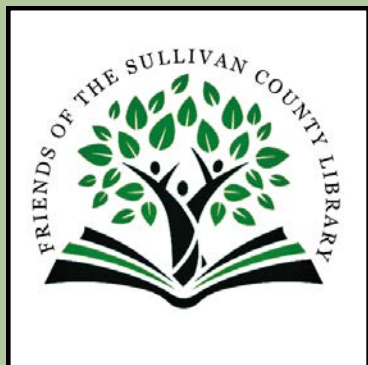


September 2025



FRIENDS OF THE SULLIVAN COUNTY LIBRARY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Sullivan County Library is a volunteer 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated and committed to providing community support to the Sullivan County Library.

Friends Murder Mystery Event Set For 2025

The Sullivan County Library's Friends group is returning to Your Mountain House for our annual Murder Mystery dinner event. This year, the event will be held on October 12th (the Sunday of Columbus Day weekend) at 5:30 PM. Your Mountain House is an entertainment venue located just outside New Albany on Hatch Hill Road.

Murder at the Manor

At this year's mystery, Lord Heathcliff is throwing a party in honour of his new bride, until one of his guests hits him over the head with a candlestick! Friends and local "celebrities" share evidence as suspects, while the audience tries to determine who is responsible for Lord Heathcliff's demise.



Dinner and Drinks

In addition to an evening of entertainment, those who purchase an event ticket will enjoy a fine dinner prepared by the Your Mountain House staff. Dinner choices include Chicken Parmesan, Eggplant Parmesan, or Shrimp Scampi, served with salad, pasta, bread, and soft beverages. A cash bar will also be available for those who want to purchase alcoholic drinks, and dessert is included. There will be door prizes and raffles throughout the evening.

How do I get tickets?

Tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased by calling Barb and Paul Schaefer at 570-928-8823. Seating requests and dinner selections will be made at the time of purchase. All tickets are non-refundable and reservations must be paid in full by October 7th. The Murder Mystery dinner is a fundraiser for the Sullivan County Library. By attending this event, you'll be helping the Friends group continue their mission of supporting library programs and resources.

Trivia event planned!



An afternoon of Team Trivia is being planned at Dushore Legion on Sunday, November 2. The event, planned by Friend Carol Wells (known far-and-wide as a trivia hound) will feature four rounds of trivia with door prizes offered throughout the afternoon. No tickets necessary...pay at the door! Cost of admission is \$10 with proceeds to benefit the Library. The entry fee includes a hot dog, water, and popcorn, as well as the opportunity to win door prizes that will be drawn throughout the afternoon. Drinks will be available for purchase from the Legion bar. It promises to be an afternoon of friendly competition and laughter! We hope to see you there!!

Friends.SC.Library@gmail.com

BREAKING NEWS



About Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Since launching in 1995, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has become the preeminent early childhood book gifting program in the world. The flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation has gifted well over 150 million free books in Australia, Canada, The Republic of Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The Imagination Library mails more than 1.8 million high-quality, age-appropriate books each month to registered children from birth to age five. Dolly envisioned creating a lifelong love of reading, inspiring them to dream. The program's impact has been widely researched, and results suggest positive increases in key early childhood literacy metrics. Penguin Random House is the exclusive publisher for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. For more information, please visit [imaginationlibrary.com](https://www.imaginationlibrary.com).

The Friends of the Sullivan County Library are thrilled to announce the **Dolly Parton Imagination Library** (DPIL) launch for our children in Sullivan County. Each month, the Imagination Library will provide an age-appropriate book for each registered child ages birth to age 5 in Sullivan County, absolutely **free** to the family. The Friends of the Sullivan County Library are making this possible with grants from generous donations from several interested donors.

To register your preschool child, please scan the QR code or visit [imaginationlibrary.com](https://www.imaginationlibrary.com) and look for Sullivan County PA.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Kay Homer, President of the Friends of the Sullivan County Library

*What a beautiful evening it was for the Friends annual meeting on Thursday, July 17, 2025! The weather was perfect, the attendance was good, and the hoagies at Big Mike's Steak and Hoagies in Forksville were delicious. After introductions, the meeting was called to order, with a brief business meeting including a treasurer's report, the reading of the 2024 minutes, and reports from the membership, by-laws, and nomination committees. The report on the activities of the Friends listed the following events and thanked its volunteers: the Murder Mystery committee and actors; Barbara Falci for the membership appeal in January; trivia organized by Stacy Wilcox and the Ammerman family; the ladies of the Spring Tea in May; the "Quack Pack" of the Ammerman/Barry families and Sally Jensen for the successful Duck Derby; and the O'Conner family for maintaining the Little Free Libraries. Melanie Lambert was thanked for writing the United Way grant and appreciation was extended to the patrons who met with the United Way panel to share their enthusiasm for the Library. Bill Henne was thanked for his continuing long-distance advice, and Paul and Barb Schaefer were thanked for the ticket spreadsheets they provide for several ticketed events. It takes many Friends to do all that we do! "Best Friend" recognitions were next on the agenda. Lisa Wilcox and Mary Beth Minier were recognized for their support of Friends' events, particularly the Spring Tea. The Sullivan Review was recognized for their support as a business, from providing printing and to helping advertise Friends' and Library events. Iain Campbell was recognized for an extraordinary contribution. The Best Friends in attendance were presented with small gifts. Further adding to the joy of the evening for those present was Sullivan County Commissioner Darlene Fenton's commendation of the Friends in their support of the Sullivan County Library saying, **"The commissioners keep the lights on, but it's you guys who are the heart and soul of the library!"***

September 2025

The 2025 Duck Derby, hosted by the Friends of the Sullivan County Library, brought a lively crowd to downtown Dushore on Saturday, June 21. The annual event took place along Marsh Run, beginning at the bridge near Sullivan Terrace and ending at the bridge by Mary Beth's Westside Deli.

Organized by the Friends of the Sullivan County Library "Quack Pack," the race featured 500 rubber ducks sold in support of the library. The course, which stretches just under two-tenths of a mile, saw its fastest competitors cross the finish line in under 15 minutes. Ean Ammerman kept the crowd entertained with his colorful commentary throughout the race.

The Friends of the Sullivan County Library express their gratitude to the generous **sponsors** who donated prize money for this year's event: County Line Property Worx, Denmon Family Dental, Dushore Hardware & Co., Journey Health and Fitness, Knights of Columbus #12406, Red's Roofing and Siding, and Sperry Logging & Transport LLC.

Additional thanks go to the local fire companies for boosting the water flow in Marsh Run, the management of Sullivan Terrace for their support, and the Sullivan Review for printing the race tickets.

And the Winners Are...

Winners at the 2025 Duck Derby

- 1st Place: Teri Klem – \$300 (Teri donated \$100 back to the Friends. Thank you Teri!)
- 2nd Place: Christine Phillips – \$200
- 3rd Place: Ty (duck sold by Ted Lowden) – \$100
- 4th Place: Mary Beth Minier – \$75
- 5th & 6th Place: Both ducks belonged to Dave Poplin, who earned a combined \$75 and promptly donated the winnings back to the Friends. Thank you, Dave!

The final three ducks to cross the finish line belonged to Jane Svendsen, Charlotte Medl, and Eloise (entered by Ed Thall). Each received a small prize for their slow but steady finish.

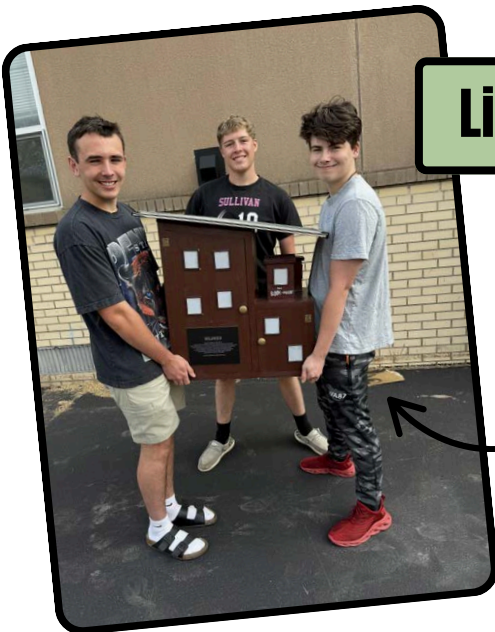
The Friends thank everyone who participated or supported the event—and hope to see even more duck fans next year!



Duck Derby



Little Free Library News



The new LFL was designed to resemble a coal breaker in honor of Mildred/Bernice history.

The Friends of the Sullivan County Library have Little Free Library book boxes scattered around the county. We currently maintain LFLs in Laporte, Sonestown, Hillsgrove, World's End, and Ricketts. A ribbon cutting for a brand new Little Free Library installed at the Mattern building Mildred was held on August 22. This LFL was designed by students in Mr. Commero's SCHS Engineering Design class.. Pictured left to right is CDJ Koschak, Bruno Day, and Kurt Shupp. They were the main workers on the project, with some other tech ed students helping out.

This LFL is open for business!

The Friends appreciate the Challa O'Conner family, who work to keep the LFLs stocked with books. Thanks also go out to Barbara Falci and Cindy Woodley, who have recently made some minor book box repairs to other LFLs in the county.

**We hope Friends around the County will
"Take a book! Share a book!"**

Friends.SC.Library@gmail.com

FROM THE LIBRARY

**Alan Miller, Library Director
of the Sullivan County Library**



COLOR OUR WORLD

"Color Our World" Summer Reading program offered lots of opportunities for kids to be creative.



Well, it's been an amazing summer! Two of the library's biggest events were the Summer Reading Program and Founder's Day. Summer Reading's theme this year was "Color Our World." Children who participated got to work with the Eagles Mere Conservancy to make art with sun print paper, got to interact with the Sullivan County Conservation District on tree ring art, and went to World's End State Park to hone their skills at Japanese fish print art. At the end of the summer, 37 children were awarded prizes for their endeavors. The library also had a Summer Reading Challenge accepted by a good group of adult and teen patrons with a chance to win prizes in a drawing.

The second big event was Founder's Day. This year in addition to our big book sale, we had large oversize games for people to play. Games included chess, checkers, jenga, cornhole, and dominos. Look forward to seeing these games again at other community events.

The library continued its ever-popular Midday Movie Matinee, with the showing of *The Notebook*, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, *The Big Year*, and a family matinee of *Harold and the Purple Crayon*. The Reader's Choice Book Club continues to meet and over the summer read the biography *The Paris Girl* by Francelle Bradford White and the enduring romance *Pride and Prejudice*, noting the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth.

Check out this fun-sized chess set used by the Library at Founders Day.



A chance to learn about history with our CCC tour.



During July, the Library had a program about the Civilian Conservation Camps of Sullivan County, visiting Camp 96 in Hillsgrove, World's End State Park, and Camp 95 Forksville with speakers at each location. Sean Friedhoff (DCNR Service Forester), Jane Swift (World's End Environmental Educator), Gavin Seigfried (Sullivan County Historical Society), and Bill Williams (retired PA Game Commission educator) gave us a good understanding of the conservation efforts of the CCC and the impacts of the program on our county and on the whole country.

Also of mention, we enjoyed a free concert at Laporte Village Green with Eric Ian Farmer, co-sponsored by Eagles Mere Friends of the Arts, Sullivan County Council of the Arts, and the Lycoming United Way of North Central PA through the Friends of the Sullivan County Library.

Upcoming programs...



Watch for Tech Tuesday offerings at the Library. You may be able to learn about all the digital offerings of the Library (like the Libby app for electronic books and ebooks), or get one-on-one instruction to help you understand and use your devices. We also offer Mah Jongg on Wednesdays and connection with Knit-n-Stitch ladies on Thursdays. We have a trip to Grey Towers and a fun instructional session on English Country Dancing planned. More information is available by checking out our webpage or calling the Library.

We will be back at Storytime for preschool children on September 10 and 4-H Lego club will soon start up. Again, you are urged to call or stop by the Library to find out more about children's programs.

As the country and the county prepares for American250, the Library has researched all the names of the Revolutionary War veterans who are interred within the county. This information is available on the library's webpage. Keep an eye out for other opportunities the Library is planning to commemorate this historic event.

September 2025

FROM THE LIBRARY, CONTINUED

We'd like to take the opportunity to thank all the outside organizations that have been coming to the library or working with us on projects. This includes the Bloomsburg Children's Museum giving students a chance to participate in hands-on STEM activities, Lackawanna College in the library during Founder's Day to promote educational opportunities, the Mokoma Conservancy and Eagles Mere Conservancy for their StoryWalk® installations, The Loyalsock Foundation for sponsoring a movie, Sullivan County Penn State Extension Master Gardeners for monthly programs and developing the Seed Library, and the WIC monthly mobile unit.

Rick Liebert's bird photos were on display at the Library during the summer months. Mr. Liebert has now donated the photos to the Library, with his wishes they would benefit the Library or be used for future displays. Thank you, Mr. Liebert!

A winning first time player at Wednesday's Mah Jongg.

Summer intern Gabby sporting a mustache for Go Joe!



Annual membership meeting at Big Mike's in Forksville. Thanks to Big Mike's for the hospitality!

Thank you to Barbara Falci who purchased this Friends logo banner for our group!



Thank you to President Kay Homer and the Homer Funeral Home who bought and donated a bluetooth speaker that can be used for amplification at Friends' and Library events.

Thank you to Tracy McHenry Saxe who donated glassware that can be used for the Friends Annual Spring Tea.

Fund Drive & Membership



The Friends of the Sullivan County Library embarked on their annual Fund Drive at the beginning of July. We are always overwhelmed by the generous response of those who wish to ensure a thriving Library in Sullivan County. Many of you enclose notes thanking the Friends and the Library for all they do. The amount raised at the time of publication of this newsletter is \$20,540.00 and donations are still being accepted.

Also of note, we have exceeded our membership goal for this year. We wanted to have 500 members....**we have 509 members!** Thanks to the active Board members who conduct the Membership Appeal and Annual Drive efforts.



Follow us on Facebook:
Friends of the
Sullivan County Library

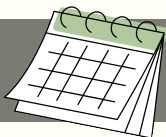
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September 2025



Thank you to the United Way North Central Pennsylvania for again supporting the Friends of the Sullivan County Library in their efforts to support programming at the Library!

IMPORTANT DATES



Regular meetings of the Friends Executive Board are scheduled for the first Tuesday of alternate months. 2025 meetings are scheduled for:

October 7 and December 2

Any Friend of the Library is welcome and encouraged to attend these Board meetings, typically held at the Library at 6:00.

Other dates to remember:

Trivia: November 2

Murder Mystery: Oct. 12

FRIENDS OF THE SULLIVAN
COUNTY LIBRARY
CAN BE CONTACTED AT:



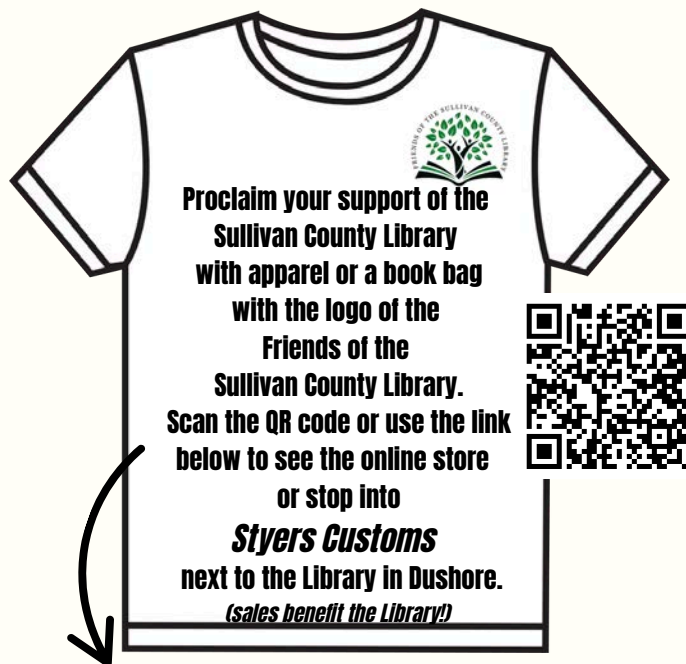
friends.sc.library@gmail.com or
Friends of the Sullivan County Library
PO Box 485
Dushore PA 18614

A Wish List has been established on Amazon by the Friends of the Sullivan County Library for materials requested by Library staff for programming needs at the Library or items the Friends could use. To view the Wish List, go to: <https://a.co/3zvUP1r>



Executive Board of the Friends of the Sullivan County Library

Kay Homer, president
Barbara Falci, vice president
Bonnie Barry, treasurer
Sarah Parrish, secretary
Sally Jensen Melanie Lambert
Ted Lowden Missy Reisenlieter
Stacey Wilcox



<https://friendsofthelibrary.deco-apparel.com/>

BROKERAGE ACCOUNT

if you wish to make a donation in the form of stock, perhaps for tax advantages, the Friends have 501(c) (3) status and an established brokerage account to accept donations of this nature. For more information on donating stock, contact us at **friends.sc.library@gmail.com** or at:

Friends of the Sullivan County Library
PO Box 485
Dushore PA 18614

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION...

Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers Endowment

An endowment is established with the Community Foundation of the Twin Tiers (CFTT) for the Friends of the Sullivan County Library. This endowment provides for a return each year which can be used for the operation of the Library or reinvested. If you are **estate planning**, this is a great way to support the long-term viability of the Library. You can help this fund grow by contacting the CFTT at info@twintierscf.org or by mail at: 104 W. Lockhart St., Sayre PA 18840

Friends.SC.Library@gmail.com