

## **Sullivan Community Newsletter**

Vol. 41 No. 4

Sullivan, NH

Jan. – Feb. 2022

### **PREPARING FOR TOWN MEETING**

#### **BUDGET HEARINGS**

Joint **School and Town Budget Hearings** will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, Jan. 25, beginning at 7pm. What are your tax dollars being spent on? Come and find out.

### **TOWN OFFICES OPEN FOR ELECTION**

**Sullivan needs some new faces!**

#### **TOWN POSITIONS:**

**Selectman:** (3 years), **Budget Committee:** (3 positions of 3 years each), **Moderator:** (1 for 2 years), **Cemetery Trustee:** (1 for 3 years), **Planning Board:** (3 positions of 3 years each), **Zoning Board of Adjustment:** (2 positions of 3 years each), **Trustee of Trust Funds:** (2 positions of 3 years each), **Supervisor of Checklist:** (6 years) and **Library Trustee:** (1 for 3 years).

#### **SCHOOL DISTRICT POSITIONS:**

**School Board:** (2 positions of 3 years each)

**Filing period** for the elected offices is Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> thru Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> at the Town Clerk's office. The filing fee is \$1. Wondering what each job entails, how much time it takes? Mary Hull, town clerk, can give you details of the responsibilities of each position.

#### **Register to Vote!**

**Supervisors of the Checklist** will be in session at the Sullivan Library on January 18<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 7:30pm and again on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> from 11 to 11:30am. Register to vote or make changes to your registration. You may also register to vote on Town Election Day, but not at Town Meeting.

**Town Election Day is March 8, 2021 and Town & School Meetings are generally the day following.**

The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office will be closed on Election Day.

### **SOME COMING EVENTS**

#### **Keene, NH Ice & Snow Festival**

Save the date! The 19th Keene Ice & Snow Festival is scheduled for Saturday, February 5, 2022.

<https://www.facebook.com/Keene-NH-Ice-Snow-Festival-249483592152/>

#### **Chapman Pond Kid's Fishing Derby**

Saturday, February 12. See inside this newsletter for more information!

### **SULLIVAN FOOD PANTRY**

The food pantry is available to any Sullivan resident who needs assistance. If you, or anyone you know, could use some help with food, please call the Town Hall at 603-847-3316, the Sullivan Church at 603-847-9030, or Gaynelle Pratt, Food Pantry Coordinator, at 603-847-3271. The food pantry received a large donation from the food drive which was an opportune boost to the supplies. Thank you! Donations of non-perishable food items and paper goods are much appreciated and can be left at the Town Hall, Post Office or Library. Many thanks to all who so generously donate to the pantry!

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Dear Residents,

It continues to be a pleasure to serve the Town of Sullivan as the Highway Department Road Agent. I learn something every day working with Paul and through interactions with other highway departments in the region. The folks working the roads are a wonderful community, always willing to share their knowledge and experiences. While few departments accomplish tasks in the same manner, all struggle with how to spend the residents' tax dollars in the most meaningful way. Asphalt and aggregate are always top expenditures, but the need for them is easily planned. Vehicle purchases and maintenance on the other hand, are a persistent challenge of all highway departments. This article is to inform the Town of Sullivan residents of the status of the major equipment at the Highway Department and to begin a conversation about replacement of the equipment in the years to come. Listed below are the equipment with their age, purchase year and purpose.

1987 John Deere 670B Grader

Purchased used in 2007

Age: 35 Estimated replacement cost (Used): \$100,000 -\$200,000

The grader is used to shape roads and maintain ditch-lines of the 10 miles of gravel roads in our town. All main gravel roads are graded at least once per year. This function is critical and must be accomplished. While the grader is in good condition, its age will limit parts availability and will make maintenance a challenge in the years to come.

2000 Ford F550, 4WD, one-ton truck with dump body, 10' Fisher plow and spreader

Purchased new

Age: 22 Estimated replacement cost (New): \$100,000

The F550 is used in all seasons for all purposes related to road maintenance. It is used during the winter for plowing the small roads with tight turn-a-rounds. It is in fair/poor condition.

2002 John Deere 410G Backhoe

Purchased new

Age: 20 Estimated replacement cost (New): \$150,000

The 410G backhoe is the workhorse of the Highway Department and our most critical piece of equipment. It is used for every aspect of road maintenance. It is in good condition.

2004 International 7400, rear wheel drive, six-wheel dump truck with fixed funnel plow and AF2000 spreader

Purchased used in 2013

Age: 18 Estimated replacement cost (Used): \$100,000

The 7400 is the large, red dump truck. It is used to haul material every season and is used as a plow truck in the winter. Its spreader size makes it our first choice for sanding gravel roads. Last year during mud season, it hauled 550 tons of stone to mitigate affected areas. It is in good condition.

2016 International Terrastar, 4WD, one-ton truck with dump, central hydraulics, front plow, wing and spreader

Purchased new

Age: 6 Estimated replacement cost (New): \$150,000

The Terrastar is the truck that Paul drives during storms on the main plow route. It is mainly reserved as a plow truck, designed and fitted for that purpose. It is in good condition.

2014 Mahindra 5010 4WD, 50HP Tractor

Purchased used in 2019

Age: 8

The 5010 is a versatile piece of equipment. It is most importantly used as a backup to the 410G backhoe to load sand and salt during winter storms. Grapple, mower and rake attachments are used throughout the year. It is in good condition.

The high cost of equipment replacement will require our town to evaluate priorities and plan for inevitable purchases. Implementing a schedule for purchases would allow the town time to work through our budget process and adequately fund capital reserves.

Please contact the Highway Department or Town office if you have any questions or concerns on this matter.

Best regards,

Todd Smith, Road Agent, Town of Sullivan, Highway Department

## “Library Footnotes”

A brand new year. Are you ready?

So much has been happening in the library lately. We are doing our best to meet the reading needs of our community and have been adding materials accordingly. As you have probably heard, the Sullivan Public Library is in the process of becoming fully automated, so if you haven't updated to a new 14-digit library card number, please come in and do so. You may now access our collection through our online catalog at [www.libraryworld.com/ipac.html](http://www.libraryworld.com/ipac.html). The username is Sullivan Library and no password is required. We beg your patience as it is still a work in progress, but this will help you determine if we own a particular book that you may be looking for.

SPL is proud to announce that we now have the entire *Fablehaven* series in our collection! If you haven't read them yet, please come check them out. *Fablehaven* is a fantasy book series for children about ages 8 to 12.

A few of the **new books** in our collection are: *Game On*, book 28 in the Stephanie Plum series by Janet Evanovich, *While Justice Sleeps* by Stacey Abrams, *Hour of the Witch* by Chris Bohjalian, *The Forest of Vanishing Stars* by Kristin Harmel, *The Lost Village* by Camilla Sten and *Black Ice*, book 20 in the Scott Harvath series by Brad Thor.

Don't see a title that interests you? Well, come on in and give us some suggestions as to what types of books would draw you in. We are here to meet your reading needs as best we can.

**Looking for a particular book?** Don't forget about our **Interlibrary Loan** system. If we don't have the book you're looking for, chances are one of the libraries in the state has it, and we can borrow it from them.

We have started up the **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Book Group** again. The most recent selection was *Mystery in White* by J. Jefferson Farjeon. Next will be *Split Second* by David Baldacci which will be our topic for the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Come in for your copy and plan to join us!

We would like to give a big shout out to our volunteers, Ginny Yawarski and Ginger DeAngelis, as well as the many who donate materials to us. We couldn't do it without you.

Your Librarians,  
Paulette Tuttle and Sara Bolduc

### **Sullivan Library welcomes new librarian:**

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees are pleased to announce that Sara Bolduc has joined the library staff. Sara lives in Sullivan and is excited with her new position. She will be working in the Library on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and alternate Saturdays. We hope our patrons will stop by and welcome her.

### **Public Notice**

The Sullivan Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meetings on January 13, February 10 and March 10, 2022 at 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.

## **FOOD DRIVE THANK YOU!**

Members of the Jewett Park Committee would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to all of the folks that participated in the Food Drive and Gifting Tree at the Sullivan Country Store. The event was a huge success. Your generosity was much appreciated. Every single item stayed local and has gone to help families of this town. This went a long way to ensure these family's holidays were a little easier. Thank you all so much.

### **DO YOU KNIT and/or SEW?**

A Sullivan first grader (new to the area this year) is anxious to learn how to knit and/or sew. If this is something you may be able to help with, contact Cindy Benner (Nelson School teacher) at [cbenner@sau29.org](mailto:cbenner@sau29.org) or call the school at 603-847-3408.

## **From the Archives** by Chris Pratt

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there were several stores in both Sullivan Center and East Sullivan. The number dwindled as our population declined. Seward's history of Sullivan notes that the last store was established by Laban Bond in 1872. It was located in an annex to Bond's house on Valley Road near the modern-day intersection with Route 9. Bond's business ceased after a foreclosure in 1878. Seward continues, "There is now no store in town." According to the documentation, the story resumes in 1920 after Thomas Fletcher purchased the Bond house and reestablished the store—a direct ancestor of our current store. We know this from a deed of the property to Mr. Fletcher and an article in *The Keene Sentinel* about the fire that destroyed the building not long after the purchase. I was always puzzled by the fact that Mr. Fletcher had moved here from Nebraska. After all, what would cause him to move to New England simply to start a store? Was the documentation incorrect or misleading? Recently, I discovered some new information that points to one of the problems in writing about local history—one cannot always rely on known facts alone. Sometimes one needs to dig deeper especially if the people involved only lived in town briefly. But first, one needs a clue.

It turns out that Mr. Fletcher had purchased an existing store. That new fact came to light thanks to a memoir by Edna McMahon. Edna A. (McClure) McMahon (1903-1994) was a person gifted with a remarkable memory who left us many reminiscences of life in Sullivan—especially East Sullivan—during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We are fortunate that Edna, often with the help of her daughter Pat Clark, took the time to write down those memories. One memory was visiting the store in 1914 or 1915—several years before Thomas Fletcher came to town. She included a photograph which showed a small building with advertisements in the windows. The other clue she left was the name of the owner—Arthur Field.

The building in question was known as the Gauthier Place. Laban Bond had built the house and located his store in a small ell. The house was located on the lot that now contains 442 Valley Road. After the wrangling over the Bond foreclosure was settled, the place was purchased by Alfred and Victoire Gauthier who moved here from Nelson. They conducted a small farm until around 1910 or 1911 when they decided to move to Keene and live with their children. The Gauthiers rented the place until they sold it to Thomas Fletcher. Thus, Arthur Field did not own the property which makes it difficult to trace him.

Next, I checked the tax rolls contained within the Sullivan Town Archives. A man named Edson C. Field first appears in 1911, pays a poll tax, and is taxed for 2 cows, 2 horses and some 70 "fowl." This would indicate a small farm that raised enough food to feed a family and possibly earned extra income selling eggs. In 1914, the tax rolls contain the first entry for Arthur Field who pays a poll tax and a tax for 1 horse. The town report for 1914 also shows the marriage of a woman named Bessie Field to William "Willie" Ball on December 31<sup>st</sup>. This gives us information on a family named Field, but are they related and if so, how?

To answer that question, I checked census records and found that Edson C. Field and his wife Agnes resided in Gilsom with their children (in order by age) Eva, Bertha, Arthur, Bessie, George and Frank. That puts them all in the same family and notes that Arthur was the son of Edson and Agnes. It also gives their ages. Arthur would have been about 22 years old when he first appears on the Sullivan tax rolls. Edson's occupation is listed as "farmer" which appears to fit with his activities in Sullivan.

Returning to the tax rolls, the entry for 1915 shows Arthur being taxed for what is known as "stock in trade." That is the value of goods on hand that you intend to sell. Given the evidence so far, that would indicate that a store operated by Arthur Field was in business for that tax year. The valuation is listed as \$250. 1916 shows the tax again and the valuation has risen to \$300. The final year for the store appears to have been 1917 but only Edson appears on the roll.

More details can be gleaned from other sources. Bessie, George and Frank all attended the East Sullivan School according to the few school records we have. The Town Reports for 1916 list Edson and George working with the town road crew. The diary of John McClure indicates that he hired George to help with the delivery of a load of hay in 1916. Later in the year, McClure notes that he bred a heifer for the family. Such fragments yield more information about how the family earned a living.

A search of other databases yield some more fragments. Edson Cyrus Field was born in Holden, ME, on 4 July 1860. He married Agnes L. Plummer on 27 March 1884. They lived in communities around Manchester, NH, where most of their children were born. Edson's occupation is listed as farmer in several of the records. After living in Sullivan, the family moved to Hollis, NH. Edson died in Newfane, VT, in 1933. Arthur married Bertha Roach not long after leaving Sullivan circa 1917. He tried a number of careers including fireman and salesman before settling on a farm in Amherst, NH. He died on 29 March 1948. So, the story of the Field family in Sullivan was one of a family living off the land while

“working out” on occasion. Arthur, probably with Edson’s help, reestablished the Sullivan store. Then, the family moved on to other communities.

Bessie, however, “settled down” as she lived in Sullivan for the remainder of her life. Her marriage to Willie Ball did not work out, and she remarried to Thomas McClure. She was very active in the community of East Sullivan—especially The Homeland Circle. She also served as Town Librarian from 1957 until 1968. She died on 2 June 1972.

One of the problems with local history is that information can sometimes be less than obvious until you tie it together. Consider the fragments of this story. First, we have the remembrance of Edna McMahon that the store existed before Thomas Fletcher arrived in town. Second, she left us the name of the store keeper which might have been lost because he rented the property instead of owning it. Third, while Edson and Arthur Field are mentioned in the tax rolls and Bessie in the vital statistics, we would not have known where they lived in town without Edna’s recollection. By tying the pieces of the story together and combining it with other sources, we are able to document that a family named Field lived in town for 6 or 7 years over 100 years ago. That gives us names and helps us understand their contributions to our community and the origins of the East Sullivan Store.

## Sullivan Store Update

We hope you all enjoyed the holiday season! Will & I wanted to give an update on the store & what we’ve been up to so you don’t feel left in the dark. 2021 was our first full year in Sullivan! I began working at the Monadnock Food Co-op in Keene as the events & education coordinator, while Will works on the store & home to the best of our abilities. We signed a contract for our septic system at the latter half of this year & made a substantial down payment. We are now waiting for a start date. This project needs to happen before we can get our licenses from the Department of Food Protection & NH Liquor Commission, so it’s been our #1 barrier to opening.

While working at the Co-op I’ve been lucky to work with some extraordinary people, including Jen Risley, the program manager of the local Crowd Monadnock, a community-based crowdfunding platform that empowers individuals to support the businesses, organizations & initiatives that grow healthier communities. Will & I will be working with Jen & the Local Crowd in the coming months to leverage a crowdfunding campaign. Many of you are aware of some of the hurdles we’ve been up against, so I won’t be redundant. But besides the septic system, we’ve incurred severe water damage, some of our coolers have become inoperable, our commercial kitchen needs a drastic face lift, & more. Stay-tuned for more information!

We’ve applied for “America’s Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) Targeted Small Grants” Program. It is funded by the USDA & it’s a nationwide program offering at least \$4 million in grant funds for food retail and food enterprises working to improve access to healthy foods in underserved areas, to create and preserve quality jobs and to revitalize low-income communities. We will find out in January if we are invited to apply to the program, it is a two-phase application process, in which we completed the first phase – writing a letter of intent.

Also, we have begun conversations with EV Gateway (a turn-key electric vehicle infrastructure solutions provider) to discuss the possibility of having Electric Vehicle charging stations on our property. If you’d like to stay up to date with what we’ve been up to, send us an email at, [sullivancountrystore@gmail.com](mailto:sullivancountrystore@gmail.com) or message us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/NHcountrystore>.

## REMEMBERING MARJORIE SMITH

It is with sadness we pass along the news that an old friend, Marjorie Smith passed away on Nov. 13 in Green Valley, Arizona. Many Sullivan Newsletter readers may remember Marge and her husband, Bob who made Sullivan their home (on Cross Rd.) for several years. Marge served as town librarian, was one of the original editors of the town newsletter, wrote various articles for it (anyone remember Auntie Bluet?) and served on the conservation commission. She loved to hike the back woods, often imagining what the people might have been like who originally put in the various cellar holes around town.

For many years she was a special feature writer for the *New Hampshire Profiles* magazine, a columnist for *The Keene Evening Sentinel*, as well as for other newspapers in Maine and Massachusetts. For more than 20 years she wrote a weekly column on the Historic Homes of Cheshire County and eventually compiled them into three hardbound volumes. She also was the author of “Two Shakes of a Lambs Tale,” which were stories about growing up in New England.

“I’d like the memory of me to be a happy one, I’d like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done. I’d like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways of happy times, laughing hours and bright and sunny days I’d like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun — of happy memories that I leave when life is done.”

## ROLE MODELS FROM ANOTHER ERA

By Patricia McMahon Clark

*Role Models from Another Era (continued from Nov.-Dec. issue)*

*I look back with a certain wonder at the ladies who inhabited the little stretch of road near my home. They were almost always at home, and we wandered back and forth at will for a chat, a sharing of village news, or a visit at dusk in their homes before the lamps were lit. That era during my childhood and their vintage years lives indelibly in my memories. PM Clark 2021*

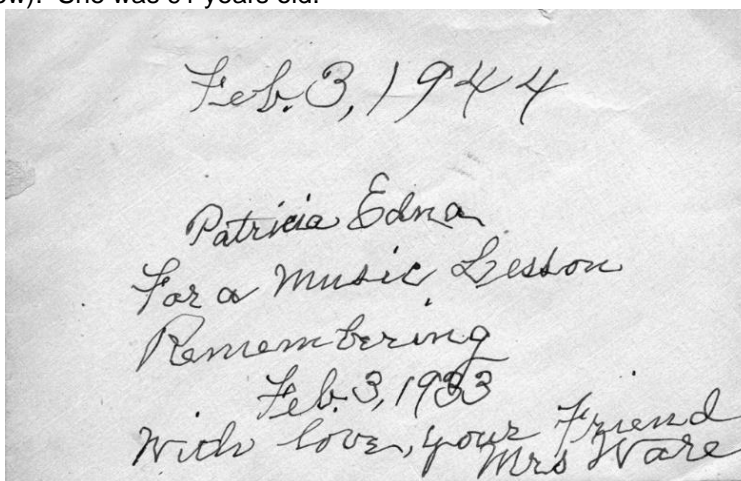
Another long-term occupant of the north apartment in the Goodnow home was Mrs. Marietta "Etta" Ware. Mrs. Ware was born Marietta Newell in Alstead and trained to be a teacher at Marlow Academy. Lyman Davis was a schoolmate at the academy. She taught for many years, some of them in District #1 School on the hill in East Sullivan. Later in life, she married Mr. Alphonso Ware, whom she always referred to as "Mr. Ware". He was a school superintendent in Swanzey. At his death, she may have inherited funds to allow her to pursue her many interests. She was able to travel to the Holy Land. She gave me stones from the Sea of Galilee which I passed on to the archives at Sullivan Library. In the later 1920s, Mrs. Ware served as a state legislator, quite a rare position for a woman in those days. To me, she seemed a woman of the world and considering my strong desire to explore the world myself, obviously someone to emulate. I believe that I was in awe of her, and Mrs. Ware would probably be pleased to know she had created that impression!

I guess you could say that she lived in genteel poverty or reduced circumstances during the last years of her life. Thanks to her longtime friend, Martha Goodnow and family, she had the pleasant apartment. I can remember a portable kerosene stove that she placed on a table and used for cooking. Each week when I knocked on her door, she would hand me a quarter for a defense stamp. Strained as her budget was, she did her part for the war effort. And sometimes, she would invite me in and offer me a freshly baked cookie. Even then, I realized the effort that had gone into my delectable treat.

Mrs. Ware took quite literally the job of looking out for the property when Minnie was away. In the middle of the field across the road near our house was a wonderful boulder which was perfect for climbing and playing King of the Hill. Just one problem! The rock was covered with grape vines which bore grapes for eating and conserving. Mrs. Ware apparently kept an eye out for intruders, and would stomp out the door to admonish children who played around the rock. She definitely did have her favorites among the village children, and I suspect that she leaned toward well behaved little girls! Every day or so, she made her way to Hastings to get milk, and as I recall, Edgar and Freda's daughter Fay became a great favorite. I like to think that I was also a member of this elite group! Although she could be snappish and cranky, Mrs. Ware was always pleasant and caring to me.

Mrs. Ware was a stick thin woman who didn't seem to bow to the onset of bone deterioration. She walked ramrod straight and tall, as if she had been raised with a book on her head. Two or three times a week, usually in late morning, my mother and I would see her approaching with a slight teetering motion down the road to our front door. She would come into the kitchen and sit in the chair by the sunny south window. I was usually a rapt listener to her conversation with my mother. And all the time she was talking, she was weaving the ribbon that held her house key through her fingers. Thread the ribbon until taken up, let it go, then repeat. I suppose as a child I was fascinated by this repetitive action.

Mrs. Ware died on October 19, 1945, a year and 9 months after her gift in honor of my 11<sup>th</sup> birthday (see her handwritten note to me below). She was 91 years old.



Feb. 3, 1944  
Patricia Edna  
For a Music Lesson  
Remembering  
Feb. 3, 1933  
With love, your friend  
Mrs. Ware

## FROM YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

### What if you had to evacuate?

A couple of months ago (Sept.-Oct. 2021) we talked about putting together a survival kit in case you need to shelter in place. This time around, we are going to discuss a component of the disaster kit you may need if you have to evacuate the area. Often called a “go bag” or a “bug out bag”, many of the items from your disaster kit can be stored in your “go bag”, and the two can just be stored together. A “go bag” needs to contain the bare essentials and be as lightweight and compact as possible. There may be times where you will not be able to just hop in the car and drive to safety. You and your family may have to walk to safety. With that in mind, you should gear the bag towards walking out. Another thing to consider is electrical power may not be accessible. Many of the things that will be included in the “go bag” can be covered with a cell phone app...until the cell phone dies. Cell phones should be thought of as an additional resource, not a replacement for listed items!!!

The first thing that needs to be discussed is what to wear if you need to evacuate. Be mindful of the season (or the conditions that the caused the disaster) and dress accordingly. First off, and possibly the most important thing is footwear. Footwear should cover your entire foot. At a minimum, you should wear a sturdy sneaker, but if possible, construction or military style boots. Sandals, flip-flops, high heels, open toe shoes or overly loose-fitting footwear are all very ill advised for walking long distances or over rough/broken terrain. Next item to consider is pants. They should cover your entire leg, with a sturdy denim material being preferred. Avoid wearing shorts, skirts, dresses, “holey” pants or pants that hinder your ability to walk because they are overly loose or tight. For all the gangsters out there, a belt is advised so you can clip items to it, and more importantly, keep your pants up. Lastly, a seasonally appropriate hat is a good idea. Something to keep you warm in the winter and something to protect your head from the sun in summer.

Next item to discuss is the bag itself. A backpack is best. It is easy to carry and keeps your hands free. Packs with a waist strap system puts the weight of the pack on your hips, allowing you to carry more without fatiguing your shoulders and back. If possible, use a pack that is waterproof. It is also a good idea to store (non-waterproof) items in your pack in zip-lock bags for additional protection. Keep in mind each person in your household can have their own pack. This will allow you to spread the load of your supplies and carry more equipment. Packs should be weight appropriate for the person intended to carry it. Just because that person can pick the pack up does not mean it is weight appropriate. That person may be required to carry it several miles over the course of several days.

Now we can talk about what to place in the packs. Remember these are baseline suggestions, and you can add or remove items to customize the load to your needs. You should also load your packs so often used items are easy to get out and less used items are at the bottom.

As was said earlier, some items from your disaster kit can be stored in your “go bag” and do not need to be duplicated. Documentation is at the forefront of that statement. If you have to evacuate, you will definitely want to bring your passport, social security card, insurance and financial records, family contact information and health and immunization records (driver license if that is not in your wallet already). Something you should add in with this is cash. Not checks. Not Venmo. Not credit cards. Actual green backs. You do not have to pack your life savings, just enough to buy a few meals for your family should suffice.

Another item that can be kept in your “go bag” instead of your disaster kit is medication. A week’s worth should be good (two weeks for specialty meds). Have a list of medication with dosage levels, timetable for when to take them and any special instructions or restrictions. For first aid you will want the basics. You can use a store-bought kit or put one together on your own. It should have Band-Aids, pressure dressings, a small container of rubbing alcohol, alcohol wipes and trauma shears (scissors). In the age of Covid you should add facemasks and hand sanitizer in as well.

The next group of items is food and water. Unless you are actually able to evacuate by vehicle it will not be feasible to go by rule of one gallon per person, per day, but you will want to pack some water, and it should be factory sealed. If you know you will have access to natural water sources, water purification tablets or pumps, this can be a viable way to keep the weight down in your pack. For your food, it should be factory sealed and be ready to eat straight from the package. High-energy foods like protein bars are favorable. If you are packing canned goods, do not forget a manual can opener.

The last group of items, survival gear, needs to be tailor-packed to the users, depending on the season, what situations you expect to encounter and how heavy your load is already. With that in mind we will just be listing a bunch of options with some insights. Some of these items can be replaced by cell phone apps, until the cell phone runs out of power, so remember to factor this in when deciding what to cut. Remember, if things are bad enough to evacuate, there will most likely be no internet or cell service.

--Cell phone charger with wall/ac and car adaptor capability. Just because a phone may fail does not mean it should not be used. They can be very helpful when functioning, and there is no reason not to take steps to extend its battery life.

--Flashlights. Bring extra batteries, or self-charging/wind-up models. Headlamp models are also favorable because they are small, light (get it), and allow you to keep your hands free.

- Compass and map. Preferable a topographic map, which is laminated, of your town and the surrounding area. You should learn to read the map and compass BEFORE an emergency.
- Knife. A pocketknife will do. You do not have to get an arm's length Rambo sword.
- Fire starting tools. Packing several types is smart. Waterproof wooden matches are probably the best. A steel and flint are also reliable, but take some skill and practice to use. Just remember that those cheap Bic lighters will not work at low temperatures, you know, when you would most likely want to be able to sit around a fire.
- Tape. Duct tape, gorilla tape or electrical tape is good, and you do not need a ton of it.
- Work gloves. Something heavy duty to protect your hands. This is in addition to winter gloves.
- Rope. 550 cord or parachute cord is great for this. Strong for its size and lightweight. If you anticipate doing any climbing be sure to research rope limit and strength before making a choice.
- Rain gear. A military style poncho is a good choice because with a bit of 550 cord you have a basic shelter.
- Shelter. See above. Some pop-up model tents are light/compact enough to pack. A lightweight tarp will also work, and can be used for other purposes (stretcher, signaling, trapping rainwater...).
- Bug spray/sun screen. Preferably water/sweat resistant with high DEET or SPF.
- Whistle and (metal) mirror for signaling. In place of a mirror, use any reflective surface to catch the sun.
- AM/FM radio. Wind-up model or extra batteries. Used to monitor weather or emergency broadcasts.
- Walkie-talkies. Something to stay in communication, if you have to violate the golden rule and separate the party. Also, wind-up models or bring extra batteries.
- Anything you think will help that you can carry. Just be careful not to overload.

\*\*\*\*As with your disaster kit, pay attention to expiration dates and be sure to periodically rotate out and replace food, medication and batteries.\*\*\*

## Chapman Pond Kid's Fishing Derby

Happening February 12th from 9am to 2pm  
Chapman Pond in Sullivan, NH.  
For ages 2 to 15 years old.

**Door/Entry Prizes**  
**Trophies and prizes will be awarded for**  
**\*Biggest Perch\***  
**\*Biggest Crappie\***  
**\*Most Fish Caught\***

Dress warmly and bring extra clothes (gloves, hats, socks etc.)  
A limited supply of tackle will be available for use on a first-come, first-serve basis to those that do not have their own. Our volunteers will drill the holes and we will supply the bait.

**Hot Cocoa and Donuts will be available in the morning.**

This is a privately hosted event, but all are welcome!

No fee, completely FREE!!

Any questions or for additional info, contact Kathleen Wheeler at  
[kd3960@yahoo.com](mailto:kd3960@yahoo.com) or by phone (603)847-3490

We make every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information in the calendar & newsletter, however, we recommend you call ahead or check websites to confirm dates, times, location and other information.



## Sullivan School District News

The Sullivan school board is in the midst of budget season working on the budget for 2022-2023. The board also continues its search for a new superintendent. They have already interviewed one interested candidate.

Nelson elementary school had to resort to remote learning just before the holiday break due to rising COVID cases in the school. They had optional remote or in-person learning Monday December 20, but then had to go fully remote for the last 2 days before break due to staffing shortages. Hopefully they will be able to return to in-person learning after the break. The middle and high school have remained open for in-person learning.

**Otter Sculpture Fund** - Nelson elementary school is also looking to contract with Wendy Klemperer, a nationally known artist who has a house in Nelson, to build an otter sculpture on the rocks between the parking lot and the road. Students will be able to watch the installation, and Wendy will do classroom presentations on how she makes her sculptures. This project is not funded through the taxpayer-supported school budget, so they are looking for donations. They are looking to raise \$15,000 to complete the project. If you are interested in supporting this project with a donation, you can send a check to the Nelson School with "Otter Sculpture Fund" in the memo line. Mail checks to Nelson School, 441 Granite Lake Rd, Nelson, NH 03457

### **NELSON SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES INTERIM PRINCIPAL**

Superintendent Robert Malay is pleased to announce that Nicole Gordon has been selected as the Interim Principal of Nelson School effective January 3, 2022. Gordon first joined SAU 29 in 2015 as a Language Arts Teacher at Chesterfield School where she also completed her internship in School Administration (2019-2020). Recently, Gordon was the Assistant Principal at Stevens High School in Claremont, NH.

In this position, Mrs. Gordon will be responsible for directing the overall site operations, services and staff of the school. Nelson School is a small rural school with an enrollment of 63 students in grades K-5, servicing students from the Nelson and Sullivan communities. Gordon succeeds Nelson Principal Kelsey Kilburn whose final day in the position was December 22, 2021. Kilburn is leaving to become Assistant Principal at Monadnock Middle High School.

More information, Dr. Ben White, Assistant Superintendent 603-357-9002 x223\*\*

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

Happy New Year! Lawns and gardens are pretty quiet now, resting up for the next growing season. Snow is good for the landscape: a blanket of fluffy snow is the best protection for dormant plants.

"Take care of your tools and they will take care of you." Is your lawnmower winterized? Here are the steps, courtesy of "This Old House": (1) Empty the gas tank, (2) Disconnect the spark plug, (3) Remove the blade, (4) Drain the oil, (5) Clean the undercarriage, (6) Change the air filter, (7) Replace the spark plug, (8) Safely stow any combustibles. You'll definitely want to find a way to keep mice out of stored machinery. I have had good luck with a non-toxic spray called "Rodent Defense," but you may have other methods that work better for you. The joys of rural living!

Winter is also the time to make sure gardening tools are good to go by cleaning metal parts of dirt and rust, sharpening as needed (a flat file or whetstone works) and applying a light coating of WD-40 or mineral oil. Wooden handles should be checked for rough spots. Don't forget: Store hoses indoors on a hose hanger or other rounded support to avoid kinking.

If you are a gardener, browsing seed catalogues is the perfect antidote to the winter blahs. What varieties to choose? Here in Sullivan, we have a fairly short growing season of about 128 days and our altitude means nights can be chilly. Warm-weather vegetables are often started as seedlings indoors to get a jump on the season. For cool-season vegetables and flowers, "winter sowing" outdoors is a great alternative. There is an interesting short article on that called "Starting Seeds in Winter" from Penn State Extension, available online at: <https://extension.psu.edu/starting-seeds-in-winter> . Take a look.

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

Submitted by Leslie Casey

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## **SULLIVAN SUPERVISORS OF CHECKLIST**

Will be in session at the Sullivan Library on January 18<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 7:30pm and again on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> from 11 to 11:30am. Register to vote or make changes to your registration. You may also register to vote on Town Election Day, but not at Town Meeting.

## **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 15 February.**

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

## **TOWN PHONE NUMBERS**

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

<https://townofsullivannh.com/>

## **For Burn Permits Call:**

Al Henry, Chief & Warden 603-847-9598  
Mike Blanchard, Deputy Warden 603- 847-9680  
Erik Kazlouskas, Deputy Warden 603- 903-2881

## **SULLIVAN NEWSLETTER**

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