



PAWLET NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 4

FALL 2011

INTRODUCTION

Pawlet residents have experienced a swift succession of events in recent months – the Town’s historic celebration of its 250th anniversary of charter, the devastation of flooding from tropical storm Irene, and the ongoing recovery effort. Throughout these events, the community spirit here in Pawlet has provided ongoing direction and strength. The Town is also looking ahead and holding a special election on November 8 to vote on a \$1.25-million bond for refurbishing the West Pawlet wastewater treatment plant. The Select Board will hold an informational meeting on Tuesday, November, 7 PM, at the Town Hall.

The purpose of this newsletter is to make town news available and encourage community involvement. Comments are appreciated; see page 16. The newsletter may be viewed online at the Town of Pawlet website (<http://pawlet.vt.gov>; under “Town News” click on “Newsletter”) and also at the Rutland Regional Planning Commission web site (“Town News” at www.rutlandrpc.org). The editor also maintains an e-mail group list for updates on local events. To receive Pawlet eNews, send a request to Elizabeth Gibson at egib@vermontel.net.

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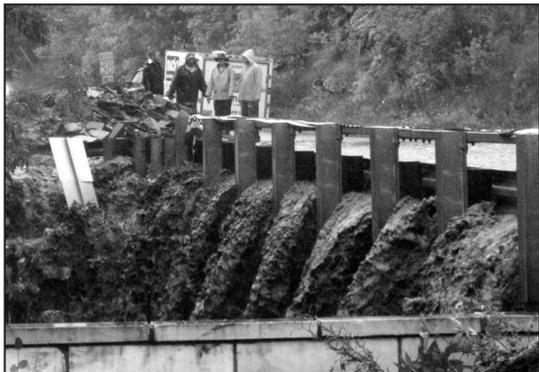
TOWN VOTES ON WEST PAWLET WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT BOND

The aging West Pawlet wastewater treatment facility, constructed in 1982, needs extensive renovation to continue functioning properly. Pawlet residents will vote on a \$1.25-million bond for the project on November 8. The Select Board will hold an informational meeting on Tuesday, November, 7 PM, at the Town Hall. See page 3 for the warning on this special vote.

The project is estimated to cost \$1.21 million. The Town is seeking a 30-year bond not surpassing \$1.25 million, as recommended by project engineer Peter Pochop of Green Mountain Engineering and the

Town’s bond attorney. Note that the proposed bond amount, “not to exceed \$1,250,000,” is subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid. The project would involve replacing most of the plant’s components, while keeping the same technology. Another improvement would be to install a second rotating biological contactor to provide for redundancy in the plant’s operation. The plant now has only one contactor, which uses biological degradation to remove pollutants from the wastewater before it is discharged from the plant.

SCENES FROM TROPICAL STORM IRENE



On August 28, 2011, Flower Brook swept over the Route 30 bridge in Pawlet village center (left, source: Linda Maness). The bridge is now being repaired by the state, including construction of a new retaining wall (right, source: Elizabeth Gibson).

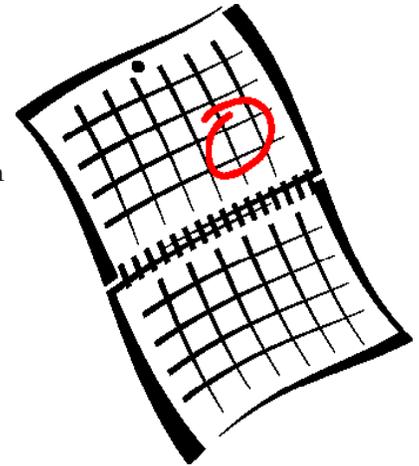
COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR: OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2011

OCTOBER

- 10/25, Tuesday, 12 PM. Haystack Hustlers Seniors lunch, Mettawee School. Call 325-3196 for reservations.
 10/28, Friday, 9 – 11 AM. Food Pantry, Pawlet parsonage barn
 10/29, Saturday, 11 AM. Sixth Grade basket party to benefit spring Boston trip, Mettawee School
 10/30, Sunday, 3 PM. Ordination of John Sanborn, Pawlet Church, RSVP John at revjohnnywheels@gmail.com

NOVEMBER

- 11/1, Tuesday, 7 PM. Select Board, Town Hall, informational meeting on bond vote for West Pawlet wastewater treatment plant
 7 PM. Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department (PVFD)
 11/3, Thursday, 6 – 8 PM. Open House, Mettawee Community School
 11/5, Saturday, 5 PM. Roast Pork Supper, Pawlet Community Church
 11/7, Monday, 7:30 PM. West Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department (WPVFD)
 11/8, Tuesday, 9 AM – 7 PM. Vote at Town Hall on bond for wastewater plant upgrade
 12 PM. Haystack Hustlers Seniors potluck lunch, Pawlet Church
 11/9, Wednesday, 7 PM. UD #47 School Board meeting, Mettawee School
 11/10, Thursday, Wastewater user fees due to Town Treasurer
 11/12, Saturday, 5 PM. PFVD Game Supper
 11/15, Tuesday, 7 PM. Select Board, Town Hall
 11/18, Friday, 9 – 11 AM. Food Pantry, Pawlet parsonage barn
 7 PM. WPVFD Turkey raffle
 11/22, Tuesday, 12 PM. Thanksgiving Harvest Feast, Mettawee School
 11/22 – 11/25, Tuesday through Friday, Town Offices closed for Thanksgiving
 11/28, Monday, 7:30 PM. Planning Commission, Town Hall
 11/29, Tuesday, 7 PM. Select Board, Town Hall



DECEMBER

- 12/3 – 12/4, Saturday – Sunday, 10 AM to 3 PM. Pawlet Library annual holiday market
 12/5, Monday, 7:30 PM. West Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department
 12/6, Tuesday, 7 PM. Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department
 12/13, Tuesday, 12 PM. Haystack Hustlers seniors catered lunch, Pawlet Church. Call 325-3196 for reservations.
 7 PM. Select Board, Town Hall
 12/14, Wednesday, 6 PM. Pawlet School Board meeting, Mettawee Community School
 7 PM. UD #47 School Board meeting, Mettawee Community School
 12/17, Saturday, Haystack Hustlers Seniors bus trip to Dartmouth Theater with Northshire Seniors.
 Call 325-3196 for reservations.
 12/23, Friday, 9 – 11 AM. Food Pantry, Pawlet parsonage barn
 12/26 – January 2, Monday through Monday, Town Offices closed for holidays
 12/27, Tuesday, 7 PM. Select Board, Town Hall

Reminder!

*Hours for Washington County, NY, Transfer Station
 Granville station is open Tuesday, Friday & Saturday, 6:30 AM - 4:30 PM.
 Closed holidays: Friday, November 11; Friday November 25;
 Friday – Saturday, December 23 – 24; Saturday, December 31
 Trash stickers are available from town clerk; the price has increased to \$2 per sticker.*

TOWN OFFICE NEWS

Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins: Anyone wishing to receive e-mails from this office regarding elections, office closures, deadlines for dog licenses, voter registration, absentee ballot requests and special notices should e-mail Deb Hawkins at pawletclerk@vermontel.net. With so many updates and important information from FEMA, Vermont Department of Health, Emergency Management, and others, I would like to offer this service. Elizabeth Gibson has been helping me get the information to you, which has been extremely beneficial. To sign up, please e-mail me and put "add me to e-mail list" in the subject line.

Town offices will be closed on these dates:

- Tuesday – Friday, November 22 – 25 for Thanksgiving; will re-open Monday, 11/28.
- Monday – Monday, December 26 – January 2 for Christmas; will re-open Tuesday, 1/3/12.

Office hours for Deb Hawkins, Town Clerk: Monday & Wednesday, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM; Tuesday, 11 AM – 6 PM; Thursday, 9 AM – 12 PM. Closed on Friday. Contact: 325-3309, pawletclerk@vermontel.net.

Town Treasurer, Judy Coolidge: Wastewater User Fee bills are due November 10 and May 10.

Office hours for Judy Coolidge, Treasurer: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9 AM – 12 PM & 1 – 4 PM. Contact: 325-3309, pawlettreas@vermontel.net.



Town Hall, by Nancy Offensend Houghton

Select Board: The Pawlet Select Board meets at 7 PM every other Tuesday at the Town Hall. The public is encouraged to attend. Meeting minutes are posted at the post offices in Pawlet and West Pawlet and also on the town web site <http://pawlet.vt.gov/>; click on "Select Board" page.

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission usually meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30; meetings are open to the public. Meeting minutes are posted at the post offices in Pawlet and West Pawlet and also on the town web site <http://pawlet.vt.gov/>; click on "Planning Commission" page.

TOWN OF PAWLET WARNING

The legal voters of the Town of Pawlet, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at Town Hall in the Town of Pawlet on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, between the hours of nine o'clock (9:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE I: *Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Pawlet in an amount not to exceed One-million, two-hundred fifty-thousand Dollars (\$1,250,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of financing the cost of refurbishing the Town's wastewater treatment facility, the aggregate estimated cost of all such improvements being One-million, two-hundred fifty-thousand Dollars (\$1,250,000.00)?*

The legal voters of the Town of Pawlet are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

The legal voters of the Town of Pawlet are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on November 1, 2011 at the Town Hall in the Town of Pawlet at seven o'clock (7:00) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof.

Adopted and approved at a special meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Pawlet duly called, noticed and held on October 4, 2011. Recorded in the records of the Town of Pawlet on October 5, 2011.

ATTEST:

Debra A. Hawkins, Town Clerk

Selectboard: Michael Beecher, Chair; Joe Clark; Clarence Decker; Bob Jones; Sue LaPorte

STATE HOUSE UPDATE *by John Malcolm, Representative for Pawlet, Middletown Springs, Rupert, and Wells*

In the weeks since Irene damaged Vermont, we have seen both remarkable progress in restoring vital roads and railroads and a slow recovery for many people repairing their homes, land, farms and businesses.

It will be weeks before the total cost to the state can be calculated and the amount of Federal assistance available known. And it will also take time to determine the storm's impact on the revenue to the state. Many people have been working on storm repairs; others were unable to get to their jobs or lost their jobs in businesses that were shut down by the storm. Another factor is the uncertain future of the flood-damaged state office complex and state hospital in Waterbury and the costs associated with repair and relocation.

Irene's impact on state finances will be center stage in the upcoming legislative session in January as the costs of the damage become more clear.

State officials are discussing ways to pay for storm costs, such as possible bonding and other new revenue, budgetary offsets and changes to budget priorities in the context of the disaster's impact — a very difficult

task, as Irene presented Vermont with one of its greatest physical and financial challenges in state history.

Deadlines are approaching mid-November for applying for Irene FEMA assistance for individuals, businesses and municipalities.

On a different note, the Vermont Department of Public Service has made available for review their draft of a Comprehensive Energy Plan for Vermont. The draft plan can be seen and commented on at www.vtenergyplan.vermont.gov. Hearings are also scheduled around the state for public and written comment.

Please contact me for more information at 325-3424, 1822 Rupert Mountain Road, Pawlet, VT 05761; JMalcolm@leg.state.vt.us. See the Legislature's web site for information about specific bills, state statutes, and weekly schedules. Thank you! — *Rep. John Malcolm*



PAWLET RESIDENTS DISCUSS HOME IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITY

Pawlet residents are spreading the word about the H.E.A.T. Squad. Last week they met at the Town Hall to share desserts and cider and learn more. Customers who had the H.E.A.T. Squad improve their homes spoke first-hand about their experiences, and Bill Morrissey (one of the H.E.A.T. Squad's BPI Certified Contractors) was there to answer questions.

One resident came right out and said it to his friends and neighbors: "I saved 300 gallons of fuel oil last year

without turning down my thermostat. You'd have to be crazy not to have this done to your house." Another resident who had work done told the audience about the project to make his home more comfortable and less costly to heat.

The event was well attended and several residents signed up for Home Energy Check-Ups.

This is what's working in Pawlet! Rich Dow, H.E.A.T. Squad Outreach Coordinator; 438-2303 ext. 224



NeighborWorks Home Efficiency Assistance Team (HEAT) can help make your home more healthy, comfortable and energy-efficient.

Home energy improvements keep drafts out and warm air in, saving 30 percent on average heating costs. Typical improvements are: insulation, sealing drafts, thermal shell improvements and sealing out moisture. Incentives up to \$2,500 are available — no income caps. Financing options are also offered. Get started on saving money and making your home more comfortable now! Call 438-2303 or visit www.heatsquad.org.

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STAY INFORMED - GET PAWLET ENEWS AND VISIT YOUR TOWN'S WEB SITE!

The editor of this newsletter maintains an email group list for updates on local events via email. To receive Pawlet eNews, contact Elizabeth Gibson at egib@vermontel.net. And visit the new web site for the Town of Pawlet at <http://pawlet.vt.gov/>. Leave comments, news and updates at the site or email egib@vermontel.net.

PAWLET TURNS 250 IN STYLE

By Linda Maness

The sun shone throughout the day — on antique farming equipment, “ghosts,” “Daniel Webster,” Representative John Malcolm reading a Vermont Resolution and Russell Ahlfeld reading excerpts of the Town Charter, and on those folks from near and far who smiled and danced as the Town of Pawlet turned 250 in style.

Dot Leach, her student dancers and guest artist Joel Hodgkin, “kicked” off the town’s weekend with a marvelous demonstration and feature piece Friday night.

As Celebration 250 organizer Judy Coolidge put it, “The celebration was all that I had hoped for and more. The Pawlet 250 Celebration Day came together perfectly, and I am so grateful that we got through the entire day’s events on Saturday before the rains (of tropical storm Irene) came.”

Fellow organizer Phyllis Mason said, “This was a great celebration. I feel very blessed to have been able to participate in it.”

Exact attendance is unknown, but hundreds lined the West Pawlet parade route and later enjoyed food, dancing and fireworks in the evening.

Coolidge said, “To see the number of people who came home to Pawlet just to be a part of this celebration and to hear the wonderful stories of what a fabulous time they had and how much they appreciated all we did has been so rewarding.” She said that one guest-

book signer listed addresses as Manchester Center and Munich, Germany, so she guesses they came from farthest away. She knows that Mary Cobb’s family came from California, as did Nate Smith’s and of course, the Machs from Alaska and Colorado. Sarah Post’s family came from Ohio. She noted that Mary Cobb and Bambi Mason get the prizes for having the most family members involved!



Pawlet celebrated its 250th birthday in style, as shown by Adelle Seamens (left) and Sarah Post (right), with art by Roy Egg, all from West Pawlet. Source: Rhonda Schlagen

-Pawlet Turns 250, continued page 6

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Deborah Mars

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Jordan White

Pawlet Turns 250, continued from page 5

Coolidge said that she is thankful for the thoughtful planning and help of the area volunteer firemen because, "... parking and traffic were never an issue."

Pawlet 250 Committee member Bill Jones spent his time at Edie Mach's field and reported that all went well, with a good assortment of cars and farm machinery. Theresa Jones commented about Town Hall events, "People seemed really interested in the memory tables, quilt show and theater curtain display."

Beth Kashner, Pawlet Library Director, remarked, "The day's efforts were a huge success. I am thankful for a great turnout. It was a 250th hit!" The library hosted Tim Bryant's reading from his new book, the 250 quilt display, the art show in the Matt Waite Room. Many children and adults were entertained by the magician and the clown.

Following the delicious BBQ (put on by The Barn Restaurant) and a fine street dance to the sounds of Honky Tonk Express, the day's culminating firework display was fantastic. People said they could see them from afar. Many hands made for quick cleanup Saturday evening, and Coolidge and Mason are very thankful for all the people who stepped up to help.

In closing Mason said, "My only hope is that in 50 more years, there will be another celebration with some carry over memories from this one. Many thanks to all who made it such a success!"

Coolidge added, "For me the highlight of the day, in addition to my award, was the flyover. That totally made the event. I get goosebumps every time I think of it. A huge thanks to Mike Waite for arranging it."

Coolidge concluded, "I hope having that memorable day to look back on has been able to bring a smile to the folks in our town who suffered from the damage by tropical storm Irene the next day."

JUDY COOLIDGE RECEIVES COMMUNITY CITIZEN AWARD



Pictured L-R: Mettowee Valley Grange 373 member Phyllis Mason, Citizenship Award recipient Judy Coolidge, MVG 373 Lecturer Regina Mason and Master Todd Mason.

Photo: Linda Maness

It may have been Pawlet's 250th birthday, but it was Judy Coolidge, Club 250 Co-Chair and Town Treasurer, who received the surprise on August 27. Regina Mason, Lecturer of Mettowee Valley Grange 373, took the birthday celebration as the occasion to announce that Judy is the recipient of the Mettowee Valley Grange 373 Community Citizenship Award for 2011.

Pawlet's 250th birthday celebration is now history. When we started planning for the event some two years ago, our goal was to provide a celebration equal to past celebrations. The end result exceeded all our wishes! We'd like to thank all who helped us prepare for and participate in this historic occasion. To those who came from near and far, our motto was "if we build it, they will come." And come you did! We are so proud of the way everything came together, and you can be too. It truly did "take a village" — or two villages. The weekend of August 26 – 28, 2011, in celebration of Pawlet's 250 anniversary of charter, will never be forgotten.

Judy Coolidge and Phyllis Mason for Club 2011

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QUILTS DISPLAYED AT TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM FOR PAWLET'S 250TH BIRTHDAY

The ceiling of the upstairs auditorium in the Town Hall was stabilized and repaired this summer as work funded by a grant from The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, with matching funds made available through the generosity of private donors. The Town thanks all donors who made this crucial phase of the town hall restoration possible.

This work was completed just in time for the auditorium to be used as the fitting location to display many beautiful quilts and other treasures during Pawlet's birthday celebration.

Additional work is needed to finish restoring the auditorium: skim-coating and stenciling the walls, installing lighting fixtures, and adding a fire escape.

Please consider a 250th birthday gift to Pawlet in the form of a tax-deductible donation to help restore our historic Town Hall. Send checks payable to "Pawlet Town Hall Restoration" to Judy Coolidge, Treasurer, Town of Pawlet, Pawlet VT 05761.



Pawlet's birthday celebration was an occasion for families and friends to come together. Richard Cleveland and his family, shown above, visited the quilt show in the Town Hall auditorium during the town-wide activities on Saturday. (Photo: Sue LaPorte)

Sweet Memories of Pawlet's 250th Anniversary of Charter Celebration

Photos of the weekend's events are available for viewing at the Town Hall. The Town of Pawlet's Web site has a section about the celebration. Go to <http://pawlet.vt.gov/> and click on "Pawlet's 250th anniversary of charter." Are you on Facebook? If so, visit the celebration page: Pawlet Vermont 250th Celebration - Club 2011 to capture the flavor of the day's celebration in photos and comments. And if you missed the Pawlet Parade on Saturday, August 26, you can view it by searching for "Pawlet Parade" at www.pegvtv.com/ipegvideo.php.

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METTAWEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS *by Linda Maness*

New educators welcomed: For the 2011-2012 school year, Mettawee Community School welcomes four new educators: Jessica Lamb, special educator, a former student teacher at Mettawee and graduate of Castleton State College; and Melissa Palulis, M.S. in Education from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, who is a new special education teacher assistant. The school is also pleased to welcome back Lauren Kelly as a part-time reading support teacher and Dawn Baker as a third-grade teacher.

Many Mayer honored as outstanding teacher: Congratulations to School Nurse/Health Educator Mandy Mayer, who has been selected from our supervisory union to be honored as a University of Vermont Outstanding Teacher for 2011. Mandy was nominated for exemplifying one or more of the following five standards for Vermont educators: learning, professional knowledge, advocacy, collegueship and accountability. Mandy demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to each of these standards in her work at Mettawee. She is being recognized at a reception at the University of Vermont, her alma mater, on October 19. All at Mettawee are very proud of Mandy's accomplishments and join UVM in celebrating her success!

New date for open house: The Mettawee Community School's Fall Open House will now be held on Thursday, November 3, 6-8 PM. All parents and students are encouraged to join our teachers that night as we proudly display the learning that is taking place in our classrooms and curriculum centers throughout the school as we prepare our students to be successful 21st century learners.

Student Band plays in Pawlet Parade: Current and former band students led by music teacher Lisa Hoyt participated in a Mettawee music float to celebrate Pawlet's 250th Birthday on August 27. Students volunteered their time to learn and rehearse three songs: Power Rock, Rock-It and American Spirit



MCS band rocked in the Pawlet parade.

Photo: Sue LaPorte



March (a medley of patriotic tunes). The truck, driven by Pawlet's Chris Ross, along with Daphne Ross and Mrs. Ross (Chris' Mom — a former Town Officer), was decked out with hay bales, cornstalks, sap buckets and red, white and blue bunting to commemorate Pawlet's farming and maple syrup communities. The Mettawee float earned two parade awards: First Place Best Youth Entry and the Hometown Community Pride Award. Float participants were: current students — Sam Freeman, Greta Schaub, Catherine Thrasher, Olivia Burnham, Grace Petty, Lilly Waite; and former students — Aidan Mayer, Jonah Knapp-Wilson, Julie McNealus, Zoe Paige, Carley Lund, Christina Chilkott, Chelsey Horner, Joey Lea, Brian Horner, George Bourque; and Principal Mrs. Mark.

Sixth-Grade fund-raisers: The Mettawee Community School 6th Grade is raising money for its spring trip to Boston. On October 24 the class hosted a spaghetti dinner at Bernardo's Restaurant in Granville, NY. And on Saturday, October 29 community members are invited to a basket party benefit. Doors open at 11 AM at Mettawee Community School. Dozens of "themed" baskets will be raffled off starting at 1 PM. The admission price of \$5 will include a sheet of tickets; additional ticket sheets will be available for purchase, as will lunch.

Fourth Grade netbooks: Thanks to a generous grant of \$10,000 from the Tarrant Foundation, Mettawee has been able to supply the fourth grade with 1:1 netbooks. With this donation all sixth, fifth and fourth graders can now use their own dedicated netbooks to practice and pursue 21st century learning skills.

The Tarrant Foundation's mission is "... to create opportunity, help meet basic needs, and improve the lives of people in Vermont. In all matters, the Foundation's guiding principles are personal and fiscal responsibility." The Tarrant Foundation "... primarily makes grants in the fields of human service and education."

METTAWEE COMMUNITY PTO FALL ACTIVITIES

Mettawee donates to Vermont Red Cross flood relief effort & holds clothing drive: School staff held a Jeans Day in September to benefit the Vermont Red Cross Flood Relief effort and raised \$220.50. The Mettawee Community PTO matched that amount, and our school community is sending \$441 to support Vermonters recovering from the effects of recent flooding throughout the state.

In early October the PTO hosted the 5th Annual Share the Warmth Clothing Drive.

Kindle raffle: The Mettawee PTO will raffle off another Kindle (electronic reader/3G, Wi-Fi). Tickets go on sale Thursday, November 3, at the MCS Fall Open House. Tickets will be 1 for \$1 and 6 for \$5. The last day for tickets sales will be Monday, November 21. The drawing will be held Tuesday, November 22, at the school's annual Thanksgiving Feast.

Purchase/rebate programs support MCS: Please support the school and student body through the following purchase/rebate programs: Price Chopper AdvantEdge, Hannaford Helps Schools, Target for Education, Campbell's Labels for Education and Boxtops 4 Education. If you previously registered your AdvantEdge card to assist MCS before August 2010, your card must be re-registered. You may send your AdvantEdge card number to Linda Maness, lmaness@mettaweeschool.org, and she will enter it via the school coordinator's corner. Alternatively visit www2.pricechopper.com/toolsforschools/single and register your card on behalf of Mettawee; school code is 15392.

For more information about these programs contact Linda Maness lmaness@mettaweeschool.org or call 645-9009 weekdays, 8 AM - 3 PM.

The PTO thanks everyone for supporting the school and its students.



MCS Principal Nancy Mark (center) and PTO President Brooke Burnham (left) recently presented a check for \$441 to Gerard Ashton, disaster relief representative of the Vermont Red Cross. The money was raised by Mettawee Community School faculty and staff and matched by the PTO to support Vermonters affected by flooding from tropical storm Irene.

METTAWEE MANIA 2012 - A TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA

Auditions for Mettawee Mania 2012 will be held February 2012. If you want to participate in this annual talent show, it's time to start thinking about your performance. Performers are limited to 5 minutes. Singers performing with a CD must have a karaoke CD with backup vocals only so the judges can hear your voice.

Bring your talent, whatever it may be! For information call Rod Hawkins at 325-3687.

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VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

West Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department: During the course of tropical storm Irene the fire department responded to more than 40 calls in the West Pawlet district alone — nearly a year's worth in just 72 hours! The outpouring of support from the community with food and other services for the fire department was fantastic. On September 3, members of the WPVFD responded to the flood damaged-areas of Killington and Bridgewater and helped man the Killington emergency response. For more information contact Chief Dave Hosley at 645-0158.

Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department: The department answered more emergency calls in the course of Irene than it typically responds to in a few months, on top of having to evacuate its own firehouse. After the storm, the PVFD helped clean up. Chief Jim Andrus said, "No one got hurt; that is the main thing."

The department's famed game supper returns on Saturday, November 12, 5 PM. Enjoy some not-so-everyday meat dishes, some fabulous home-cooked side dishes, and an unbelievable array of home-made



WPVFD crew mans the Killington Fire Station during recovery from tropical storm Irene.

pies — and support your volunteer fire department at the same time!

For more information about the Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department, visit www.pawletfire.org or contact Chief Jim Andrus at 325-3714.

Reminder to all: Call 911 in an emergency!

LETTER FROM PAWLETT HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESIDENT STEVE WILLIAMS

The Society's contributions to Pawlet's 250th anniversary celebrations included ghost walks, a Daniel Webster re-enactor, exhibits about previous centennials and other special town events, the display of the restored theater curtain in the Town Hall and the opening of the Braintree School. We are very grateful to Pat Fry, ably supported by trustee Betty Daly, who "found" the ghosts and developed their scripts, which were full of Pawlet history. We appreciated trustee Susanne Rappaport's activities at the Braintree School with support from Patty Tobin, Susanne's additional activities on the exhibits at the library with support from Martha Schoenemann, and the work of all our other trustees. Jim Cooke provided a fine performance as Daniel Webster and his life and times, clearly heard thanks to an audio system provided by Rod Hawkins. We are very grateful to the Vermont

Humanities Council for cosponsoring the performance. We also welcomed the raffle draw for a blanket chest made and donated by local craftsman Gregg Gawlik; the winner was local resident Sue Rourke.

Our fall program at the Community Church on October 20 featured Sally Matson as Susan B. Anthony, celebrated anti-slavery and women's rights activist of the 19th century. This program was sponsored by the Pawlett Historical Society and the Vermont Humanities Council. It was preceded by the election of the Society's officers and trustees for 2011-2012.

To recognize the restoration of the Braintree School, now listed in the National Register of Historic Buildings, the Society will place a historic marker at the school.

Thank you. *Steve Williams, President, PHS*

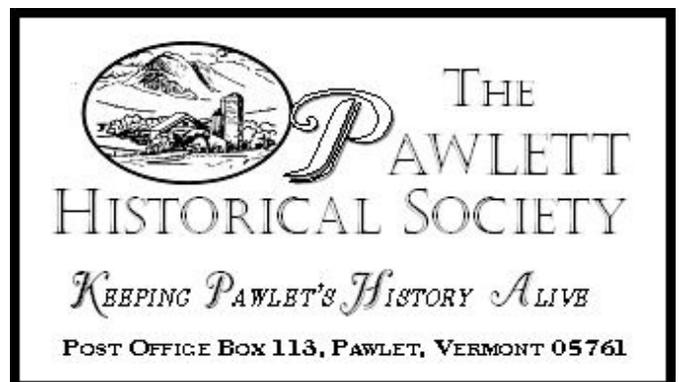


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PAWLET PUBLIC LIBRARY

From Beth Kashner, Library Director: Fall is here, and we have many new titles on the shelves to curl up with. Story Hour has resumed with Heidi Hammell, along with many new activities. Please stop in and get a schedule.

We now have automated library cards with barcodes. Please get your updated card; you need to check out books. We are no longer able to offer "self-checkout."

I would like to thank our anonymous donors for generously supporting children's programs. Bernadette Hoffman from the Pember Museum brought her live critters for a fabulous program this summer. All were a big hit. Thanks, Bernie! Thanks to the other donors who also support our collections. Every dollar helps.

I also want to thank our volunteers. You help make the library run smoothly and give me a chance to get the other parts of my job done. I could not do even half my job without your support.

Finally, warm thoughts to all those affected by Irene. If there is anything we can do — continue filling out forms or lending an ear of support — let us know.

Call the library at 325-3123 for information, e-mail pawlet_pub@vals.state.vt.us, or find us on Facebook.

Holiday Market: The Library is again holding its annual holiday market on December 3 – 4, 10 AM to 3 PM. We are looking for quality crafts, handmade items only. Space is available for \$50 and is filling quickly. Please contact Beth Kashner at 325-3123 to reserve your space.

44th annual Pawlet Public Library book sale: Pawlet Public Library's 44th annual book sale raised \$9,500 to support library programs. We are grateful for the unwavering support from our local businesses, communities and summer visitors.

July 25 – 31 was a remarkable week. Volunteers from Pawlet, North Pawlet, West Pawlet, Wells, Rupert, Dorset, Manchester, Poultney, Granville and Hampton again rallied to help us. Oxbow Mountain 4-H Shooting Sports Club and local area youth turned out to move over 25,000 boxed books from Edie Mach's barn

to Mettawee Community School in a phenomenal one hour and three minutes! Crescent Valley Homemakers baked beautiful treats and donated their proceeds to the library sale. Rupert-Mettawee Valley 4-H Dairy Club cooked and served burgers and dogs. The sixthgrade class at Mettawee cleaned up in a record 2 hours. For those of you who bought our books, raffle tickets and food — thanks and see you next year!

Volunteer time, energy and enthusiasm are the keys to our success. To volunteer or donate books to the sale, call the library at 325- 3123 or Dolores Luebke, book sale chairman, at 645-0109.

New drop off for book sale donations: Due to recent flooding, the Book Sale Committee will no longer be using Edie Mach's Barn to sort books. A temporary drop off has been set up at the library inside the building during regular library hours. If you have dry storage/barn space that we could use for sorting, please call the library at 325-3123.

Thank you, Edie Mach, dessert social: The Library hosted a dessert social on October 23 to give special thanks to Edie Mach for the use of her barn for years of sorting and storing books.



Oxbow Mountain 4-H Shooting Sports Club and local area youth moved over 25,000 boxed books from Edie Mach's barn to Mettawee Community School for the book sale.

Source: Dolores Luebke



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UPDATES ON FLOODING RECOVERY HELP AT FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LEVELS

FEMA application deadline extended until November 15, 2011: Vermonters impacted by tropical storm Irene August 27 to September 2, who reside in one of the following counties: Addison, Bennington, Caledonia, Chittenden, Franklin, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans, Rutland, Washington, Windham, and Windsor, now have until November 15, 2011 to register for disaster assistance. Disaster survivors may register for assistance by contacting the (800) 621-FEMA (3362) number or online at www.disasterassistance.gov or by mobile application at m.fema.gov.

Free legal help for those affected by Irene: Those who need legal assistance dealing with issues related to tropical storm Irene and lack the means to hire a lawyer may call Disaster Legal Services at 800-889-2047 for free legal advice. Those who qualify will be matched with Vermont lawyers volunteering their time. Legal assistance may include help with insurance or FEMA benefits claims, home repair contracts and contractors, building permits, replacement of wills and other legal documents destroyed in the disaster, counseling on mortgage-foreclosure or landlord/tenant problems and other issues potentially arising from the disaster. All calls are confidential. Disaster Legal Services is a federal program operated by the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division. In Vermont the program is sponsored by the Vermont Bar Association and Vermont Legal Aid. Visit the ABA's site at www.abanet.org/disaster, the National Disaster Legal Aid site at www.disasterlegalaid.org or www.vtlawhelp.org to find out more.

Community fund benefits families affected by flooding in Pawlet Village: The Flower Brook Fund was established to benefit families in need along Flower Brook who were affected by flooding. A silent auction was held at last month's Art on the Green, and donations were also solicited in the subsequent weeks. Judy Lake reports that more than \$17,000 was raised and has been distributed to families and businesses along Flower Brook that were deluged by the flood. Judy conveys a huge thanks to those that donated

financially, those that gave items or services for the silent auction, and those that volunteered their time with the auction table.

The following businesses generously donated items for the silent auction: Pink Book Farm; Carson Lake Reflexology; Flower Brook Acupuncture; Christine Glade Photography; Susan McClellan Transformational Coaching; Rich Marantz; Carlie Wolf Yoga; Dayna Kurtz Music; Beth Kashner Jewelry; Liz Moore Massage; Brian Sweetland; Judy Coolidge; Dawn Pliner Hula Hoops; Elizabeth Torak; Pets, Etc.; Robin Ryan's beautiful book basket; Lake's Lampshades; Chi Time; Pawlet Potter; Sheree Foster Hypnotherapy; Cathy Walker Astrology and Healing; Todd Walker Financial Services; George Bouret Photography; Ellen Russell Massage; Ellen Howard Textiles; Shirl Designs; Lali Cobb Sculpture; Luna Moth Designs; Katrina Farrell Textiles; Paul Brouchie Music; Flower Brook Pottery; Susan Sargent Design; Dona F. Friedman; Rug Crazy; M. Sullivan Gallery; Becky Colon; The Barn Restaurant; and Cosmo's basket of computer gear.

Thanks from Patti Weisser of Flower Brook Acupuncture: On August 28 the Flower Brook spilled its banks like never before, flooding many of us along its course. Not only water, but a flood of amazing neighbors, friends and family poured in day after day to help rebuild. Your hours of dirty, muddy, hard work inspired by compassion, empathy, and selflessness relieved the shock, exhaustion and stress of this mess. This blessing gave me direction and strength to do what needed to be done.

I am reminded that after 20 years, I had built not only a business in town, but I had also built a community so interconnected that even Chinese Medicine of which some of you are unfamiliar was worth saving. Tears rained down on some of you because my heart overflowed. This was no loss; it was a gain, a reminder of the most important lesson, that it takes a Village that I'm so proud to be part of. Thank you all. You made it happen. On September 26 I happily reopened for business.

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Rte 153, West Pawlet, VT 05775

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(802) 265-3135; sfcabriniwpawlet@gmail.com

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OXBOW MOUNTAIN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS CLUB REAPS REWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

By Dolores Luebke

Oxbow Mountain 4-H Shooting Sports Club members competed well at the UVM Extension Vermont Shooting Sports Jamboree in St. Johnsbury. Competitions involved 6 disciplines, three age groups, (Novice, 8-10; Junior, 11-13; Senior, 14 -18), with awards for 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place and HM (Honorable Mention).

Winners and their disciplines are: Hunting, Clayton Fenton, 2nd, Jr; Patrick Wilson, 2nd ,Sr; Shotgun, Patrick Wilson, 1st, Sr; Thomas Wilson 2nd, Sr; Pistol, Sam Barrows, HM, Novice; Jack Barrows, 3rd, Jr., Jay Wilson, 3rd, Sr; Thomas Wilson, HM, Sr; Rifle, Ryan Decker, 3rd, Jr; Seneca Run, Patrick Wilson, 2nd, Sr; Jay Wilson, 3rd, Jr ; Archery, Adam Browe, HM, Novice; Seth Browe, 2nd , Jr; Patrick Wilson, 3rd, Sr; Jay Wilson, HM, Jr; Overall, Ryan Decker, 3rd, Jr ; Patrick Wilson, 1st, Sr.

Oxbow 4-H received ribbons at the Vermont State Fair: Red, Shawn Kerber; Blue, Adam Browe, Seth Browe, Justin Cleveland, Ryan Decker, Jay Wilson and Thomas Wilson; Blue & Purple Ribbons for Best in Show, Anna Cassidy, Bridget Decker, Clayton Fenton, Hillary Fenton, and Maggie Wilson. Oxbow Club leaders are Tom and Lisa Wilson of Rupert.

Hillary Fenton was awarded a \$1,000 Academic Scholarship by the Rutland County 4-H Foundation. Hillary also won the design competition for the 2011 Vermont State Fair 4-H tee shirt.

For information on Rutland County 4-H, including Oxbow Mountain Shooting Sports, Pawlet and Rupert-Mettowee Valley Dairy Crafts & Sewing Club, West Pawlet, contact UVM Extension Educator, Rita Charlton at 773-3349.



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EVENTS FOR LOCAL AREA HAYSTACK HUSTLER SENIORS

The Haystack Hustlers invite all area seniors to participate in our upcoming activities. Bring a friend and enjoy educational programs, entertainment and fellowship. We have lunches together every other Tuesday at noon: a potluck lunch at the Pawlet Church on the second Tuesday of each month, and a hot lunch at the Mettawee Community School on the fourth Tuesday of each month during the school year. At each gathering we collect food for the Pawlet Food Pantry and hold a 50/50 raffle. School lunches are by reservation; suggested cost is \$3.50.

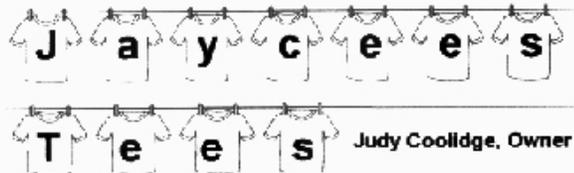
Our schedule of upcoming events is:

- November 8, Potluck at Pawlet Church followed by tai chi presentation.
- November 22, Harvest Feast at Mettawee School.
- December 13, Pawlet Church - A catered Christmas lunch.
- December 17, Bus Trip to Dartmouth Theater with Northshire Seniors.

All seniors are welcome. Meet new people and enjoy a great meal! Contact Phyllis Mason at 325-3196.

Pawlet Food Pantry News

The Pawlet Food Pantry serves residents of Pawlet, West Pawlet and Wells and appreciates donations of non-perishable food items. Collection boxes are at the Pawlet post office and the library. The food pantry is open for pickups the fourth Friday of each month, 9 - 11 AM at the red barn behind the parsonage on Route 30 in Pawlet Village. In November and December, pickup is always the Friday before each holiday. Thanks for your support!



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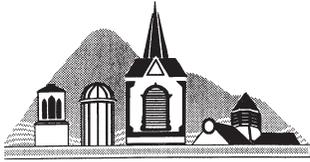
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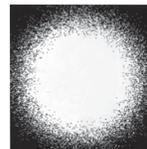
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Town of Pawlet Newsletter, PO Box 128, Pawlet, VT 05761.

Deadline for ads & news for the winter issue: January 3, 2012.

Ads: Business Card \$25 (4 issues, 25% discount: \$75); Double Business Card \$50 (4 issues, 25% discount: \$150)

Ads to Barry Schoenwetter, 561 North Pawlet Road, Wells, VT 05774; bartsky@together.net or 645-0654.

News to: Elizabeth Gibson, Editor, 128 Solar Park, Pawlet, VT 05761; 325-3619, egib@vermontel.net.