homes more comfortable. The information about **available funding** can also help make these improvements possible for more people. With the high cost of energy, efficiency is now more important than ever. I hope many people will take the time to attend this informative workshop."

The workshop is free to the public and is in person or on Zoom. You can register and get the Zoom link by emailing bcummings708@gmail.com. For other questions call Wendy Byrn at 603-847-9621. For more information on the Sullivan workshop or other NHSaves Button Up Workshops visit https://nhsaves.com/learn/?resource_type=events. Workshop organizers also recommend the public sign-up with NHSaves Facebook and Twitter pages for up-to-date information on energy saving tips and programs.

UPDATE FROM THE SULLIVAN COUNTRY STORE

Hi everyone!

It's been a while since we've included updates in the newsletter, so first, we want to thank you all for your continued patience and support. When we moved into the house above the store in January 2021, we never thought the road to reopening was going to be so long! So, we thank you. Below are some updates!

With wrapping up our Local Crowd Monadnock crowdfunding campaign, we were able to excavate and reinstall our gas lines, that was the final step to completing the septic system installation. Septic Pro did a phenomenal job in completing the project and landscaping. Thank you to Joe Lake for such a prompt response and finding ways to save us money!

Once the septic was complete, we received news that we were among 134 grantees nationwide to receive America's Healthy Food Financing Initiative Targeted Small Grants Program. We are extremely humbled to have been selected to receive this incredible opportunity. There are so many necessary, healthy food retail projects and enterprises on the list of grantees, and we are so fortunate to be one of them. Later in the summer, we also received news that we were selected to receive Cheshire County's second round of ARPA grant funding.

These two sources of funding will allow us to do so much with the Sullivan Country Store, beyond the scope of just reopening. These programs are going to allow us to do the following: install new commercial windows in the store, purchase new refrigeration (we need coolers!), install a French drain, finish all necessary updates to our electrical systems, reinstall flooring in the commercial kitchen, install a customer restroom, mitigate water damage in the basement to allow for storage of overstock inventory, purchase new shelving and storage, purchase inventory and so much more. We are looking at this fall for tentatively reopening, but be sure to follow us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/NHcountrystore> or sign up for our newsletter for more updates by texting SULLIVANSTORE to 22828!

SULLIVAN BITS & PIECES

MEMO FROM THE SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

As part of our broadband initiative, the selectmen are changing and adding to town email addresses. Below are the new addresses. If you forget and use the old one, you will get an automatic reminder to change it. No need to send it twice though, it will be forwarded to the new one (at least for the time being).

selectmen@townofsullivannh.com Administrative Assistant & Selectmen
townclerk@townofsullivannh.com
highway@townofsullivannh.com
planning@townofsullivannh.com
conservation@townofsullivannh.com

TOWN FOOD PANTRY REMINDER - OPEN TWO NIGHTS EACH MONTH!

The Sullivan Food Pantry, located in the rear, lower level of the Sullivan Congregation Church, is open on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. **Upcoming dates are Sept 8 and 22, Oct 13 and 27.** Any town resident may stop by and pick up food and paper goods. If you would prefer home delivery, please contact the Town Hall (603-847-3316) or Gaynelle Pratt, Food Pantry Coordinator, at 603-847- 3271. If you, or someone you know is in immediate need, feel free to call anytime. Donations of paper goods or nonperishable food for the pantry may be left at the Sullivan Post Office, the Town Hall or the Library. Many thanks to all for helping neighbors by supporting the pantry!

SEW & SEW'S TO BEGIN – sew, craft, crochet, quilt or just visit – it's a great way to meet people! The Sullivan group will start meeting each Monday, beginning on Oct. 3rd from 1 pm to 2:30pm in the upper level of the church (use front entrance with the long sidewalk). There will not be a lot of sewing machines available, so we're recommending handwork only (carry-in/carry-out). For more information call Mary Hull at 847-9718.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR - The Country Christmas Craft Fair, sponsored by the Sullivan Friends of the Library and the Sullivan Church, will be at the Sullivan Church on Saturday, **Nov. 12 from 9am-2pm**. If you are interested in having a table, contact Gaynelle Pratt at 847-3271.

SANTA DAY - will be on Saturday, **December 3 from 1-2:30 pm**. A great Christmas shopping experience for the whole family where gifts are only 25¢ each! Donations of new or gently used items appreciated - especially gifts for adults. Please drop them off at the library or call Gaynelle Pratt to make other arrangements.

SULLIVAN CONSERVATION – interested in joining the group? We could use a new member or two. Meeting nights are on the 4th Wednesdays, at 6:30 at the Town Hall. If interested, call Kathleen at the Town Hall 847-3316 or Wendy at 209-0333.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on September 8, October 13 and November 10, 2022 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.

Archives News

The Town Archives webpage continues to expand thanks, to the work of Bob Switzer. There are now a few “Sullivan Stories” on the town web page <https://townofsullivannh.com>. These include Grace Barker's trip to Washington, DC, in 1910, the story of the “backwards bridge,” and the many lives of Union Hall in East Sullivan. The collection also includes a reminiscence by Patricia McMahon Clark called “Wild Strawberries.” All of these were previously published in the [Sullivan Newsletter](#).

In addition to Book 1 of the Sullivan Town Clerk records, several other record books were recovered by Sheila Smith. The most important of these are the missing vital statistics (births, deaths, marriages and marriage intentions). Until now, the archives only contained vital statistics from about 1880 to the present. We now have the data from 1787 to 1879. Using this information, however, will be difficult as they are spread over several record books. Also, the various town clerks used different methods to record the information—some by alphabetical order and some by date. Still, it's good to finally get these “lost” records into the archives.

“LIBRARY FOOTNOTES”

From Your Big Free Library

Summer reading was a big success! As you remember, Sullivan entered into a friendly three-town-wide reading competition this year to see which town could read the most weight in books and/or the most amount of time spent reading. The towns of Sullivan, Gilsum, and Surry were competing for the honor of holding the Ice Cream Sundae Trophy. The results of said competition are as follows:

For materials weighed:

Sullivan - 90 lbs

Gilsum - 65 lbs

Surry - not available

For reading minutes logged:

Gilsum - 250 hours

Sullivan - 20 hours

Surry - 3 hours

Sullivan will hold the trophy through December because we had the most pounds of materials read, but we will pass it on to the Gilsum Public Library in January because they ran away with how many hours were spent reading! Be sure to follow us on Facebook to see pictures of that exchange!

Dungeons and Dragons is being hosted at the library the first and third Saturday of each month from 9am to noon. If you are age 14 and up, you are welcome to join in the fun!

2nd Saturday Book Group - are you into mystery/suspense novels? Come and join us on the 2nd Saturday of each month and read a mystery with us. On September 10 we will be discussing *The Bat* by Jo Nesbo. This is the first in the Harry Hole series. The book for the October 8th meeting will be *The Blessing Way* by Tony Hillerman, the first in the Joe Leaphorn series.

Some new books that we have added into our collection are: *James Patterson* by James Patterson, *Summer Sisters* by Judy Blume, *Last Man Standing* by David Baldacci and *Dark Sacred Night* by Michael Connelly.

We wish to issue a very special thank you to the Friends of the Library for providing all of the materials for the crafts, a few new books and the ice cream novelties for our social on July 31. And thank you to all who have given us books and other materials for our collection. We appreciate you all very much.

Your Librarians,

Paulette Tuttle and Sara Bolduc

From The Little Free Library at 312 Centre Street

The Little Free Library on Centre Street has grown and expanded. We added an additional library in mid- August that holds many more books!

Did you know there's an APP for Little Free Libraries? Well, there is! Look for it on Google play or the Apps Store and download it today! Little Free Library, [Little Free Library, Ltd.](https://littlefreelibrary.org/about/)

I recently traveled north past Plymouth and then over towards Conway finding several little free libraries along our way. We added a few books from our library to theirs.

Little Free library fact (<https://littlefreelibrary.org/about/>).

- More than **250 million books** have been shared through registered Little Free Libraries, profoundly increasing book access for readers of all ages and backgrounds.
- There are more than 125,000 Little Free Libraries spread across 100+ countries
- Little Free Library Volunteer Stewards meet new neighbors! True here - I have met lots of new people who stop by to use our library.
- Calling all *Jeopardy* and Little Free Library fans! We were recently a clue on this iconic game show—and we think you would have gotten the answer right. Category: Free Stuff. Clue: “In 2009, Todd Bol made a model full of books in tribute to his mother, a teacher. It became this three-word concept, with more than 100,000 worldwide.

Along with books you may find coloring supplies, toys, stickers, and bookmarks available in the library. Remember- take a book, share a book or leave a book – Tammy Rondeau.

From The Little Free Library at 426 Valley Road

The Valley Road Little Library is fully stocked with “cool” summer bookmarks and books for all ages (board books are hiding on the top shelf)! The painting project was put on hold while the day lilies bloomed around the library, but that's back on our to-do list. Fun fact: according to the University of Sussex (UK), reading can reduce stress by up to 68%! We hope you'll stop by for a book or two. Happy reading! -The Pinard Family

From the Archives

by Chris Pratt

For some-time, I have been looking for Book 1 of the Sullivan Town Clerk Records. This book covered the town's historical record from our incorporation to when Book 2 begins in 1790. I knew it had existed—first of all because Rev. J.L. Seward referred to it several times in his history of Sullivan and, secondly, because it is by law a record that had to be preserved permanently. Over the years I found clues to its existence, but never the book itself. Now, thanks to Sheila Smith, I can report that the book has been found and now resides in the Sullivan Town Archives.

The history of record keeping in our town is similar to many other towns. Since the Colonial era, the responsibility for keeping town records in New Hampshire has resided with the town clerk. Until 2007, the Sullivan Town Clerks worked out of their homes which meant that any records would reside with a single individual. When a new clerk was elected, the records would be transferred from one home to another. Obviously, this would increase the chance that documents could be lost due to carelessness, water damage, theft or fire—which has happened in a number of other towns. In the early days of our town, the office of town clerk changed hands frequently—sometimes every year—again increasing the chances of loss. Of course, as time went on, the number of records requiring preservation increased dramatically and one of my fears was that some records might not have been kept because of space issues.

Starting in 1903, the New Hampshire Secretary of State began a town records project which required towns, including Sullivan, to send their vital records to Concord. They were copied into record books there and preserved in the State Archives. So, did the State accidentally keep the book? A check with the State Archivist showed that it had been returned to Sullivan. So, where did it go? My concern was that since the state now had the records, someone might conclude that the book was no longer needed and it was destroyed.

Beginning in the 1980s, a number of town record books were recovered from the old town offices in East Sullivan and transferred to the Sullivan Public Library. That collection became the core of the town archives public records collection. While Book 2 was located in that set of records, Book 1 was not there.

Our longest serving Town Clerk, Lois Woodbury, retired at the end of her term in 2007, and all of the records she had were moved to the new town hall. Most of the historical records joined the archives collection at that point. However, there was no sign of Book 1. Its existence (or non-existence) soon became one of my main preservation quests.

As it turned out, the book was in a box with several other records in a closet at Lois Woodbury's house—apparently overlooked when she transferred the other records. Her daughter, Sheila Smith, found them and gave them to the archive.

The book measures 8½" x 10" and begins with the first meeting of the town in James Rowe's barn on 29 October, 1787. The business of the meeting was to elect the first board of selectmen and to appoint a committee to walk or "perambulate" the new town boundaries with the assistance of a surveyor named Jeremiah Stiles. Apparently, the book was purchased after that event as Town Clerk James Locke indicated that the meeting notes were copied into the book from notes made by the first Town Clerk, Roswell Hubbard. After Book 2 was adopted for town meeting records, Book 1 continued to be used for records of town permits and vital statistics until the 1840s.

Needless to say, I am very excited that this record book has been located. In addition to the documentation it provides, it will be a primary source for future generations interested in our history. I would add that we citizens of the community owe a debt of gratitude to Sheila Smith for locating the records and bringing them to the archives!

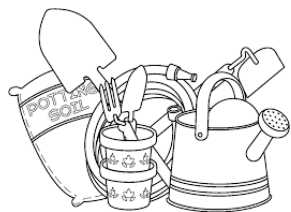
Correction - From the Archives - July/August issue

The block on the corner of Main & Davis Streets was incorrectly identified as the Pannadue Block – it should have read Pananides (or Bloomer) Block.

A Different Looking Flag on the Fire Department Flagpole?

After a little investigation, we discovered the new flag is a gift from Chief Al Henry to his Department members. The black & white flag with the thin red line was developed to show support and solidarity with fire service personnel and to honor injured or fallen firefighters. Thank you, Al!

If you see a similar flag with a thin blue line, it shows support for law enforcement.



TIPS FROM A MASTER GARDENER: BETTER LAWNS & GARDENS WITH LESS WORK

Submitted by Leslie Casey

It's been a pretty dry summer, wouldn't you agree? Lawns are turning brown, gardens are getting crispy. As gardeners, we celebrate the things that managed to do well despite everything. And, as for the things that did not do so well – there's always next year!

Dry summers are becoming more frequent here in southern NH. Here are some tips for keeping lawns and gardens healthy and productive without stressing your well, based on a publication from the University of California (where they have considerable experience with drought conditions).

- Capture water to use on the lawn and garden. Set up rain barrels, or place buckets in the shower when running to warm it up. Make sure only clean water touches any plant part you plan to eat!
- Keep soil healthy to encourage deep roots. Compost is great for helping soil to hold moisture and preventing compaction. It improves nutrient availability as well.
- Only plan to water the amount of lawn and garden that you really need.
- To get the most out of the water you do apply, grow high yielding vegetables like beans, chard, eggplants, peppers, tomatoes, squash and amaranth.
- Learn the moisture needs of different plants. Generally, cool season crops are not drought resistant. Most brassicas (broccoli, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower), lettuce, root crops, celery, leeks and onions perform best with regular water.
- Tomatoes and winter squash are OK with less water once they have set fruit.

New topic: I am tentatively declaring victory over Squash Vine Borers. If you are not familiar with these evil beasts, check out the UNH Extension fact sheet "Managing Squash Vine Borer Problems in New Hampshire." SVB wiped out my squash and cucumbers last year despite my efforts. This year I used pheromone traps from Great Lakes IPM, <https://www.greatlakesipm.com/> to great effect. If you go that route and choose to use the optional insecticide strips, be sure to handle and dispose of the strips according to the label.

An insect problem that can be surprisingly destructive to fall crops is cutworms. Cutworms are a family of moth caterpillars that are active at various times of the year and overwinter in the ground. They feed at night. The species that are active in the fall are adept at climbing plants to feed, leading to considerable damage. During drought periods, the well-watered plants in our gardens are juicy targets. For control, Sluggo Plus is a bait that is approved for organic gardens. A more satisfying option, though, is to go out after dark with a head lamp and hand pick them. They make great snacks for the chickens.

What kind of a year did YOU have in the garden? Drop me an email – I'd be interested to hear!

I hope you have enjoyed these tips. If you have gardening questions, email me: LCCasey29@hotmail.com. I will try to find you the answer or I will forward your question to one of our UNH Extension experts.

Cheshire County Conservation District Announces Honoring our Veterans at Farmer's Markets in September!

Every September, the Cheshire County Conservation District partners with local farmer's markets to celebrate Cheshire County Veterans! Each market day in September Cheshire County Veterans are invited to participating farmers' markets to receive a \$20 voucher to purchase food items.

Cheshire County Veterans are invited every week, and will receive another \$20 each week they attend! The goal of this program is to show our gratitude and appreciation to service members for protecting our freedoms, and to expand markets for farmers.

This program in Cheshire County is not based on need, but rather serves as a way for our community to say "Thank you" to our local service members for protecting our freedoms. This program also serves to boost the local farm economy by bringing more business to our local markets – a win/win for the Veteran and the farmer!

Participating Farmer's Markets

The Farmer's Market of Keene - Commercial Street Parking Lot off of Gilbo Ave. - Saturdays 9am-1pm.

Winchester Farmer's Market - 1 Richmond Rd. - Saturdays 9am-1pm.

[Veteran Appreciation Month | CCCD \(cheshireconservation.org\)](#)

From the Fire Department



This time around, we will be talking about a few general safety items you can check around your house. Most of them are cheap fixes and only take a few minutes to see, too. We will be touching on a few of the main household safety items. If you are interested in looking into more safety items, the NFPA,(National Fire Prevention Assoc.) and State Fire Marshalls office web sites are two excellent sources of information. <https://www.nfpa.org/> & <https://www.firemarshal.dos.nh.gov/>

The first, and possibly the most important safety item in your house would be smoke detectors. Many people think the fire itself is the most dangerous aspect in a fire, but most fatalities occur from smoke inhalation. Smoke detectors are vital for early warning and allowing people to escape before conditions deteriorate to the point where rescue is needed. Two issues we are going to touch upon are testing/maintenance and placement.

Smoke detectors should be tested once a month by simply pressing the test button. The best way to remember is just pick a day and do your test each month then (last day of the month, first Monday, etc.). Batteries should be changed annually, and again pick a day and stick to it. Even hardwired systems have back-up batteries. If your fire alarm is chirping, it means the batteries need to be replaced. The sensors in detectors degrade and become less effective over time. Smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years. Every smoke detector should have a label on it to tell you how old it is. CO alarms or combination CO/fire alarms should be changed every seven years.

Proper placement of smoke alarms, as well as having enough of them throughout the house is important to give you the advanced warning you need to save yourself in a fire. There should be a detector inside each sleeping area in the house, as well as outside the each sleeping area. There should also be at least one detector on each level of the house. If possible, have all the detectors in the house linked, so if one goes off, all of them go off.

The next item to discuss is an escape plan. Simply put, it is how you plan to exit the house. If possible, you want to have multiple escape routes planned out, and they need to be realistic. Asking a small child to jump out of a third story window into your arms or having an 80-year-old with advance arthritis climb down a rope are recipes for disaster. If you have children or people with diminished capacity in your household, it is important to practice the escape plan several times a year, so everyone knows what to do, when to do it, and where to go without having to think about it. This is because being in a burning building is a very stressful thing. It is very easy to become excited and confused in that environment. An escape plan that is not practiced, especially if the normal/easy escape route is blocked, and an alternate/unconventional route has to be taken, can lead to a tragic outcome if a person cannot think clearly and save themselves.

Fire extinguishers are another safety item that should be in every house. It would not hurt to have one extinguisher in each part of the house that has a fire hazard. The kitchen is a big one. Also, around heating appliances, particularly wood stoves. Workshops are another area of concern, particularly if you are grinding (sparks) or using torches or soldering. There are different types of extinguishers, but a commercial ABC extinguisher should be good for most common fires in the household. If you hit a fire when it first starts with an extinguisher, you may put the fire out or at least slow the fire's spread. Either way, do not spend an excessive amount of time trying to put the fire out yourself at the expense of being able to escape.

The last thing we are going to bring up are doors and windows. Remember that a blocked door is a blocked escape route. Keep doors clear of clutter or anything that would prevent them from being opened in an emergency. Keep doors to sleeping areas closed when you are sleeping. This will help keep smoke from entering your room as quickly, and slow the spread of the fire. This will buy you more time to escape the house, or may give the fire department enough time to rescue you. And lastly windows. If you do have a fire, and your doors are closed, your next way out is a window which opens freely. The NFPA Life Safety Code 100 says the window opening should be at least 20" wide and 24" tall. Of course, we know in many homes' bedroom windows do not meet this specification. So, what is your best option? At a minimum, make sure the window at least opens freely by hand, without tools.

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.

EARLY DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER! The deadline for the Nov./Dec. issue will be Oct. 15.

SULLIVAN SCHOOL NEWS

From Nelson School...

Hello Sullivan Families!

We hope that everyone had a relaxing summer. We are so excited to be welcoming your children back to school on Wednesday, August 31st!

We are looking forward to a wonderful year, with learning and celebration of community being the focal points, as we establish our new normal. We have several exciting events coming up for our students and families, with the first being a Farmer's Market/Welcome Back BBQ co-sponsored by the Nelson Agricultural Commission and the Nelson School PTO. This will take place at the school on Saturday, September 10th at the school. The Farmer's Market will run from 9-noon, with rumors of a contra dance happening from noon-12:30. The BBQ will take place from 11-1. It will be a great way to start our new year together as a community, and we hope to see you there!

We will also have our Open House on Wednesday, September 21st from 6-7PM. More information will be forthcoming in our September school newsletter.

One of the things we are looking forward to most this year is the return of traditions that have long been held dear at Nelson School, as well as the implementation of some new programs and experiences. This fall will see the return of our pancake breakfasts, our Thanksgiving feast, and many other events and activities that make Nelson School so special. We are so excited for artist Wendy Klemperer to bring her art to our community this fall, and we have some exciting plans for expanding our music program. Stay tuned for more information!

As students come home during the first week, keep an eye out for our **Back-to-School packet**, which will contain a lot of important information and forms that will need to be returned. This includes our **Free & Reduced Lunch Application**. As a gentle reminder, we will no longer be providing free breakfast/snack and lunch for all students, so completing this application is especially important this year. Please be sure to send all forms back to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

We cannot wait to see all of our students and hear their stories. We are looking forward to 2022-2023 being the best school year yet!

-Nicole Gordon, Principal - Nelson School

Sullivan School District News

The Sullivan School District would like to welcome all students back to school for the 2022-2023 school year. We hope you have all had a good summer. Students returned to school August 31st.

The board would like to welcome Kim Caron as our new superintendent. He started July 1 after Ken Dassau retired. We have had a smooth transition thus far, and Kim has been very supportive. The board has a vacancy for the treasurer position, as Milton Trimitsis retired as treasurer as of June 8th. Anyone interested in this position should contact Mike Brooks, the school board chair, Sullivanschooldistrict.chair@gmail.com. The board continues to meet the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. The public is always welcome to attend school board meetings.

-Malinda Sherpa-

Nelson School Community Strings Program Restarts!

Suzuki trained violin teacher, Amy Caan will begin lessons for 4th & 5th graders in October. A class of 3rd graders will be added if there is enough interest.

Lessons will be held at the Nelson Congregational Church on Thursdays starting after school. Violins are supplied to Nelson & Sullivan students thanks to generous donors. Group lesson cost is \$15/lesson. We have applied for a grant. If we receive it, lessons will be subsidized. Home-schooled students welcome. The start date has yet to be determined. For more information contact Val at valvanmeier@yahoo.com.

Teacher, Amy Caan will be at the **Nelson Annual Farmers Market on Sept. 10th, Nelson School 9-12 at a booth**. She will be conducting a free, family friendly Contra Dance on the paved playground 12:00-12:30.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

IT'S WENDY BYRN!

by Risa Keene

I love this job, getting to know people I have never met before, as well as getting to know people I do know, better. This was the case when I interviewed Wendy Byrn.

Wendy moved to the Monadnock Region in 1989 when she came to work at the Child Development Center at Keene State College. She had always wanted to live out in the country as there was more space to have a garden and to satisfy her passion for the outdoors. So, in 2003 she chose to live in Sullivan.

She grew up in many places because her father was an Air Force meteorologist. Wendy was born in CA, lived in KS, England, Oregon, GA, VT and NH. She seems to get involved wherever she has lived and believes in the importance of developing a supportive community. This will become evident as you read the article.

Although she can be soft spoken, Wendy is kind, observant, passionate about nature, creative, a lifelong learner, has a wonderful sense of humor, enjoys people and exploring things she has never tried before. An example of her thirst for knowledge is a goal she set for herself 19 years ago, to learn to identify the plants on the road she lives on here in Sullivan. She continues to work on that goal along with others such as being able to identify local species of butterflies, and birds. Wendy always wanted to do some of the "small farming things," in order to be a part of protecting our food chain, so for several years she raised bees.

There are artists in her family and although she never tried painting before, Wendy decided to try her hand at this form of expression. She has made time for it by taking courses through adult learning programs as well as workshops on Star Island, part of the Isles of Shoals.

Because of her interests, along with her desire to get connected within the community, Wendy has become involved with the Conservation Commission in Sullivan. One of the roles of this committee is to support residents' appreciation and education of the outdoors and natural environment. Wendy talks about the incredible natural resources we have here in Sullivan, such as access to Mother Nature's sounds, wild animals who make their homes in the woodlands, fields, streams and wetlands in our community and the unblemished night time sky.

When she discusses her participation in the Conservation Commission, her face lights up. Wendy talked with me about the first annual Earth Day Celebration in Sullivan, which took place on April 23rd this year. The turnout was great for the first of these celebrations & included many residents, adults and children alike. The day was filled with the annual Road Clean Up, a sing-along led by Chip Woodbury, a luncheon and a display of Earth Day posters created by residents from our town. Wendy was quite taken by the variety of posters, some contained drawings, paintings, photographs and even poetry. She noted it really reflected people's connection with nature.

Wendy explained that one of her favorite places in Sullivan is the library. "The library opens us up to new resources and information. The librarians are helpful and can quickly borrow books from other towns." She also described it as a warm and friendly gathering place for residents of all ages.

Her face has a huge smile when she talks about her son Nick, daughter in-law, Liz, and grandson, Gabrielle. They are a big part of her life. Although her children live far from Sullivan, she keeps in touch with them through snail mail, email, Zoom and visits. Given her background in early childhood education you can be sure that Wendy uses her creativity when staying in touch with her kids, especially her grandson Gabe!

Thank you, Wendy, for giving me your time to conduct this interview and the invaluable support you provide to Sullivan.

Post Script: Wendy wants you to know that the Sullivan Conservation Commission will be sponsoring a workshop, available to all Sullivan residents, on energy efficiency programs. It will include information on how to make your home more energy efficient as well as resources to help you make necessary changes. It will be at the **Sullivan Town Hall 10/6/2022, 6:30-8:30 and on Zoom.** It's free and will be packed with helpful information.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection!

A great opportunity to clean toxic wastes around your house.

Fall 2021

Sat. Sept. 10 Wed. Sept. 14 Sat. Sept. 24

Sat. Oct. 8 Wed. Oct. 19 Sat. Oct. 29

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

Keene Recycling Center, 55 Old Summit Road, Keene

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

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.

JUSTICE of the PEACE
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Pastor Christopher Cornell
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1-877-428-2882, ext. 5
<https://www.cvtc-nh.org/>

[If you can volunteer some of your time, we can always
use more drivers!](#)

**33rd Annual HAMPTON BEACH SEAFOOD
FESTIVAL**

September 9-11, 2022

<https://hamptonbeach.org/events/seafood-festival/>

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 town clerk Mary Hull or administrative assistant.

Deadline for the next newsletter is EARLY! 15 Oct.

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

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

PO Box 110

Sullivan, NH 03445

~KIDS ARE BACK TO SCHOOL~

**IF LIGHTS ARE FLASHING,
PLEASE, NO PASSING!**

TOWN PHONE NUMBERS

Town Hall 603-847-3316

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 847-3408

Keene Middle School 603- 357-9020

Keene High School 603-352-0640

Sheriff (non-emergency) 603-352-4238

<https://townofsullivannh.com/>

For Burn Permits Call:

Al Henry, Chief & Warden 603-847-9598

Mike Blanchard, Deputy Warden 603- 847-9680

Erik Kazlouskas, Deputy Warden 603- 903-2881

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