

## ***Sullivan Community Newsletter***

**Vol. 42 No. 3**

**Sullivan, NH**

**Nov. – Dec. 2022**

### **GENERAL ELECTION DAY – November 8**

Voting will take place at the **Sullivan Town Hall on Nov. 8 from 8am to 7pm**. The procedures will be unchanged from last year's elections—enter through the door facing Centre Street.

See inside the newsletter for more voting information.

### **COMING HOLIDAY EVENTS**

#### **COUNTRY CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR - Nov. 12, 2022, 9am-2pm**

The Friends of the Sullivan Library, in conjunction with the Sullivan Church, are hosting their annual Country Christmas Craft Fair at the Sullivan Congregational Church on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> between 9 am and 2 pm. Featured items will include: crafts, a book sale, quilted items, knit and crocheted articles, baked goods, barnboard creations, note cards, painted items, decorations and more! There will also be a raffle for a handmade quilt - on view now at the library. If you wish to have a table at the fair, please contact Gaynelle Pratt at 603-847-3271.

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

#### **SANTA DAY IN SULLIVAN for Children and Families – Dec. 3, 1-2:30pm**

Santa is visiting Sullivan on **Saturday, December 3\* from 1 to 2:30 pm** in the Sullivan Town Hall. Visit with Sullivan's own Santa Claus, here on a special trip just to see you! Do your holiday shopping – gifts only 25¢ each!



There will be lots of gift items for you to choose from for family and friends. Select gifts and have the elves wrap them or wrap your own at the gift wrap table. Come and join the holiday fun!! Sponsored by the Friends of the Sullivan Library.

**\*Snow date is December 10, same time and place.**

#### **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - Dec. 24, 6:30pm**

Come and enjoy a country Christmas Eve service with a carol sing, meaningful message, luminaries and special music. Mark your calendar for this holiday happening! No church service Dec. 25.

#### **POP-UP DINNER AT APPLE HILL - Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 6pm**

The Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music will host a festive Pop-Up Dinner, a tasty new opportunity to gather on Apple Hill's beautiful Nelson campus in the off-season. While you are seated in a cozy, newly renovated Winter Room, you will be served a delectable three-course dinner of locally sourced ingredients by Chef Judy Mortner. The evening will also include a short performance by the Apple Hill String Quartet. **Tickets for the event are \$85 per person and will include wine and mulled cider. All proceeds from ticket sales will go to support scholarships for local New Hampshire students to attend Apple Hill's summer workshop in 2023.**

**RESERVATIONS** - Seating is limited. Advanced reservations required. For more details and to purchase tickets, visit <https://applehill.org/> or contact Jan Woiler Meuse at [jan@applehill.org](mailto:jan@applehill.org) or 603-847-3371. **Strict Covid safety protocols** will be followed - see their website or call for the details.



## **ATTENTION KIDS - SEND A LETTER TO SANTA FROM SULLIVAN!**

Effective September 15, the Postal Service began accepting letters at all Post Offices as part of the 2022 USPS Operation Santa Program. USPS Operation Santa provides an online channel where people can safely and securely help children and families have a magical holiday when they otherwise might not— one letter to Santa at a time.

Participation in the program is easy! Participants simply write a letter to Santa, put it in an envelope with their full return address - apartment number, directional information (i.e., E Main St, Apt 103), ZIP Code, affix First-Class postage and send it to Santa's official Postal Service address at:

**Santa Claus  
123 Elf Road,  
North Pole, 88888**

All stamped envelopes sent to Santa's Postal Service address — or even stamped envelopes addressed to "Santa" or "Santa Claus" — are to be placed in the outgoing mail at every post office. They will be processed seamlessly at a central location where the letters will be opened, reviewed, coded, redacted and uploaded into the [USPSOperationSanta.com](https://USPSOperationSanta.com) website for the public to review and adopt.

**Any letters to Santa that are mailed from Sullivan will also receive a personal reply letter from Santa!** The elves are dropping off a **special red North Pole mailbox** that will be on display in the lobby starting on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Children can place their letters to Santa inside the red Santa box in the lobby, in the outdoor blue box, or hand them to an employee over the counter. If there are any questions about Operation Santa, please feel free to reach out to us directly at the Sullivan Post Office by calling (603) 847-9720. You may also email [melody.e.burdo@usps.gov](mailto:melody.e.burdo@usps.gov). We hope everyone has a magical holiday season!

## **NOVEMBER VOTING ELECTION DAY – NOVEMBER 8 Sullivan Town Hall – 8am to 7pm**

Enter through the door facing Centre St. A greeter will be at the door to answer your questions regarding the voting process and registering to vote. In order to keep the check-in line moving, please have your photo ID out and ready to present before you enter the hall.

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS** - If you are unable or have any doubts about the safety of voting in person, please take advantage of the absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are available from the Town Clerk's office. Stop by the Town Hall during regular office hours or call 847-3316 for more information. **Note: The Town Clerk's office will be closed on Election Day.**

**SAMPLE BALLOTS ARE POSTED ON THE TOWN WEBSITE  
AS WELL AS AT THE TOWN HALL, LIBRARY & POST OFFICE!**

<https://townofsullivannh.com/>

**Not registered to vote?** You can register anytime with the Town Clerk, on Election Day or with the Supervisors of the Checklist who will be in session at the Sullivan Library on Saturday, Oct. 29 between 11 and 11:30am for additions and corrections to the checklist for the November General Election. Bring proof of residency, citizenship (birth certificate, passport or naturalization papers) & a photo ID.

**"Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it."**  
Susan B. Anthony

## 2022 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT QUESTIONS ON THE BALLOT

Constitutional Amendment Proposed by the 2022 General Court

Two statewide questions are on the ballot in New Hampshire for the election on November 8, 2022.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Question #1 – Asks voters on whether to eliminate the Register of Probate offices. **This office is no longer in use in the State of NH.**

1. "Are you in favor of amending articles 71 and 81 of the second part of the constitution to read as follows: [Art.] 71. [County Treasurers, County Attorneys, Sheriffs, and Registers of Deeds Elected.] The county treasurers, county attorneys, sheriffs and registers of deeds, shall be elected by the inhabitants of the several towns, in the several counties in the State, according to the method now practiced, and the laws of the state, provided nevertheless the legislature shall have authority to alter the manner of certifying the votes, and the mode of electing those officers; but not so as to deprive the people of the right they now have of electing them.

[Art.] 81. [Judges Not to Act as Counsel.] No judge shall be of counsel, act as advocate, or receive any fees as advocate or counsel, in any probate business which is pending, or may be brought into any court of probate in the county of which he or she is judge." (Passed by the N.H. House 294 Yes 43 No; Passed by Senate 21 Yes 3 No.) CACR 21 Yes No Question Proposed pursuant to Part II, Article 100 of the New Hampshire Constitution. **Vote Yes or NO**

Question #2 - Asks voters on whether to hold a state constitutional convention. **This question appears on the ballot every 10 years.**

2. "Shall there be a convention to amend or revise the constitution?" **Vote Yes or NO**

### FROM THE SELECTMEN'S OFFICE...by Marsha Cook UNPAID PROPERTY TAXES & THE CONSEQUENCES

Most of Sullivan's property owners pay their property taxes on time. This article is directed to those who don't pay at all or on time. This is an informational article, not a legal one, and I am only hitting the highlights. If you need more information, please come to the Town Hall and let us help you.

**When the payment is late** – After 30 days from the mailed date, the tax bill accrues interest at 8% per annum. If the account remains unpaid, a Barrington Notice of Impending Lien is mailed to the current owner(s) by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least 30 days prior to the lien date. This notice will also be mailed to the mortgage holder. The letter will include the amount of taxes owed, interest, and the cost of preparing and mailing the notice, as well as the last date and time payment will be accepted. If the account is not paid by the deadline, a lien is placed on the property and recorded at the Cheshire County Registry of Deeds. Once the lien is placed, interest increases to 14% per annum.

Within 45 days of the execution of the lien, the lienholder (town of Sullivan) must search the records at the Registry of Deeds to identify mortgage holders on the properties that have been liened. A notice is then forwarded to any mortgage holders, including, but not limited to, banks, mortgage companies and/or individuals. The notification is vital and required by law to insure the town's priority lien above all mortgages. The cost of this part of the process is calculated and added to the amount due on each account.

If after 2 years from the lien date, the lien amount is still unpaid, the town may begin the deeding process to **acquire the property** by Tax Collector Deed for Delinquent Taxes. This process is also regulated by NH State laws and requires a series of notices and costs associated with them. All interest, fees, and associated costs are added to the amount owed the town.

Once your property is acquired by the town, you will be evicted through legal means and the property will be sold for taxes due. The town lien holds priority over the mortgage and any other liens and is the first paid. Other lienholders are paid in order determined by the court. If everyone is paid off, the previous owner may collect any monies left.

Partial payments may be made at any time. Making partial payments will lower your interest and is better than putting funds in a savings account. Whenever a taxpayer or person with legal interest in a property pays the taxes, interest and cost IN FULL, the Tax Collector must forward a Notice of Redemption to the Registry of Deeds within 30 days of the payment date.

This is a general summary of the process which is regulated by law and generally handled by the town attorney once the deeding process starts.

# SULLIVAN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT



#1

The increase in home-building, construction and heavy trucks traveling our roads in town has been noticeable. The Highway Department would like to remind everyone that 6-ton weight restrictions are placed on Town roads from March 1<sup>st</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup>. The restrictions are placed to protect the softened roads from damage and limit the cost of road repair and reconstruction. If possible, please plan accordingly and schedule construction materials or

other heavy deliveries prior to the March 1<sup>st</sup> restrictions.

#2

The Highway Department would like to provide a friendly reminder that the Town of Sullivan has a Winter Operations Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy. The Policy states in part “The Town of Sullivan has a Winter Ban restricting residents from plowing snow across, or causing snow to be put, placed, or shoveled upon the surface of the traveled portion of any Town road or right of way. Individuals violating this ordinance may be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500”. Accumulations of snow placed at roadsides often build and compact over time, restricting the travelled path and creating dangerous conditions for drivers and potential damage to private and public snowplow equipment.

## From Sullivan Fire & Rescue



As we welcome Fall and Winter months, we also move into cold and flu season. Flu shots are available from your healthcare provider or local pharmacies. It is important to take precautions and prevent the spread of illness. Washing your hands frequently plays a large part in preventing illness. Frequent disinfection of commonly touched surfaces also reduces the risk of illness. Be sure to give cleaners and disinfectants the recommended dwell time in order to work effectively against germs and viruses. If you are experiencing cold/flu like symptoms the best place to be is home and not at work, school or other public places spreading illness.

Regarding Covid-19, the CDC website is a great source for updated Covid guidelines. If you have specific concerns, talking to your primary healthcare provider can be beneficial. If you do contract COVID-19, it is important to take precautions to prevent spreading the illness to others. The CDC is still recommending isolation for five days from the first symptom onset or positive test, followed by five additional days of mask wearing once the isolation period has ended. Most importantly, you should avoid contact with people who have an increased risk of becoming sick.

Isolation includes separating yourself from others in your home which can be difficult at times. Here are some helpful tips to remain isolated in a multi-person household.

- Use a separate bathroom, if possible.
- Take steps to improve ventilation at home, if possible.
- Don't share personal household items, like cups, towels, and utensils.

Most importantly, with any illness you must monitor your symptoms - If you have an emergency warning sign (such as trouble breathing), seek emergency medical care immediately. If you are unsure if your symptoms are moderate or severe, or if you have a weakened immune system, talk to a healthcare provider for further guidance.

The end of daylight savings time is November 6th, and it is a great time to check and replace batteries in smoke, CO, heat and combination detectors. Batteries should be replaced every six months in these units, regardless of battery level. Units that are hard wired must also have the batteries replaced as they function to activate the detectors during times when household power is unavailable, such as during a winter ice storm. Another common reason for hard wired units (and stand-alone units) to sound an alarm with no smoke or CO levels is due to the battery level being too low. This alarm alerts you to this. Also remember to check the age of the units. Smoke detectors generally have a life span of **10yrs**, however combination units with carbon monoxide detectors built in need to be replaced sooner (7yrs). If your unit has turned from the factory white plastic color to an off white – yellow color, it is a good indicator that the unit is much older than 7yrs of age. Regardless of how the unit tests, it should be replaced according to the manufacturer's literature. Units should also be replaced if they fail to test when the test button is depressed, or there is visible damage to the unit.

# "Library Footnotes"

## From Your Big Free Library:

The way a crow  
Shook down on me  
The dust of snow  
From a hemlock tree  
Has given my heart  
A change of mood  
And saved some part  
Of a day I had rued.  
- Robert Frost

**New library display coming!** For several weeks in December, the Sullivan Public Library is pleased to host an exhibit of artwork inspired by the works of Robert Frost. For a sneak peek, take a look at the displays of "The Road Not Taken" previously shown in other libraries. <https://www.poeticfrostart.com/display-configurations>. Come check it out, and while you're here, browse our collection to find a great book to settle in with for some winter reading. Re-read a favorite classic, or pick up one that you've always meant to tackle but have never found the time!

Some new books in our collection include: *The Ink Black Heart* by Robert Galbraith, *Fall Guy* by Archer Mayor, *Black Dog* by Stuart Woods and *Distant Thunder* by Stuart Woods.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday book group will be discussing *Girl Waits with Gun* by Amy Stewart on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM. Everyone is welcome to join in. The next book that will be read is *The Witch Elm* by Tana French, and the discussion will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup>. After that will be Hercule Poirot's *Christmas* by Agatha Christie.

As we enter into this season of thankfulness, we would like to extend our gratitude to all who have donated items to us. Thank you so much! We appreciate those donations.

Please note that SPL will be **closed on the following dates**: Thanksgiving week – Nov. 24 & 26; Christmas and New Year's – Dec. 24, 27, 29 and 31.

Your Librarians,  
Paulette Tuttle and Sara Bolduc

## Public Notice

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on November 10, December 8, 2022 and January 12, 2023 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.

## Wondering if your Big Free Library has a certain book? You can find out right on your computer!

Wondering what books the library has by your favorite author? Looking for a certain kind of book? Take a look at this website – <http://www.libraryworld.com/ipad.html>. Library Name: Sullivan Library; NO password required. For example – the website lists 25 pages of cozy mysteries (including descriptions!) that we have. Just type in "cozy" for subject, or any other subject you may want. Feel free to call the library anytime with your questions – 603-847-3458 or email us at [sullivanpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:sullivanpubliclibrary@gmail.com).

Always FREE Wi-Fi, inside and out and computer access for all Sullivan residents! We still do curbside delivery and drop-off.

## SULLIVAN'S LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

### Centre Street Little Free Library

The new addition has been a success! Our book selection has grown, and we have room for donations as well. We enjoy seeing people stop by, although honestly, we really know you stopped by when the dogs tell us. We have met some wonderful people from town and love to see the children using the library.

If you have not stopped, please do so; if you have stopped, come on back. If you have not visited the other Little Free Library in Sullivan, please do so. There are four in Keene that I know of. One near Robin Hood Park, two on Court Street and one in West Keene. When traveling, look for Little Free Libraries. I visited several on my trip north over the summer, they are always unique to visit.

In September and October, you may have found fall coloring books, Halloween toys, puzzles and glowsticks. Stop back in November for a Thanksgiving project and in December for a Christmas tree craft. There are always bookmarks available as well.

We will do a much better job this winter of keeping our library snow free and accessible. Enjoy the Holiday Season and stay warm!

### **Valley Road Little Free Library**

Books make great gifts and there are tons of like-new children's books available in the Valley Road Little Free Library. Stop by to "shop" for someone in your life or make sure you're stocked for the next snow day!

### **"KILL A WATT" METER - Electricity Usage Monitor Available to borrow from the Sullivan Library!**

Electricity bills are rising. Now you can cut down on costs and find out what appliances are actually worth keeping plugged in. Simply connect these appliances to the Kill A Watt®, and it will assess how efficient they really are. Large LCD display will count consumption by the Kilowatt-hour, same as your local utility. You can calculate your electrical expenses by the day, week, month, even an entire year. Also check the quality of your power by monitoring Voltage, Line Frequency, and Power Factor. Now you'll know if it is time for a new refrigerator or if that old air conditioner is still saving you money.

With the amazing "Kill A Watt" you'll know "Watts" killing you.

## **MEMORIES OF A HALLOWEEN HAYRIDE**

By Patricia McMahon Clark

Childhood in a country village during World War 2 was self-contained; some might consider it hidebound or insular. Gas rationing made weekly trips to buy necessities an occasion. No older teens had cars or drove. We mostly saw them at village functions. Our world was safe, small and generally predictable. We walked to school, and later ran free in the village with friends or stopped to visit briefly with our elderly neighbor ladies born in another century.

The war did, however, bring changes to our lives. A new family moved to town! They were what we now call a blended family: his boys, her boys, and their boy. They settled in and learned about farm life. They produced maple syrup, and in the summer hayed the fields of a hill farm on the other side of the river valley. The teenage boys had bedrooms in the barn when they were not away at private schools. One of them even attended our one-room school for a semester. A new and fascinating element had invaded our world.

In late October, we each received an invitation to a Halloween party at their farm. We were to gather at the village store after school and wait for transportation. The weather was pleasant and our curiosity regarding this unusual event was high. Down the steep hill on the gravel road appeared a horse and wagon with hay scattered for seating. Our idea of haying meant the hard work of raking the hay and pitchforking it into a wagon, then tossing it off the wagon into a hay mow in the barn. This hay was used just for fun!

The horse and driver carried us back up the hill and beyond. Eventually we arrived at the farm where games and treats were planned. Our hosts indeed provided a different and exciting adventure for us. Before dark, we were again taken down the road and dropped off at the store, from which we could walk home. Our world was beginning to change and grow.

Years later, I spent many delightful summer evenings at this farm, when it became known as the Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music.

### **SEWING, QUILTING, CRAFTING, KNITTING GROUP**

Monday afternoons, from 1 pm to 2:30 pm in the Sullivan Church upstairs meeting hall are busy with all sorts of handiwork being done. People work on quilts, knit sweaters, mend clothing, cross-stitch, crochet, macrame, craft or just visit. Holiday hours – The group will not meet the Mondays before Election Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's.

## **From the Archives**

### **by Chris Pratt**

As the regular readers of this series know, I occasionally like to engage in “counter-intuitive” history—also known as “what if” history. For example, a few years back, I speculated on what our town would have looked like if the planned railroad to East Sullivan had been built in the 1850s. I thought of this “what if” the other day as I was processing a group of records from Nelson at the Historical Society of Cheshire County. As you probably know, what is now Nelson was originally called Packersfield. The document in question was a petition from the residents of Packersfield to the legislature after a town vote on 8 December 1777 to change the name of Packersfield to Sullivan. This turned out to be the first of three efforts to change the name of the town. So, why were the residents so upset about their name? Moreover, since our town’s incorporation did not occur until 9 or 10 years later, what would we have called ourselves?

Packersfield was one of the towns created by a group of wealthy Portsmouth residents known as the Masonian Proprietors who bought up the remaining New Hampshire “Kings” grant of land in 1752. They created a series of townships including Monadnock Number 6 which included most of what is now Nelson. Monadnock 6 was assigned to one of the proprietors named Thomas Packer (1699-1771). He granted land to a group of settlers led by Breed Batchelder and they arrived around 1767. On 22 February 1774, the residents were formally incorporated as a township and chose the name Packersfield in honor of the now late Thomas Packer. Upon his death, most of the land in the township passed to his son Thomas (1731-1793) and his wife Molly.

A dispute soon developed between the residents and the Packer heirs. The residents claimed that Thomas Packer, the elder, had promised to give the town some 500 acres of land to support a school. The heirs reneged and that was what probably led to the 1777 vote to change the name. So, why would they choose Sullivan as the new name?

By 1777, John Sullivan had become well-known in the State. When the break with Great Britain began occurring, Sullivan was active in the First Provincial Assembly. In July of 1774, Sullivan was among the New Hampshire delegates to the First Continental Congress. In December of that year, he was one of the leaders of the Patriot Forces that seized the powder, guns and other supplies from Fort William and Mary in Portsmouth. In January 1775, he returned to the Continental Congress and, after Lexington and Concord, he volunteered to join General Washington in the new Continental Army. As a brigadier general, he was the highest ranking New Hampshire citizen in the army.

While the petition to change the name Packersfield to Sullivan was considered by the legislature, it was apparently tabled as the body was more concerned about conducting a war than with the concerns of the townspeople. When the war was over, the town tried again for a new name. By now, Thomas Packer was associated with the Colonial regime and the town was still upset about the non-support for its schools. They chose the name Groton, but once again the legislature did not consider the petition.

In 1814, the town, once again, petitioned for a name change—this time to Troy. The problem was that there was a competing petition from what would become the town of Troy. The legislature at the time was controlled by the Federalist Party and they were opposed to the War of 1812. Perhaps as a gesture of protest against the war, the legislature voted to change the name from Packersfield to Nelson – in honor of British war hero Admiral Horatio Nelson.

So, if Packersfield had succeeded and was renamed Sullivan in 1778, what would our town have been named? Our original petition suggested the name Orange. It was common in those days for settlers to name their new town after where they came from. Thus, Massachusetts towns such as Sterling, Lancaster or Leominster would have been possibilities. It was also common practice to take the name of the largest family in town. That would have led to Hubbard, Frost, Mason, Dimmick, Seward or Nims as a name.

It is said that history seldom moves in a straight line. There are always turns and “what ifs.” In the end, the residents of Packersfield had to be content with a name they considered to be odious while our town adopted the name of one of New Hampshire’s Revolutionary War heroes. Packersfield ended up being named for a British War hero. That, as they say, is history.

### **HOW DOES YOUR CHARITY RATE?**

Is it as good as you think it is? Where is your money really going? <https://www.charitynavigator.org/> Take a look at this site – it’s very informative!

# Sullivan School District News

**Treasurer needed for Sullivan School Board!** There remains a vacancy in the treasurer position for the Sullivan school board. Anyone interested in being treasurer or a position on the board should contact a member of the board.

The Sullivan School Board will be joining the Nelson School Board November 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm for our annual joint meeting. The Nelson School District has its regular meeting starting at 4:30 pm that day at which time current 6<sup>th</sup> grade students have been invited to speak on their transition to the middle school.

## FIRST FRIDAY FRIENDS ARE BACK AT NELSON SCHOOL!

### Can you help?

Here are the details... Commit to coming to the school on the first Friday of each month (barring holidays) from 1:00 - 1:30 to read to two students that we will buddy you up with. We encourage you to bring your own favorite pictures books, either from home or the town library or to borrow some from our classrooms. At this point, the plan is to do the program this year for grades K, R, 1 and 2, but we could expand if we get enough interest. Our preference is that you don't buddy up with kids you already know, as we're trying to help them expand their community.

Fingerprinting is required of all volunteers, but it will be done here at the school at no charge to you, beginning at 12:00 on our first meeting FRIDAY OCTOBER 28th. (We've needed time to do planning, so this month's is obviously not the "First Friday" but they will be starting in November.

This was a beloved tradition for two years before Covid hit and we're excited to bring it back! Contact Cindy Benner, coordinator – [cbenner@sau29.org](mailto:cbenner@sau29.org) or call the school at 847-3408.

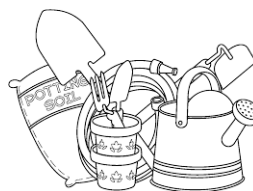
PLEASE ALSO SHARE THIS WITH OTHERS.

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST – Oct. 29

Nelson School is having a Pancake Breakfast at the school (put on by the 3rd and 5th graders) on October 29th. The School PTO is also putting on a Halloween event at the same time - the breakfast is 8-11, while the Halloween event is 9-11. At 11AM, a local artist will unveil otter statues (school mascot raised by donations) that will be installed in front of the school.

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

Submitted by Leslie Casey



**Composting:** It is as easy as you want it to be, and it has so many benefits! It is a great way to handle waste from the yard, garden and kitchen. And the finished product makes an ideal mulch or soil amendment.

Some of the advice out there on the "right" way to compost can be a bit intimidating in terms of equipment, time and physical effort. The goal of those intensive composting methods is "hot composting," which can yield finished compost in as little as 2 weeks. A good how-to article is "How to Make Compost in 14 Days with the Berkeley Method," available on the website Rural Sprout. Be aware, though, that most home composters don't actually succeed in achieving those sustained hot temperatures, so it is important that you keep weed seeds, quack grass and diseased plant material out of the compost, or they could survive and cause problems later.

Composting in static piles (a.k.a. lazy composting) is a low- or zero-effort method that is a fine alternative to hot composting. It just takes longer to turn scraps into rich "black gold." Static compost piles do hang around for a while, and using bins helps keep things looking tidy. The Cornell Waste Management Institute website has a page on home composting that is a wealth of information, including a sheet called "Designs for Composting Systems." I have a lot of yard waste and have found that the 3-bin setup works well. It gives me the capacity to deal with big seasonal cleanups, plus a spare bin to toss incompletely composted bits into when I'm harvesting finished compost for use. Pro tip: If you are going to use a tractor bucket or garden cart to get stuff in and out of the bins, make sure to build the openings wide enough.

To learn more about what should and should not go into compost, check out the fact sheet from UNH Extension called "Composting for the Home Gardener." Note: If you get compost from a commercial or municipal source, be sure to ask for the analysis and check that there is nothing in there that could be harmful to you or your garden, such as herbicides!

A couple of seasonal thoughts: Consider leaving the leaves where they fall as much as possible. In the natural ecosystem, important nutrients are returned to the soil as fungi break down leaves, which supports future plant growth. Leaf litter also provides winter shelter for the next generations of bumblebees (for pollination) and caterpillars (lunch for baby birds). Also, autumn is the best time to get lawn and garden soil samples off to UNH Extension for analysis and recommended amendments. Your plants will thank you for it in the spring!

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.

### **Free Business Planning Course for NH Specialty Crop Producers: Apply by November 30th, 2022!**

The Cheshire County Conservation District, the Hannah Grimes Center for Entrepreneurship and National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) are partnering to host a free 7-week-long business planning course (waived fee of \$600!) for specialty crop producers in New Hampshire. Specialty crops are defined in law as, "fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits and horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture".

Throughout the course, farmers will learn how to enhance the competitiveness of their business, receive technical assistance, receive peer support from other specialty crop producers, create a business plan and will receive a \$2,000 stipend to implement their business plan after successfully completing the course.

The course will meet in person at the Hannah Grimes Center for Entrepreneurship in Keene, NH every Wednesday from 4:00pm-7:00pm, January 11th, 2023 through February 22nd, 2023.

Funding for this program is provided in part by the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture and the Markets & Food USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

For more information, or to request a printed application, contact Benee Hershon at 603-756-2988 ext.3011 or email at [benee@cheshireconservation.org](mailto:benee@cheshireconservation.org)

Learn More and Apply Here: <https://www.cheshireconservation.org/businessplanning> .

### **New State Record for Biggest Channel Catfish in NH**

There is a new state record for the biggest channel catfish caught in New Hampshire. Scott Alexander Jr., of Sullivan, caught the catfish on Sept. 27 in the Connecticut River in Hinsdale. New Hampshire Fish and Game confirmed his catch that measured 31.9 inches long and weighed 15 pounds 12.8 ounces. The previous record was 31.1 inches, 15 pounds, 5.28 ounces. Congratulations, Scott!

Channel catfish are not native to New Hampshire and are believed to have come up the river from Connecticut and Massachusetts.

### **TOWN FOOD PANTRY OPEN TWO NIGHTS EACH MONTH!**

The Sullivan Food Pantry, located in the rear, lower level of the Sullivan Congregation Church, is usually open on the second and last Thursdays of each month from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. **However, due to the holidays, the dates in November will be Nov 10 & Nov 22. December dates will be Dec 8 & 22.**

Any town resident may stop by and pick up food and paper goods. No registration required. 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!

**JUSTICE of the PEACE**  
and  
**Notary Public**  
Mary Hull 603-847-9718

**SULLIVAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
Sunday service 9:30 am 847-9030  
**Pastor Christopher Cornell**  
Phone 603-852-0895  
Facility Rental: Chip & Kathy Woodbury  
(357-3445)

**Buy or sell real estate with your neighborhood  
REALTOR**  
603-357-3035 x 20 & 603-209-4151  
**Stephanie Jacques, Associate Broker**  
Greenwald Realty  
18 years experience selling real estate in the  
Monadnock Region

**NH PIONEER CHIMNEY & HOME REPAIR**  
Route 9 Antrim  
Specializing in all types of chimney work including:  
chimney repair, cleaning, installations (masonry or  
metal), relining, pointing, waterproofing, critter removal,  
caps, rebuilds, relining and leak stopping.  
Is your roof stained? No problem for Marcel. He can  
clean that dryer vent for you, too.  
Veteran & Senior Discounts  
Insured – Free Estimates  
Marcel Couturier 603-588-3908

**KEENE TRANSMISSION EXCHANGE**  
Transmission repair, Rebuilds, Remans  
Install clutches – Trans filters  
State Inspections  
Pickup & Delivery Available  
251 Gilsum Rd., Sullivan  
Call Kevin Wheeler 603-847-9031

**LACKEY PRECISION MACHINING LLC**  
CNC Milling and Turning  
Prototype & Small Production Runs  
Frank Lackey 603-847-3237  
233 South Rd.  
[lackey@myfairpoint.net](mailto:lackey@myfairpoint.net)

**CARDINAL SURVEYING & LAND PLANNING**  
"KNOW YOUR BOUNDARIES"  
Wendy Pelletier, LLS  
T. 603-499-6151  
C. 603-209-1989  
[wendy@cardinalsurveying.net](mailto:wendy@cardinalsurveying.net)  
[www.cardinalsurveying.net](http://www.cardinalsurveying.net)

**"DJ KK" - Kris Kleine**  
**DJ Entertainment**  
Weddings Bar/Bat Mitzvahs Private Parties Special  
Events School Dances Restaurants/Bars Sound  
Equipment and Lighting  
Need a Band?  
For Service Call/Text:  
603-209-5515  
[kriskleine@yahoo.com](mailto:kriskleine@yahoo.com)

**ELECTRICAL SOLUTIONS NEW ENGLAND, LLC  
(ESNE)**  
Residential & Commercial, Ductless AC, Generators  
Proprietor: Tom Pinard  
PO Box 14  
Sullivan 03445  
(603) 757-2462  
<https://www.facebook.com/contact.esne/>

**DOMESTIC GODDESS CLEANING SERVICES**  
Cleaning for your home or small business.  
Celebrating 15 years of business serving the  
Monadnock Region.  
Openings available!  
Fully Covid vaccinated.  
Please call or text Mellanie L'Abbe at  
603-209-4865 or email [jimandmell@gmail.com](mailto:jimandmell@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!



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!**

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.

### 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 Dec. 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](mailto:bcummings@myfairpoint.net)

Editor: Becky Cummings 603-847-3477

Assistant Editor: Gaynelle Pratt

**~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 603-847-3408  
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

**SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER**  
PO Box 110  
Sullivan, NH 03445

<p>PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SULLIVAN, NH PERMIT NO 110</p>
--

**POSTAL PATRON**  
**SULLIVAN, NH 03445**

