

Sullivan Community Newsletter

Vol. 43 No.2

Sullivan, NH

Sept. – Oct. 2023

The Sullivan Country Store is Open!

The Sullivan Country Store opened July 29! Stop in, do a little shopping and congratulate Will and Megan! Hours are 6am to 6pm, 7 days a week! Best wishes - we're happy you're here!

We just received notice that their kitchen will open on Sept. 15th! See their article inside this newsletter.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE COMING EVENTS!

COMMUNITY POWER PRESENTATION

Sept. 11 – 6:30pm

Cheshire County Power Coalition will present an informational meeting regarding their options for community power planning in regional towns. The meeting will be held on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:30PM as part of the regular public Board of Selectmen's meeting. Interested residents are welcome to attend.

COMMUNITY HOUSING PRESENTATIONS

Thursdays at 6:30pm

September 14 – Home Shares & October 12 - Villages

Nelson School Farmer's Market!

On Saturday, September 30th, the Nelson Agricultural Committee is hosting their annual Farmers' Market and Craft Fair at **Nelson School from 9am-12noon**. Local folks (including students!) are invited to set up tables to sell items with a parent or on their own, depending on age. Students can reserve a 10'x10' booth space for free, and adults pay \$10.

The funds benefit Nelson Elementary School. They are still looking for vendors, seeking a good variety of produce, value added foods, plants, etc. If you are interested, please contact Val Van Meier at valvanmeier@yahoo.com at your earliest convenience.

A **Welcome Back BBQ** for all families, free of charge, will be held during the same event. We would love to see you there!

Sullivan Fire Department Annual DRIVE THRU BBQ!

Save the Date – Sept. 30!

Join us on Saturday September 30th 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 **6th Annual October Calendar Raffle**. 31 prizes will be raffled off in the month of October. \$5 per raffle ticket or 5 tickets for \$20. Please see any department member or stop by the fire station on Wednesday nights between 7pm and 9pm. We will also have calendar raffle tickets for sale at our BBQ Drive Thru.

TRUNK or TREAT

Thursday, October 26

6-8 pm

See page 2 for details!



TRUNK OR TREAT

Thursday, October 26 6-8pm



TRUNK or TREAT!!!!

You're invited to participate in a "trunk or treat" event located between the Library and Town Hall Plaza. This will be the central location for anyone wishing to go "trunk or treating". It's free to all community members!

What does Trunk or Treat look like?

Imagine a bunch of cars lined up with their trunks open and decorated and with lots of goodies/ candy inside – that's what we'll have! Costumed Trunk or Treaters will go from one car to another to get their candy/treats. Perfect for the rural areas like ours that have difficulty going from house to house.

How can I participate?

For those of you who would like to participate, there will be a sign-up sheet at the library. Come join the fun by decorating your trunk, donning a costume and enjoy some fun in your community. Sponsored by the Sullivan Fire Sept. and Sullivan Library.

Questions?

Call (603-847-3458) or email (sullivanpubliclibrary@gmail.com) the library with any questions.

Nelson School Open House - September 19th from 6-7PM

REGISTER TO VOTE!

Sullivan Supervisors of the Checklist

Sept. 23, 2023 11 to 11:30am Sullivan Library

Supervisors will be in session at the Sullivan Public Library on Sat., Sept. 23 from 11 to 11:30 am for new registrations and corrections to the checklist. Bring proof of identity, age, residency and citizenship (a birth certificate, U.S. Passport/Passcard or naturalization document). If you do not have documents, you can prove your identity, age and/or citizenship by signing a Qualified Voter Affidavit, under oath, in front of an election official. You can always register with the Town Clerk, too.

Change in party registration will also be accepted. Wondering whether you're registered as a Republican, Democrat or as Undeclared? Checklists are posted at the town hall (in and out), the library and outside the fire station & Sullivan Store. Or, check your party online <https://app.sos.nh.gov/voterinformation>.

SEW & SEWS, S & B'S OR WHATEVER YOU CALL THEM...

You're invited to join the Monday afternoon group - maybe to sew, crochet or quilt, or perhaps just to visit! It's a fun way to meet people, do something a little different and maybe even find out what's happening in town. The group will start meeting each Monday, beginning on Sept. 25 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 or Becky Cummings at 847-3477.

AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC

from Tosti to Elvis

Join the musicians at the Unitarian Church in Peterborough on **Sunday, October 15 at 2pm** for an afternoon of assorted music – classical to contemporary. Featured will be Leo Campbell (voice), Cheryl Sharrock (pianist) and Chip Woodbury (voice & guitar). There is no fee for the concert, but donations will be appreciated.

FIRST PANCAKE BREAKFAST OF THE YEAR! Delicious happenings at Nelson School on Saturday, October 28th from 8-11AM. Proceeds will benefit the 4th and 5th grade classes. We are also hoping to offer some Halloween activities that day as well. Hope to see everyone there!

Looking ahead to the Holidays....

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR - The Country Christmas Craft Fair, sponsored by the Sullivan Friends of the Library and the Sullivan Church, will be held at the Sullivan Church on Saturday, Nov. 11 from 9am-2pm. If you are interested in having a table, contact Gaynelle Pratt at 847-3271.

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

Sullivan Housing Update

Submitted by Leslie Casey, Sullivan Housing Task Force

Sullivan's Housing Opportunity Planning Grant and the Housing Task Force

As part of Governor Sununu's \$100 million InvestNH initiative, \$5 million was allocated to provide grants to municipalities to analyze and update their land use regulations to help increase housing choice. The NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs contracted with NH Housing to administer this program. NH Housing is a self-supporting public corporation that promotes, finances, and supports housing solutions for the people of New Hampshire. Sullivan's Selectmen approved the Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) grant application for submission, and as of December 2022 Sullivan became one of 58 NH communities to be awarded a grant under the state program. The funding (\$51,868) allowed us to hire an experienced, state-approved planning consultant part-time.

To help coordinate the grant project, the Selectmen chartered the Sullivan Housing Task Force in April for a 3-year term. The mission of the Task Force is to identify, analyze, and advocate for a balanced supply of housing types that meet the economic, social, and physical needs of the Town of Sullivan residents in order to maintain a vibrant and sustainable community. The Selectmen handle all financial aspects of the grant on behalf of the town. The Task Force membership consists of:

- One Planning Board member (ex-officio)
- One Selectman (ex-officio)
- Three (3) other members from among Sullivan residents.

What We Are Doing to Carry Out the Mission of the Housing Task Force

Our planning consultant, Ivy Vann, has already completed a housing needs assessment using data from the US Census published in the Monadnock Regional Housing Needs Assessment. She is also drafting an update to the housing chapter of Sullivan's 2015 Master Plan, which will go to the Planning Board for a public hearing later this year. Sullivan's commitment to remaining rural, coupled with the lack of municipal infrastructure, means that the most appropriate forms of housing, other than single family dwellings, are smaller units, either as Accessory Dwelling Units, as house-sized duplexes, or as a cottage grouping in a conservation subdivision. Ivy recently completed a regulatory audit with recommended changes to Sullivan's Community Planning Ordinance that would make those types of housing easier to build, if desired, by a landowner. As it stands now, if the town were to have development pressures, the current code requiring 2-acre lots with 200 feet of road frontage will deliver a suburban form of development, not a rural form.

Community engagement is a vital part of our grant project. The Master Plan Update page on the Town of Sullivan website (under the Planning Board menu) has updates and resources. Also, the Task Force is hosting a series of four in-person informational sessions on housing topics at the Sullivan Church Friendship Hall: Accessory Dwelling Units, Better Subdivisions, Home Shares, and Villages. The informational sessions are intended to facilitate arriving at a common understanding of the issues. The series of sessions will be followed at a later date by discussions of how best to guide future growth pressures. The financial security of the town is another consideration: can a town with a population of fewer than 700 residents and a housing stock of large single-family homes sustain its roads and the education of its children?

The sessions on ADUs and Subdivisions took place in July and August, respectively. They were well-attended and informative. The Home Shares session will take place on September 14th, and the Villages session on October 12th. Both will be on Thursdays at 6:30 PM. A postcard with the information went out to everyone in the mail. Sullivan residents are encouraged to attend the sessions and keep informed on housing issues by visiting the Master Plan link under the Planning Board menu on the town website.

This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRP0145 awarded to the State of New Hampshire by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Ordinance Amendment Process

When a planning board decides to alter an existing land use ordinance or create a new land use ordinance, there are specific steps that must be taken in a particular order. Regardless of whether the change has come at the recommendation of a planning professional, the town's own Zoning Board of Adjustment (after seeing numerous cases around the same ordinance), or arises out of a group of citizens' concerns, the process remains the same.

1. The planning board, or more usually, a professional planner, creates draft language for the change. The board discusses the proposed changes at its regular meeting and, if the change is substantive, schedules a public workshop to discuss the proposed change. Often the workshop is held on a night different from the planning board's usual meeting night.
2. Once the planning board determines the date for the workshop it is advertised ('posted' in the legal terminology) in the usual places: town website, local paper, any usual notice boards. Meetings must be posted at least 24 hours in advance.

At the workshop meeting, the board will have copies of the current ordinance with the proposed changes crossed out and the new language highlighted in some way. The board typically discusses the proposed changes thoroughly; and after they

have done so, and possibly made edits to the proposed ordinance, they may open the meeting up to public comment. After the public comment period, the board may make additional edits to the proposed ordinance.

The board may then schedule a public hearing on the proposed ordinance, or they may schedule an additional workshop.

3. When the board is satisfied that the ordinance will perform as they wish it to, they will schedule a public hearing. The hearing is scheduled and advertised in the same way as the workshop.

Public comment must be heard at the public hearing. The board may or may not make changes at the public hearing. If any changes other than spelling corrections or other minor changes are made, a second public hearing must be held.

4. The final step, once the board is satisfied with the language of the proposed ordinance, is to “move it to ballot.” This means that no more changes to the proposal can be made and the language as it is written at this point will appear on the printed ballot for the entire town to vote on in March. This ballot is the same ballot used for town elections. Zoning changes are not voted on at town meeting: they must appear on the printed ballot for town elections. Zoning changes require a simple majority of voters to be adopted.

Help Wanted: Town Cemetery Trustee.

The town needs someone willing to volunteer as an alternate trustee to work with the other trustees who help care for Sullivan's three cemeteries. The trustees oversee the activities of a landscaping contractor who provides mowing and other maintenance services. They also show anyone interested in purchasing a plot the sites available; then prepare a receipt for any plot purchases. The number of plots being sold has been averaging 3-4 per year. The trustees will also advise the funeral director, at the time of a burial, on the location of the correct plot within the cemetery. The trustees are also responsible for maintaining the records associated with the three cemeteries. Our three cemeteries are the resting place both for recently passed members of the Sullivan community and individuals from the town's early history, including Revolutionary War veterans. It's important that we honor them all. The cemeteries also serve the town as places for to go for walks, to enjoy the open space and views and sit in contemplation. If you are interested in serving the town as a cemetery trustee alternate, please call the town hall 603-847-3316 and ask to speak to Mary Hull, Jim Casey or Kevin Wheeler. Thank you.

JEWETT PARK WORK

Kathleen Wheeler reports that the marked trees in the park have come down, stumps removed, and they're waiting on a chipper now to clean up the remaining brush. Hopefully, by next fall the park will be in good shape and Sullivan can celebrate there with another Fall Festival.

What an improvement already – thank you!

SULLIVAN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Summer is a slow time for the Conservation Commission. We don't plan activities because so many people are on vacation. But, plans are in the works for a few hikes this fall. We will do a birding walk with Milton Trimitsis, time and place to be announced later. We also hope to join together with the Gilsum Conservation Commission for a hike to the Bear Dens in Gilsum. We will post when those will be happening, so stay tuned. We are also planning for some educational talks again this winter.

Happy to fund Jewett Park tree cutting! I hope you have seen the work being done at Jewett Park this summer. With coordination by Kathleen Wheeler, Mark Smith has been cutting trees to open up the area around the pavilions. This will let more sunlight in and get rid of some dangerous trees. The wood will be used by the highway department to heat their buildings. so it's a win-win. The work is being funded by the Sullivan Conservation Commission. This is one of the uses that we are authorized to use the money for from the Land Use Change Tax. This is money that is paid by a landowner when their land or a portion of the land is taken out of current use. While the land is in current use they are taxed at a reduced rate. When taken out there is a 1-time fee of 10% of the current market value of the parcel. This money stays with the town and is split between the general fund and the conservation commission.

Enjoy these last few days of summer. We look forward to seeing you this fall.

Wendy Pelletier, chair

Chainsaw For Sale

Gently used Husqvarna 450 X-Torq chainsaw with 20-inch bar. Asking \$150. For details call 603-847-3271 after 6PM

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.

From the Archives

by Chris Pratt

“You’re gon’na drive us into the poor house,” my father always said to me, if I left the light on in the bathroom or the hallway. Of course, he didn’t mean it literally, but it was a reminder of how close we all are to poverty caused by life’s “little disasters” and that hasn’t changed much over the years. There are numerous examples in our Town’s history of when the death of a father, a fire, sudden infirmity, or old age caused a family to become poor. To seek relief, people would turn to their family or the community. Aging parents would often deed the farm to a son or son-in-law in return for the guarantee of support for the rest of their lives. A family that lost a farm to fire might look to the neighbors for temporary shelter and help to rebuild. These were examples of “temporary” poverty.” But what of those people who were “perpetually poor”? These were often people with mental or physical handicaps, alcoholics, aging widows or widows with children. Their only choice was to appeal to the Selectmen for aid. That took many forms in Sullivan over the years.

The mandate to aid the poor was deeply rooted in the Congregational faith of our settlers and is supported in much of the Bible. Colonial era laws required towns to support the poor with taxes, as they did for schools and roads. Sullivan adopted the common practice of “bidding out” the perpetually poor. A person who had no means of support would appeal to the Select Board. At the next Town Meeting, families would bid a price for taking in the individual and provide food, clothing, and shelter for one year—the lowest bid would be accepted and paid out of the Town Treasury. The practice was abolished around 1824 in favor of direct aid to those in need with an appropriation from the Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen and later the Overseer of the Poor administered the aid.

The 1830s and 1840s were decades in which many reform movements were begun—education, abolition, temperance, as well as the concept of centralizing the perpetually poor onto “poor farms.” During this period several towns in Cheshire County experimented with purchasing a farm, equipping it, hiring a manager, and placing the poor within the farm. In the mid-1860s the New Hampshire Legislature authorized counties to establish such poor farms. There was much opposition to this trend and all suggestions of a poor farm in Sullivan were rejected. In fact, Sullivan’s Town Meeting once called on the County Commission to sell the Cheshire County farm in Westmoreland. So, Sullivan never bought or built a poor farm. Instead, they inherited one.

The farm in question was composed of pieces of Lot 4 of the 9th Range of the Gilsum Plan and was purchased by James and Esther (Mack) Rowe around 1774. As the years went by, the Rowes acquired other pieces of land until their farm totaled about 100 acres. After James died in 1805, Esther remarried to Caleb Winch, Sr. Caleb’s sons lived on the farm at various times, but Esther always kept ownership until she died on 4 July 1833. Her will left her estate to her stepson with the condition that he use it until his death or until he no longer desired it. At that point, the town would own the farm and use its income to support the perpetually poor. Around 1860, the town assumed full ownership.

The acreage was divided into two main lots with the old Frost Road (which bisects the property on a north/south axis) as a boundary. These were known as the East and West Pastures with the East Pasture being the larger of the two. These were rented out to different farmers. Some of the land contained a mixed forest and a sugar bush, but the primary income for many years was from the pastures. We have no records on how the income was expended by the Selectmen until 1916 when state law required the transfer of administration to a board known as the Trustees of Trust Funds.

Their records provide details on the income—\$35 per year for the East Pasture and \$11 for the West Pasture—as well as income from maple tapping and blueberries. Expenditures included direct support for individuals or for people supporting the poor. One expense aided a family to support children who were without parents. Another aided a family supporting a sick and indigent relative. Other expenditures were more short term such eye glasses, medical care, or funeral expenses. As time went on, income moved from agriculture to forestry and today the property (now the Winch Forest/Town Farm) still generates income which is kept in trust to support the perpetually poor.

Most of us no longer have to threaten our children with visions of the poor house if they don’t remember to shut off a light. Today we have the modern “safety net” of Social Security, unemployment insurance, Medicaid, and other programs to assist people in need. Still, life’s “little disasters” occur and a sudden change can upset our best efforts at preparation. Moreover, the complexities of the modern age sometimes preclude aid from families or neighbors. As in the days of our ancestors, it remains the moral obligation of a community to have empathy and to aid those in need. While the Winch Forest is a wonderful place to hike, we must remember that its original purpose is to provide us with means to help Sullivan’s residents who are perpetually poor.

Public Notice

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on September 14, October 12 and November 19, and December 14, 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.



KEENE PUMPKIN FESTIVAL – OCT. 21 – 2PM

Library Footnotes"

From Your Big Free Library

Summer Reading 2023 was a success! Thank you to all who participated with us this year! Our combined goal for the towns of Sullivan, Surry and Gilsum was 500 pounds of materials read in the month of July... and we actually read 511 pounds! Way to go! Just in case you were wondering about the actual town totals, they were as follows:

Surry – 100 pounds
Gilsum – 160 pounds
Sullivan – 251 pounds

We're here to help with school work, too! Now that schools are back in session, do you need some reading material? Or perhaps you need some information for school? Let the library help – e-books, printed books, audio books and information look-up. Your librarians would love to help you!

New to the Sullivan Library - A few titles that we have just added into the collection are: *Beyond the Wand* by Tom Felton, *Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin, *A Mrs. Miracle Christmas* by Debbie Macomber and *The Warriors* series by Erin Hunter.

A favorite Nonfiction selection is: *As You Wish* by Cary Elwes. Cary Elwes was inspired to share his memories and give fans an unprecedented look into the creation of the film, "The Princess Bride", while participating in the twenty-fifth anniversary cast reunion. In *As You Wish*, he has created an enchanting experience; in addition to never-before seen photos and interviews with his fellow cast mates, there are plenty of set secrets and backstage stories.

A young adult patron submits this review of a book we have on our shelves: *The Night Circus*, by Erin Morgenstern, is a whimsical fable of backstabbing and loneliness, love and loss and the events which expose what really happens behind the striped canvas of *The Night Circus*. Celia and Marco are two young magicians who have been training their whole life to create grand illusions, or is it really just magic? They were chosen by their mentors to compete at a young age against each other, though never knowing who one another really were, and having to figure that out on their own. Both find themselves working in the vast embodiment of the canvas walls. They have found their place in life it seems; however the weight of both their pasts seem to pull them down, getting caught in a reality they both wish to escape, increasingly more so as they grow closer. Decisions need to be made and fast for the fibers around their worlds are unraveling, revealing them from what they are trying to leave behind. The game has been played before, and cheated, but the rule is simple: there can only be one left standing. Will Celia and Marco be the ones to break it? Or, will they also fall victim to the unfortunate downfall that others before them have succumbed to?

Remember – Sullivan Library hours change on September 7!

Tuesday, 10 AM-4 PM and 6 PM-8 PM
Thursday, 10 AM-Noon and 6 PM-8 PM (no longer open 2-4pm)
Saturday, 9 AM-Noon

Hope to see you soon! Your Librarians, Paulette & Sara

From The Little Free Library at 312 Centre Street

I want to thank the anonymous donor who stopped by when we were putting the children's library back out. She asked how we funded our library books. As I explained the different ways books are provided to our library, she gave me a monetary donation to use. I was able to use this donation at an educator yard sale that had tons of children books that were in like new condition. These will be put out over the course of the year. Thank you again 😊.

Along with providing new different books to read, I bet you wonder what I do with the books that have moved through the library? Well, I try to share them with other libraries. Last week I brought 50+ books that had been through our libraries and was able to share them with other libraries in Maine. I visited 14 little free libraries in one day before I ran out of books.

I also am a member of the little free library Facebook page for "Stewards" and there is a lot of book sharing there as well. We share ideas, fun things other library stewards are doing such as games, scavenger hunts, Dr. Seuss' birthday, back to school themes, holiday themes, etc. With the wildfires in Hawaii, there is a steward who has offered to collect and share books with those who have lost their libraries in order to rebuild. We have already sent a box of books to her.

-Tammy Rondeau -

From The Little Free Library at 426 Valley Road

We're right across from the Sullivan Country Store! After a little shopping with Megan & Will, stop by and pick up some reading material. Our assortment of books is always changing – you're sure to find something of interest. You can now follow us on Instagram under the name "little_free_library_145512"!

- Anne Pinard -

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

By Risa Keene

Newsletter Note: Risa traveled a good deal this summer, and when she returned home, time was just too short to get her next article together as it was time to begin preparations for Jewish High Holy Days. As explained by Risa, the High Holy Days are arguably the holiest days in the Jewish calendar. They occur in September or October -- depending on how the Jewish calendar (a lunar calendar) syncs with the Gregorian calendar, which is solar. First comes Rosh Hashanah, the beginning of the Jewish New Year and that is followed ten days later by Yom Kippur, the Day of Repentance. These are solemn holidays, unlike our secular New Year's Eve. Accordingly, Risa is very busy with the holiday preparations.

Until the next issue of the Newsletter when "Meet Your Neighbor" returns – "Shalom" (peace, hello, good-bye in Hebrew) - Risa.

From the Fire Department

~ Calling for help ~

911 is not always a local number!



If you had to call for help in an emergency, what is the most important piece of information you need to relay?

Chances are, at some point in your life, you will need to call 911 for help. It may be for a stranger, a friend or family member, or even for yourself. This can be an emotional and/or stressful time. You may not understand some of the processes that are going on, or why certain questions are being asked. This time around, we will be going over some of the things you need to know about calling for help, so you can do so more effectively.

Back to the most important piece of information you need to relay. If you said anything other than "where the emergency is", you are wrong. While other information, like what type of emergency you are reporting, or details about the emergency can help in getting the best help, none of that will matter if the help does not know where to go. "Where" also has several levels to its meaning. At the lowest level, it is the address of the emergency. In New Hampshire, 911 is a state agency, so you will have to identify the town of the emergency, which is the next level up. What state the emergency is in may also need to be verified. If you are calling with a cell phone, it is possible for your call to get picked up by a cell tower in another state, in which case you will be routed to the wrong 911 call center. 911 should identify themselves by state at the beginning of the call.

As for who you should call if you do have an emergency, it is 911. The staff is trained to handle emergencies of every kind. In addition, they have the equipment to trace the call; so even if you do not know where you are, 911 can figure it out and send you help. Additionally, for medical emergencies they can give you instructions to help before the ambulance arrives.

You should not call a friend or family member at a different location to have them get you help. Even if your brother has been a firefighter for 20 years in New York, he will probably tell you to call 911, anyway. If they do call 911 for you, because they are not there, they will not have all the information. A third-party caller cannot actively observe and report what is happening at an emergency like somebody that is present.

One thing people often fail to realize when they call 911 is they are not talking to someone local. **The 911 call center in New Hampshire is in Concord.** This means the 911 operator more than likely will not know local landmarks or people in town.

911 is going to ask a lot of questions. They are not doing this to have a conversation. It is to get information so they can understand the emergency. By doing so, they can send you the proper help, as well as keep responders safe. Even if some of the questions do not make sense, you should answer them anyway. Do not argue with the operator, and absolutely do not threaten them or become abusive. You may be trying to get help faster, but if the operator determines you may be a threat to responders, you could end up waiting for police to arrive first.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection!

A great opportunity to clean toxic wastes around your house.

Fall 2023

Sat. Sept. 9 Wed. Sept. 13 Sat. Sept. 23

Sat. Oct. 7 Wed. Oct. 18 Sat. Oct. 28

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.

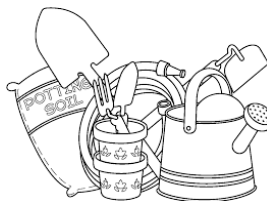
If you think it's hazardous, bring it up.

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.

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

Submitted by Leslie Casey



It is late summer already, and the days are getting shorter. My lawn is garden is slow. I am trying to think positive while bearing in mind that date is coming up the last week of September. For extra fun, chipmunks electronet and are wreaking havoc. I vow that things will be different next year. That said, gardens and lawns all around town have been looking especially lovely this summer despite the late killing frost and the excessive rainfall we experienced. Kudos to all the gardeners!

Here are some helpful UNH Extension gardening tips for September-October:

- Fall is usually regarded as the best time of year to renovate the lawn. Milder temperatures in mid-September should provide perfect growing conditions for grass to become established. Amend the soil and site conditions as needed before seeding: correct pH and nutrient deficiencies according to soil test results, reduce shade, improve drainage, and manage all weeds that will compete with new grass seedlings. Remember that watering is necessary to get a new lawn established.
- September and October are good times to chemically control many perennial weeds. As these plants prepare to go dormant for the winter, sugars and nutrients are moved down to their root systems. Thus, systemic herbicides that are applied at this time are more readily drawn into roots. A systemic herbicide is one that is absorbed by a plant and transported through its vascular system, killing, or damaging the entire plant. [My note: Systemic herbicides work well against woody invasives such as Asian Bittersweet and Glossy Buckthorn also.] Before applying any herbicides, make sure to thoroughly read and follow the label instructions
- As production slows down in the vegetable garden, pull up spent plants, pick up all crop debris, and dispose of any diseased material in the trash. Several common vegetable diseases, such as Septoria leaf spot and early blight, will overwinter in crop debris in the soil, so it's important to remove those materials from the garden to reduce infection next season. If possible, rotate where you plant vegetables in the garden next year. Multiyear rotations help limit infection because susceptible plants are kept away from soil-borne fungi.
- Prepare houseplants for winter by pruning back excessive shoot growth and trimming roots that have emerged from pots. Carefully scout for pests such as spider mites and aphids and begin treating them before plants come inside. To reduce stress on plants, plan to bring them back inside a few weeks before you plan to turn the heat on so that they have time to adjust to lower light and humidity levels. Once plants are indoors and no longer producing lots of new growth, stop fertilizing until the spring.
- Divide and transplant perennials. As perennial plants grow, they produce new shoots and roots around their periphery. Some plants, such as daylilies, hostas, iris, ornamental grasses, and beebalm will develop dead or sparse centers as they become overcrowded. Additionally, restricted airflow amid dense growth can make some plants more susceptible to diseases. Fall is a good time to divide perennials because the weather is typically cool and wet, reducing plant water loss and stress after being transplanted. Aim to divide and transplant at least eight weeks before the ground freezes, to give plants plenty of time to become established.
- Black, purple and red raspberry canes that fruited can be pruned to the ground in the late summer or early fall.

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

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

TOWN FOOD PANTRY REMINDER OPEN TWO NIGHTS EACH MONTH!

The Sullivan Food Pantry, located in the rear, lower level of the Sullivan Congregational Church, is open on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. **Upcoming dates are Sept 14 and 28, Oct 12 and 26.** 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 or the pantry may be left at the Sullivan Post Office, the Town Hall or the Library. Many thanks to all who help their neighbors by donating food, paper goods, personal care items, detergent, cleaning products and/or financial assistance to the pantry.

good, but the vegetable Sullivan's average fall frost finally figured out my

UPDATE FROM THE SULLIVAN STORE

The kitchen will open Sept. 15th!

We are overjoyed to announce the opening of our doors to all of you. This significant achievement wouldn't have been possible without your incredible support, and we genuinely appreciate being a part of such a warm and welcoming community.

As you may have already noticed, our morning offerings include a selection of Terra Nova coffee, tea, sandwiches and an array of pastries. Our shelves are thoughtfully stocked with a variety of locally sourced products, including fresh produce, meats, cheeses, maple products and more, all sourced from our dedicated local farmers and producers. We hope you find our store a one-stop shop!

Excitingly, our kitchen will open for made-to-order food items starting on September 15. Be assured that we will share the finalized menu with you very soon!

In addition, we've established a community board eagerly awaiting your event flyers, business cards, and other materials. If you're interested in using this space, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. As always, we highly value your feedback and suggestions.

You can contact us via email at sullivancountrystore@gmail.com or by giving us a call at 603-847-3853. We're here to listen! Our store hours are 7 days a week, from 6 am to 6 pm. Thank you once again for your fantastic support!

NEWS FROM NELSON SCHOOL

Greetings, Sullivan Community!

We are looking forward to seeing all of our students back on Wednesday, August 30th. Welcome newsletters have been sent to our families, and our teachers are busy preparing their classrooms for our new year together. We are looking forward to engaging students in learning about the world around them through a variety of classroom and enrichment activities. We are especially excited to be partnering again with The Harris Center on a series of nature education activities for each grade level, thanks to the generosity of our communities. Coming up in September, we have an all-school hike planned; and in October, we will participate in carving pumpkins again for the Keene Pumpkin Festival. It's going to be a fantastic start to the year!

As a reminder, we are currently processing school registrations. If you know someone in Grades K-5 who is not yet registered, please send them our way! Students should be 5 years old by 9/30/2023 to enroll in Kindergarten at Nelson School. If you have a child who needs to be registered for school, please contact our administrative assistant, Joy Birdsey, for help with the process. She can be reached at 603-847-3408 or jbirdsey@sau29.org.

If you have driven by the school this summer, you have probably seen that we've been doing some work on the school grounds. Todd Faulkner and his team have been working to complete a drainage project to mitigate water issues that could impact the building. It is nearing completion, and the area behind the school is already drier. In addition to making that space more usable, the new drainage system will better protect the school building from the negative effects of too much water. Thank you, Todd, for all of the work that you have done!

Employment Opportunities - We have a few employment opportunities that have come open at the school. We are currently seeking a full-time custodian, in addition to a part time Occupational Therapist (15%) and a part-time Reading Specialist (10%). We are also always looking for substitute teachers! If you or anyone you know are interested in any of these opportunities, please let us know.

We have a number of events and activities planned for September and October where we hope to see our community. The Nelson School Open House is on Tuesday, September 19th from 6-7PM. Immediately following, we will have a brief meeting for all 5th grade families who are attending The Ecology School on October 2-6.

On Saturday, September 30th, the Nelson Agricultural Committee is hosting their annual Farmers' Market and Craft Fair at Nelson School from 9AM-12N. Local folks (including students!) are invited to set up tables to sell items with a parent or on their own, depending on age. Students can get a table for free, and adults pay \$10 for setting up a table. The funds benefit the Nelson School. They are still looking for vendors, seeking a good variety of produce, value added foods, plants and crafts. If you are interested, please contact Val VanMeier at valvanmiere@yahoo.com at your earliest convenience. During the same event, the Nelson School PTO will be hosting their annual Welcome Back BBQ for all families, free of charge. We would love to see you there!

We are also looking forward to hosting Community Week again during the week of October 23-27. If you are interested in joining us, please contact the school directly. Community Week will again culminate with our first Pancake Breakfast of the year on Saturday, October 28th from 8-11AM. Proceeds will benefit the 4th and 5th grade classes. We are also hoping to offer some Halloween activities that day as well. We hope to see everyone there!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support,

Nicole Gordon
Principal/Curriculum Integration Specialist – Nelson School

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Mary Hull 603-847-9718

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Pastor Christopher Cornell
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Facility Rental: Wendy Pelletier
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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The Sullivan Newsletter is published 6 times a year. It is mailed free of charge to Sullivan residents and interested landowners/taxpayers. Subscriptions are \$5 a year for non-taxpayers. Classifieds are \$10 a year; \$2.50 per issue, \$45 per full page or \$25 for ½ page. Make checks out to Sullivan Newsletter. Mail to PO Box 110; Sullivan, NH 03445 or drop it off at the town hall with the town clerk or administrative assistant.

Deadline for the next newsletter is Oct. 20. News items may be left in the Sullivan Library Book Box, mailed to PO Box 110 Sullivan 03445 (labeled Newsletter) or e-mailed (preferred) to:

bcummings@myfairpoint.net

Editor: Becky Cummings 603-847-3477

Assistant Editor: Gaynelle Pratt

SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER
PO Box 110
Sullivan, NH 03445

TOWN PHONE NUMBERS

Town Hall 603-847-3316
Town Highway Dept. 603- 847-3366
Sullivan Church 603-847-9030
Sullivan Country Store 603-847-3853
Sullivan Fire Station 603-847-9020
Sullivan Library 603-847-3458
Sullivan Post Office 603- 847-9720
Nelson School 603-847-3408
Keene Middle School 603-357-9020
Keene High School 603-352-0640
Sheriff (non-emergency) 603-352-4238
EMERGENCY 911

<https://townofsullivannh.com/>

For Burn Permits Call:

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

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