



Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol. 45 No. 4

Sullivan, NH

Jan. – Feb. 2026

9th ANNUAL CHAPMAN POND KID'S ICE FISHING DERBY! Feb. 21 from 9am to 2pm



This is a free event for children, 2-15 years old. There will be lots of prizes and locally sourced lunch (bear, venison & chicken soups & stews).

Registration begins at 9am. There will be a limited supply of bait & tackle for those in need. Volunteers will be on hand to help with drilling holes and setting up. Participants are encouraged to bring an extra little bucket for bait. A dry change of clothes (gloves, boots & socks) is also recommended.

Updates will be posted on the Facebook Community page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sullivannah>.

Sponsors are welcome and always needed – cost is \$100. Your logo or name will be displayed on a large banner, as well as being shared on the Derby event page. 100% of the money goes back into the Derby, towards additional purchased trout, gear and prizes. Hopefully, each child will leave with something, as well!

Categories for trophies are as follows:

- *Largest Trout
- *Largest Perch
- *Largest Crappie
- *Most Fish Caught

(Runner-up trophies for each category will be awarded, too)

For more information, email Kathleen Wheeler at kd3960@yahoo.com or call (603) 852-4517.

WHERE DO YOUR TAX DOLLARS GO?

TOWN BUDGET HEARING

Sullivan Town Hall

Feb. 2 at 7pm

Joint School and Town Budget Hearings will be held at the Town Hall on Monday, Feb. 2, beginning at 7pm. What are Sullivan's tax dollars being spent on? Come and find out. This is the time to ask all your questions. Do you have suggestions?

TOWN & SCHOOL ELECTIONS & MEETINGS ARE IN MARCH

In order to vote on Town Election Day and at Town Meeting, you must be a registered voter!

Register to Vote:

Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Sullivan Public Library on **Tues., Jan. 20** between 7 and 7:30 pm and on **Sat., Feb. 28** from 11 to 11:30am for additions and corrections to the checklist. Bring proof of residency, citizenship and age. Residents may also register to vote with the **Town Clerk** or on **Election Day**.

New Requirement: Proof of Citizenship must be a birth certificate, US Passport/Passport Card or naturalization papers. If you do not have proof of citizenship, you will not be allowed to register to vote. Previously registered voters in NH who have moved to another NH community outside of their previous polling location need to show proof of identity and proof of domicile.

SEATS UP FOR ELECTION THIS YEAR

New faces are welcome and encouraged.

Local Offices Up for Election

Town

Selectman – 1 seat of 3 years
Town Clerk/Tax Collector – 1 seat of 3 years
Budget Committee – 2 seats of 3 years each
Cemetery Trustee – 1 seat of 3 years
Trustee of Trust Funds – 1 seat of 3 years
Library Trustee – 1 seat of 3 years
Supervisor of Checklist – 1 seat of 6 years

Sullivan School District

School Board – 2 positions of 3 years each

To get your name on the ballot:

The filing period for town & school offices begins January 21 and closes January 30 with the Town Clerk. Filing fee is \$1.

Thinking of running for office and wondering what each job entails, how much time it takes? Kathleen Rowe, Administrative Assistant or Jason Taylor, town clerk, can give you details of the responsibilities of each position.

Election Day is Tuesday, March 10. Town Meeting will be held the following evening, Wednesday, March 11, at 7pm.

Various appointed positions on other town boards open now and then, too. If you might be interested in serving on Recreation, the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Conservation or any other appointed positions, let Kathleen or Jason at the Town Hall know. To repeat: - new faces are encouraged and welcome!

Bits & Pieces

STATE DMV FEES INCREASE JAN. 1ST, 2026 - Due to a recent NH law change, a number of motor vehicle-related fees will be increasing as of January 1st, 2026; some of these are quite significant. The Town Clerk's office has a complete list of the price increases. In addition to the price increases, there are additional municipal fees.

Icy sidewalk/driveway? Sand (mixed with salt) is available at no charge for all town residents at the Town Barn on Church St. Bring your own containers and shovel. Note: The sand is for personal use only; not commercial.

Public Notice - The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on January 15, February 19 and March 19, 2026 at the 11:30 AM 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.

Mail Deliveries - Please remember your postal employees as they make every reasonable effort to deliver mail in difficult weather conditions. Any amount of snow can cause a dangerous situation. Clear enough snow from curbside boxes to allow mail trucks to approach the box, deliver mail and to drive away without the need for backing or departing the vehicle.

Coffee & Conversation – some call it **S & B** - a little sewing, knitting, craft work or just visiting - stop by the Sullivan Church meeting hall on Monday afternoons between 1 pm & 2:30 pm. Get caught up on what's happening, have a coffee and meet some of your neighbors. It's a small, congenial group and everyone is welcome. Entrance is on the upper level; follow the sidewalk from Church St. Questions - Becky Cummings 603-847-3477. Note: The group does not meet the Mondays before Election Day or in very inclement weather.

New dog licenses have arrived so you may register your dog(s) anytime now. The deadline is April 30, but you can take care of it anytime between now and then.

Questions about Sullivan? Don't forget to check the town webpage. <https://townofsullivannh.com/> You'll find information about and from each town department and the school board. Included are minutes, contact names & numbers and much more. You can print out many permit applications yourself and also find copies of many local regulations! They include: the Community Planning Ordinance, Driveway Regulations, Regulations Governing Earth Excavations, Site Plan Review Regulations, Subdivision Regulations and the Wetland Conservation District Ordinance.

From the Archives **by Chris Pratt**

Sometimes, I like to speculate on what might have happened if events had turned out differently. In the past, I have written about proposals to have a railroad built to our town, if electricity had come in 1920 instead of 1941, and if our woodworking industry had continued to expand. Another area of speculation involved roads that were never built. One of the more interesting unbuilt highway plans was one to connect East Sullivan with Marlow.

The completion of Valley Road in 1849 connected the northwest portion of our town with the growing mill village in East Sullivan. The road had been bitterly opposed by many in town and was only built after an order by the Cheshire County Road Commission. The new road provided the first level route into the Otter Brook watershed and opened much previously unavailable timberland to exploitation. Over the next few years, similar proposals were made to open up other areas with new roads—each one facing opposition. However, the road to Marlow was the most ambitious and would have brought about much change in Sullivan.

In 1853, Hosea Towne (lived at Seward Mountain Farm on Boulder Road) and 38 other residents of Sullivan, Stoddard and Marlow presented a petition to the Cheshire County Court of Common Pleas to layout a new highway beginning in Sullivan that would connect to an existing highway in Stoddard and thence to Marlow. The beginning point was Jacob Spaulding's mill which stood at the corner of Cross, Boulder and Valley Roads. The ending point was a farm in the southwest corner of Stoddard owned by members of the Reed family. In 1846, Stoddard and Marlow had laid out a road from the Reed's farm to what is now Route 10.

On the face of it, this seems like a geographically impossible road. However, an examination of a topographical map shows the probable route. It began at the Valley Road junction, then north along Spaulding Brook to a flat area between Boynton Mountain and Seward Mountain (Great Brook) to a point on the Stoddard-Sullivan boundary, then to the west of Joslin Hill in Stoddard and to the new road to Marlow.

In those days, road layouts that involved more than one town came under the county's jurisdiction—hence the petition from Mr. Towne was made to the court, rather than the selectmen. In early 1854, the court passed the matter to the Cheshire County Road Commission. Meanwhile, opposition in both Sullivan and Stoddard had grown. When the commissioners approved the road, the selectmen of both towns began a long litigation that eventually landed at the NH Supreme Court. The result of all of this was referral back to the County Road Commission in 1856 which decided not to approve the road. J. L. Seward speculates in his history of Sullivan that there may have been some animosity between members of the commission and the individuals from Marlow who signed the petition. In any event, the road was never built.

Of course, had the road been built, East Sullivan would have been connected with west Stoddard and Marlow which would have opened markets for our farmers and mills by providing a direct, level route for logs and agricultural products. Moreover, it would have provided more customers for the mills and small shops near the hub of Cross, Valley, Boulder, and Ellis Roads. For example, Dexter Spaulding might have expanded his wheelwright shop, Thomas Wetherbee might have been able to keep his blacksmith shop in business, and Jacob Spaulding's mill might have expanded.

It must also be remembered that one of the motivations by the petitioners was to find an alternate road from Marlow to Keene. Then, as now, the main road between those two points was Route 10. A major obstacle on the road is Bingham Hill which is very steep on both sides. By using the new road from Marlow to East Sullivan and the connection from East Sullivan to Keene on the Concord Road (completed in 1834, now Route 9), Marlow's growing businesses (leather, woodworking, etc.) would have had a better connection to Keene.

However, one must also weigh the benefits with all of the possible outcomes. Sullivan would have become a different place with Route 10 passing through the middle of our community. East Sullivan and its surrounding area would have developed differently—perhaps resembling the villages in Gilsum or Marlow—and our woodworking mills might have stayed in business through the 20th century. The area in the northern part of town currently owned by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests might have been developed into housing or commercial properties.

The dreams of Hosea Towne and the other 38 advocates for the new road were not realized. In a small way, the decision not to build the road was a factor in our town becoming the community it is today. Weighing the consequences with the benefits leads me to the opinion that the failure of plan might not have been a bad thing.

Sullivan History Update - The first step in publishing *Our Modest, Unpretentious Little Town: Sullivan, NH, in the Twentieth Century* has been completed. This was to have the manuscript copy-edited for spelling, punctuation, and style. The publisher's choice of style is the *Chicago Manual of Style* which led to a number of minor changes in the text.

The next step will be cover layout, followed by book design layout. That process will begin in January.

“Library Footnotes”

“Lift up your faces, you have a piercing need/ For this bright morning dawning for you/ The horizon leans forward/ Offering you space to place new steps of change” - Maya Angelou

Download e-books, audiobooks and even magazines with your library card! Are you looking for a new author, a particular book, or a nice magazine to peruse? Come in to the library and we can set you up with what you are looking for. If we don't happen to own it, chances are good that we can borrow it from another library for you. But you don't have a library card yet, you say? Come on in and we can give you one! Your library card also grants you access to the Libby app, where you can download e-books, audiobooks and even magazines.

Soap-making Class! - Mark your calendars! On Tuesday, February 3, 2026, the library will be holding a soap making class at 6:30pm. Come in, learn about the soap-making process, and make your own bar of soap. Watch the Facebook page for more details, or ask your librarians about this class. We ask you to sign up ahead of time so we have enough soap mixture for everyone.

Our **second Saturday book group** is going strong. Meeting on the second Saturday of each month at 11 a.m., the group discusses the book they have read and share their thoughts on the plot, characters, etc. On January 10, the discussion will be *The Ten Thousand Doors of January* by Alix E Harrow. The next book to be read will be *The Secret of the Old Clock* by Carolyn Keene, the first of the Nancy Drew mysteries. Our young readers are welcome to join us for this one, if they would like.

Your librarians,

Paulette Tuttle and Sara Bolduc

Little Free Library on Centre Street

Winter is here at the little free library! But we are always open; stop by. You will notice that the children's books have been 100% updated. All books that were removed were donated to the book bin at Hannaford to help “Toys for Tots”. This in itself is amazing. I brought 4 bags full of books to the book bin on a Friday afternoon, when I went shopping on Sunday they were mostly gone. The need for books is everywhere and that is why I have a Little Free Library to share books.

I also like to see everyone using the library, and I enjoy stepping out to say hello when I can.

I also want to thank everyone who came to either the Feeding Tiny Tummies Craft Fair event and had pictures with Santa and/or stopped by the Amazing Grace Animal Sanctuary for pictures with the Mean Green One. Your donations to both of these places are what makes them thrive. If you have an idea for another event for Feeding TinyTummies or Amazing Grace Sanctuary, please reach out and let us know.

Our Amazing Sullivan Community

With food insecurity in the news for the last few months, our community has generously increased donations to the Sullivan Food Pantry and ensured that there was extra food for the holidays. We were also given some special treats for our holiday boxes to make them extra festive. In addition, we are grateful to Feeding Tiny Tummies for continuing to generously supply the food pantry every two weeks. These donations make a significant difference to the welfare of people in town. Many thanks to all!

The Food Pantry is open to all Sullivan residents. No registration is required. It is located in the lower level of the church and is open from 5-6 pm on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. You can check it out at the Sullivan Food Pantry Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/sullivan.food.pantry> For emergency food needs and/or home delivery, if needed, please contact Gaynelle Pratt at 603-847-3271.

HCS Seeks Volunteers for Meals on Wheels Deliveries

Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services (HCS) is calling on compassionate community members to become Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers; bringing nourishment, connection and peace of mind to older adults and individuals with disabilities across southwestern New Hampshire.

HCS Meals on Wheels drivers deliver to more than 400 residents in Cheshire County, daily. For many, the delivery is a highlight of their day, offering a warm smile and a familiar face. Volunteers serve as a vital lifeline, helping homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities remain safe in their homes and providing a friendly check-in that combats isolation and loneliness. “We see every day how powerful this simple act can be,” said Katie Hart, Director of Operations at HCS. “Our volunteers don't just deliver food, they deliver dignity, independence, and human connection.”

Those interested in volunteering can contact HCS to learn more about available routes, time commitments, and how to get started. Your presence can make a powerful difference. To become a Meals on Wheels volunteer, or to learn more, email events@hcsservices.org, visit www.HCSservices.org or call 603-352-2253.

Meals on Wheels are currently served in Richmond, Chesterfield, Fitzwilliam, Gilsum, Hinsdale, Jaffrey, Keene, Marlborough, Rindge, Sullivan, Surry, Swanzey, Troy, Westmoreland and Winchester.

All Meals on Wheels volunteers must complete orientation and pass a background check before any client interactions. Additional screening requirements apply.

HCS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization providing comprehensive home healthcare, hospice, and community-based services to over 2,000 individuals daily across 52 southwestern New Hampshire communities. HCS is Medicare-certified and licensed by the State of New Hampshire. To learn more about HCS, visit www.HCSservices.org

23rd Annual Keene Ice & Snow Festival Saturday, February 7, 2026 11am to 4pm



Mark your calendar for an entirely free day of family-friendly fun that brings creativity and vibrancy to beautiful downtown Keene at the peak of winter.

The 2026 festival will host 10-12 professional ice carvers alongside many free family events and activities, including a children's train ride, pony rides, roaming circus acts and buskers, roasting s'mores, sugar on snow, a collaborative ice art exhibit, "find the yeti" scavenger hunt, free hot cocoa stations, and more! <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100057505935645>

Apple Hill Winter Performances



Our Apple Hill String Quartet will be performing at "Nova Arts" in Keene (inside Brewbaker's) on January 31 at 6pm, along with longtime Apple Hill collaborators Rane Moore on clarinet and Kareem Roustom on oud. Mozart's clarinet quintet is on the program, as well as Cuban dances by Ignacio Cervantes, sketches by Irish fiddler and composer Dana Lyn, and a new quintet for oud and strings by Roustom himself. Tickets and more info here: [Apple Hill String Quartet w/ Rane Moore & Kareem Roustom — NOVA ARTS](#)

The AHSQ will also be performing for residents at RiverMead in Peterborough that same weekend, headlining a benefit at Community MusicWorks in Providence, RI on January 29, and leading a session at the ArtsAlive Arts Leadership Summit at Apple Hill on February 6. Looking further out, they'll also be at The Colonial in Keene on Sunday, March 8, and that will be a special program featuring music they won't be performing anywhere else in the region this year!

Farewell, Sullivan – We'll miss you.

Dear Sullivan Neighbors,

After 31 years in Sullivan (& 37 in the Monadnock Region), we have moved to Wheaton IL. We are thankful to all: selectmen, archivist, Sullivan Country Store owners, librarians, fire fighters, police, committee members, citizens and the people who have helped to make this town an incredible place to live. I guess I'm referring to EVERYONE in the town! We feel very blessed to have had the opportunity to live here in Sullivan. You and Sullivan are planted deeply in our hearts.

Be well,
Risa & Doug Keene

MEETING YOUR NEIGHBORS by Risa Keene

I thought I had completed my last [MeetingYour Neighbors](#) article, but when this opportunity came up, I HAD TO DO IT! I've only known the St. John family for about 2 months, but they feel like old friends.

On October 17th, 2025 they purchased our wonderful home on Apple Hill Rd. They fell in love with the house and the land and now they are falling in love with the town.

Rachel and Joel were looking for a home big enough to fit their 4 children, with a 5th one on the way. They needed office space for Joel because he works from home, a place for their chickens, garden and cat, and enough room to homeschool their children.

Their 4 kids range in age from 11 to 1 1/2 years. Amy is the oldest; she loves reading, is beginning to play the violin, and has her own jewelry business. Aubrey is 9 years old; enjoys dancing and playing the piano. Kate is 6; also loves dancing and helping bake and garden. Mason is the youngest, and has been enjoying visiting the neighbor's horse and talking with him. Their baby will be born in April.

Rachel grew up in North Pole Alaska, not far from Fairbanks, and attended the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Joel also attended UAF and that's where they met. After completing their undergraduate degrees, they moved to Seattle, Washington together and lived there for approximately 8 years. During this time Rachel earned her post graduate degree in Industrial Engineering, and Joel began his career in computer security. From the west coast, they headed to Walpole, NH.

As a family, they enjoy being outdoors, doing crafts, reading, playing board games, growing a vegetable garden and also exploring the area. Along with some walking up the road and in the woods, they've seen Amazing Grace, the general store, the library and post office. Joel and Rachel love the "small town vibe" in Sullivan, and said it's very similar to the feel of Alaska.

They are looking forward to meeting more people in Sullivan and putting down roots here.

Thank you Rachel and Joel. You're going to love it here!!

From the Fire Department



It's that time of year again. The temperature drops, the snow flies, and then the power goes out. Hopefully, power disruptions remain short; but as we have seen, that is not always the case. Given that we just had the anniversary of the 08' ice storm that left parts of the region without power for several days, this would be a good time to point out some power outage mistakes you should avoid.

You do not have to immediately cook or eat everything in your refrigerator to save it from going bad. Refrigerators will keep your food cold for a while, even without power. Refrain from opening the door every five minutes to see if your food has thawed out to extend your food's viability. Additionally, most power outages around here occur during a blizzard. If that is the case, you can use snow to help keep things cool. Perishable items, such as meats and vegetables, should be eaten before items that will keep longer, such as canned goods and pasta.

Avoid draining all your cell phone's power (taking and posting a million selfies of you still sitting in the dark, or binging all 22 seasons of Grey's Anatomy). If you are going to check social media for information about the outage, do so at official sites, like maybe Eversource, instead of scrolling through hundreds of posts about when the power may or may not come back on. Your cell phone is a lifeline if you have a problem. Put the phone down and partake of activities that do not use electricity (read a book, play a board game, sleep).

If you pay attention to the above suggestions, this will not be a problem. Do not use all the gas in your car by running it to recharge cell phones and tablets. At some point, you may need to leave your house to get to a safer environment (a shelter or a family member with power). Don't strand yourself using up all your fuel. Keep in mind gas stations also need electricity to pump gas. Getting more fuel may not be as easy as just driving over to the station to fill-up.

Resist the temptation to turn your house into a gothic church by lighting a hundred candles. The National Fire Protection Agency estimates roughly 6,000 house fires are caused by candles annually, and that number spikes during blackouts. Creating a big fire hazard in your house, at a time when the roads are blocked with downed trees and wires...probably not the best idea. LED lanterns are safer and provide a better source of lighting. A decent LED lantern can provide light for about 100 hours with one set of batteries.

Keep an eye on your neighbor, especially if they belong to a vulnerable demographic. It doesn't have to be that involved either. Just touching base with them to make sure they are doing alright can go a long way. The safest neighborhoods are the ones where people look out for one another.

Lastly, and most importantly, if you live in the northeast US, in a rural area, the question is not if the power can go out for multiple days, but when is the power going to go out for multiple days? Prepare ahead of time! It is not hard to put aside a few essential items to be used only in the event of a long term outage.

WHAT'S COOKING? By Bonnie Blanchard



Veggies gone wild! Recipes that will bring excitement to the table.

Sesame Ginger Green Beans

1 cup vegetable oil	1 tablespoon olive oil
3 shallots (thinly sliced)	1 tablespoon sesame oil
1 lb. fresh green beans	1 tablespoon fresh ginger grated
2 tablespoons sesame seeds (optional)	

Heat vegetable oil in a small pan over medium/low heat. Add shallots and fry until golden brown, 12 to 15 minutes. Transfer to paper towel lined plate. Discard vegetable oil. Bring a large pot of water to a full boil. Add green beans and cook for 4 minutes. While beans are cooking, fill a large bowl with cold water and ice. Drain beans and immediately add to iced water. Allow the beans to cool. Remove the beans to a plate and pat dry. In a large skillet over medium/low heat, add olive and sesame oils and grated ginger. Stir until fragrant. Add green beans and shallots to skillet and toss, coating them with oil until they are warmed through. Remove to a serving dish and garnish with sesame seeds.

Brussels Sprouts with Bacon

5 slices of bacon chopped	1 ½ lbs. Brussels sprouts trimmed and cut in half
1 tablespoon olive oil	1 cup chicken broth
1 shallot chopped	salt and pepper to taste

Brown bacon in a medium skillet over medium high heat. Remove bacon to a paper towel lined plate. Add olive oil to the bacon drippings in the skillet. Add the shallots and sauté 1 to 2 minutes. Add the Brussels sprouts and coat in oil. Season with salt and pepper. Cook for 2 to 3 minutes until the Brussels sprouts begin to soften; then add broth. Bring broth to a boil, cover and reduce heat to medium low. Cook for 10 minutes until tender. Transfer Brussels sprouts to a serving dish with a slotted spoon and top with cooked bacon bits.

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

Submitted by Leslie Casey



We all know that mulch can provide many benefits in the landscape such as suppressing weeds and protecting soil from erosion and drought, right? Recently, I have learned about the surprising benefits of using “living mulch,” also known as “groundcover.” Compared to traditional mulches, groundcovers are lower-maintenance once established. Importantly, they also provide cover and forage for pollinators and other wildlife, especially when used under native trees and shrubs!

What are groundcovers? Groundcovers are fairly low-growing plants that cover the soil with an abundance of stems and leaves. The term “groundcover” typically applies to various species of vigorous perennial plants that are used in planting beds. Too often, gardeners rely on mulch to cover the soil and prevent weed growth. Meanwhile, there are plenty of tough groundcover plants that can do the job just as well or better. For more information, see the fact sheet from UNH Extension titled “Groundcovers for New Hampshire.”

Before planting a groundcover, it is critically important to control all perennial weeds in the planting bed. Perennial weeds such as quack grass are very difficult to eliminate when they become established amid a groundcover. Weeds can be smothered effectively over the course of a growing season by covering them with thick layers of newspaper or cardboard. Applying a broad-spectrum herbicide directly to perennial weeds is a much faster option, as planting can occur within a week or two of treatment. The best time to plant groundcovers is in the spring or fall when temperatures are mild and precipitation is more frequent. If possible, a variety of groundcovers that bloom at different times should be included. Until the plants are established, use 2 to 3 inches of coarse mulch to protect roots and suppress weeds.

The Native Plant Trust website has a plant finder tool that gives a list of great native groundcovers suited to New England’s growing conditions. You likely already have some of them growing in your yard. Common blue wood aster is a great groundcover that blooms from August through October and loves to grow around the bases of trees. The key is to avoid mistakenly pulling it out as a weed before the blooms appear!

A note of caution: Some common non-native groundcovers, such as periwinkle, are on the NH Prohibited Invasive Plant Species List or the NH Plant Species Watch List and should not be planted. Any non-native plants with invasive tendencies should only be planted in places where their spread is contained so they do not displace valuable native plants.

Why use groundcovers? One way to help wildlife is to share a portion of our yards using a method called “soft landings.” This is where groundcovers come in! (For more information on this, see the article, “Soft Landings Benefits Insects and Gardens” on the PennState Extension website.) Conceived by Leslie Pilgrim of Neighborhood Greening in Minneapolis, and pollinator conservationist Heather Holm, a soft landing is a gentle gardening technique that replaces the traditional lawn under a tree or shrub with groundcover plants, leaf litter, and woody debris such as twigs.

Many species of moths and caterpillars (moth larvae) need to complete their life cycles hidden under this “duff,” a protective layer of leaf litter and decaying plant material. Keystone trees such as native oaks, willows, cherry, pines, and poplar host especially large numbers and varieties of caterpillars. Sheltered from the mower and hidden from predators, insects that a tree once hosted in its canopy easily find shelter under the tree to change into adults and/or overwinter. Other beneficial insects such as fireflies also enjoy this homegrown nursery. Larvae and adults in the duff become food for other species, such as birds. Almost all nesting birds require a nearby supply of caterpillars and moths to feed their babies.

One final thought. During our winter “indoor recess” time, I highly recommend watching some fascinating short videos from Professor Doug Tallamy. He explains why the precipitous loss of insects we have seen since the 1970’s (from development, pesticides, light pollution and other causes) threatens the whole ecosystem, including us. On the other hand, he gives us hope that if we take small, practical steps in our own yards, we can restore the insects, “the little things that run the world.” The videos can be found here: <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/doug-tallamy/>. They will leave you informed and inspired!

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.

Conservation Opportunity Fund for Small Landowners

The Conservation Opportunity Fund awards up to \$1,500 to implement a wildlife habitat improvement project!
Applications are Now Open!

The mission of the Conservation Opportunity Fund is to provide funding for owners or stewards of small tracts of land who are interested in improving the wildlife habitat on their property. This program is an annual opportunity to support environmental stewardship and the ecological integrity of Cheshire County, NH. Applications are due by Feb. 1.

Eligible applicants include private landowners or land stewards in Cheshire County, NH with tracts of land 25 acres or less in total. This can include individuals, businesses, farmers and forestland owners/stewards.

Wildlife habitat improvement projects include (but are not limited to):

Installation of pollinator habitat, rain gardens, wildlife-focused plantings, and riparian buffers.

Creation and improvement of early successional habitat, aquatic habitat, and turtle habitat in priority areas.

For complete information <https://www.cheshireconservation.org/cof> or call (603) 756-2988

SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday service 9:30 am 847-9030

Pastor Christopher Cornell

Phone 603-852-0895

Facility Rental: Wendy Pelletier

603-209-0333

Preferred contact is email

pelletier.wendy.s@gmail.com

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Stephanie Jacques Kleine

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at jimandmell@gmail.com

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Jarrid Zieba

Apple Hill Rd. Sullivan NH

603-903-8660

ziebahvac@gmail.com

“NO-FEE” TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

AVAILABLE!

CVTC

Providing “no-fee” transportation for people who do not have access to transportation because of age, ability, economic situation or other limiting circumstances. Our trip purposes include non-emergency medical & social service appointments and the pharmacy. Call CVTC to schedule ahead of time!



1-603-821-0569

<https://www.cvtc-nh.org/>

If you can volunteer some of your time, we can always use more drivers!

SULLIVAN SUPERVISORS OF CHECKLIST – Jan. 20

Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Sullivan Public Library for additions and corrections to the checklist on Tuesday, Jan. 20 from 7pm to 7:30pm. Register to vote, change party or make other changes to your registration for future elections. Bring proof of residency, citizenship and a photo ID. Proof of Citizenship must be a birth certificate, US Passport/Passport Card or naturalization papers.

SULLIVAN COUNTRY STORE

140 Route 9
(603) 847-3053

www.sullivancountrystore.com

www.Facebook.com/nhcountrystore & Instagram:

Sullivan Country Store

Sunday: Kitchen closed, but breakfast, pastry, and grab-and-go items available

Monday: Closed

Tuesday–Saturday: 6 AM – 6 PM

Order here: www.sullivancountrystore.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; one time ads of \$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 Feb. 15. 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

SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER

PO Box 110

Sullivan, NH 03445

SULLIVAN INFORMATION

<https://townofsullivannh.com/>

TOWN CONTACT NUMBERS

Town Hall 603-847-3316

selectmen@townofsullivannh.com

Town Clerk 603-847-3316

townclerk@townofsullivannh.com

Town Highway Dept. 603- 847-3366

highway@townofsullivannh.com

Sullivan Planning Brd 603-847-3100

planning@townofsullivannh.com

Sullivan Fire Station 603-847-9020

Sullivan Library 603-847-3458

sullivanpubliclibrary@gmail.com

Sullivan Country Store 603-847-3853

Sullivan Church 603-847-9030

Sullivan Post Office 607- 258-3439

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

For Burn Permits

Fire permits are required for all outside burning including campfires and the burning of brush.

Sullivan's Forest Fire Wardens:

Al Henry - Warden 603-762-4231

Mike Blanchard - Deputy Warden 603-762-0941

Erik Kazlouskas - Deputy Warden 603-903-2881

Robert "JR" Guyette - Deputy Warden 603-852-2815

Paul Bolduc - Deputy Warden 603-498-2578

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.

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