



# Preble Today

Volume 5, Number 2

For the People of Preble

Fall, 2014

## Preble Park Youth Program

*An idea and a dream  
is now a reality.*

By Renee Compton

The Preble Park Youth Program was a success this year due to the hard work, commitment, dedication, and collaboration of all those who were involved. Let's look back and see where it started. Within the past few years there had been many discussions in the Preble community for having the Preble Park better utilized. Many residents talked of using the Park to serve as the site for a youth program during the summer months. The enthusiastic community response to the 'Spruce Up America' project, overseen by Laura Doring, was a good start. This seemed to be the year to do something.

With the support of individuals in the community, Laura and I began to formulate

a plan for the summer youth program. I attended the Town Board meeting on March 10, 2014 with a power point presentation that shared thoughts and ideas supported by data.

This included demographics, photos of the park now and possibilities for the future. Many comments were made, as well as questions asked by those attending the meeting. I was invited to return to the following month's Town Board meeting with more information about what the youth program would entail.

In the time between March 10th and the next board meeting on April 12th, we set out to accomplish this. We began compiling all the information we had acquired through our research together. There were conversations within our community and with other organizations, including the

Town of Scott Recreation Dept., Village of McGraw Recreation Dept., Homer School District, McGraw & Homer Bus Garages and Catholic Charities.

On April 12, 2014, I made a presentation to the Town Board again with information on field trips and other project details. I answered questions from the Town Board. The Town Board then gave approval to have



*Continues on page 3*

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**Town of Preble  
P.O. Box 234  
Preble, NY 13141**

## Preble Today

Offices at Town Hall  
Preble Road, Preble, New York 13141  
Town Hall (607) 749-3199

**Town Supervisor: - James Doring**  
Email [jdoring@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jdoring@twcny.rr.com)

**Deputy Supervisor:** Peter Knapp- 607-749-2336  
**Town Council:** Debra Brock- 315-696-5549  
Linda Riehlman - 607-749-3790  
Dave Morse- 607-749-2856

**Town Clerk and Tax Collector:**  
Jane Davenport, Phone 607-749-3199  
Email [prebletownclerk@centralny.twcnc.com](mailto:prebletownclerk@centralny.twcnc.com)

**Deputy Town Clerk:** Deb Putman

**Town Justice:** Donna Doody, Phone 607-749-2377  
**Justice Clerk:** Haily Doody

**Highway Supt.:** Jeff Griswold, Phone 607-749-2710  
**Deputy Highway:** Dale Mosher

**Building Inspector and Code enforcement Officer:**  
W. Rick Fritz - Phone: 607-591-9898

**Dog Control:** Paul Burhans, Phone: 607-749-2734  
Lindsay Anderson

**Assessor:** Bill Bearup: 607-423-2558

**Town Attorney:** Donald Armstrong

**Bookkeeper:** Gina Nourse

**County Legislator:** Don Boyden, Phone: 607-749-8709

**Planning Board:** James Harris, Chairman  
Barbara Albro  
Tim Coyne  
Maureen Knapp  
Jim Seaman  
Don Armstrong, Attorney  
Deb Putman, Secretary

Planning Board regular scheduled meeting:  
4th Thursday of each month at 7 pm

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** Daniel O'Shea, Chairman  
Jay Currie  
Robert Lieber  
Al Socha  
Nancy Dalley  
Don Armstrong, Attorney  
Deb Putman, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals regular scheduled meeting:  
1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm

**Board of Assessment & Review:**  
Mike Compton  
Charles Dalley  
Bob Allen  
Jerome Kleisath  
Michael Hughes

**Recreation Chairman:** Babe Carroll, Phone 607-299-4474

**Historian:** Anne Henderson, Phone 607-749-2044

**Population:** 1,393 (2010 Census)  
**Registered Voters:** 910

**Town of Preble website:** [www.preble-ny.org](http://www.preble-ny.org)  
**Cortland County website:** [www.cortland-co.org](http://www.cortland-co.org)

Preble Today is a publication of the Preble Town Board.  
Preble community members, friends and families are invited  
to submit materials and ideas for future newsletters to:

**Deb Putman**  
7619 W. Bennett Hollow Rd.  
Preble, NY 13141

Or email to:  
[prebledeputyclerk@centralny.twcnc.com](mailto:prebledeputyclerk@centralny.twcnc.com)

# Message From the Supervisor

As this year of 2014 rapidly draws to a close, the Preble Town Board can look back at some of its accomplishments. In years past we've been busy with other projects, however, this year has turned out to be the "Year of the Park." Last spring we planted 70 pine trees and 10 hardwood trees in the park, which will provide benefit and shade for residents for many years to come.

Our second accomplishment for the Town was the pilot project for a summer youth program at Preble Park. With yeoman like efforts, volunteer Renee Compton initiated a summer youth program. The first year of the program was hugely successful. We look forward to a second summer of growth next year.

Along with planting trees and developing the summer youth program, we repaired two dugouts at the ball field. We are also in the process of reinforcing the pavilion with additional bracing as was recommended by our insurance carrier. We have plans for further changes and maintenance at the park and for the recreation department for 2015.

Our 2015 town budget for the general fund and the highway fund is \$744,090. That is up \$6,399 from last year or .87%. The tax rate will remain at \$1.215 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The assessed valuation of the town for 2015 is \$87,244,889, down \$65,891 from last

year's valuation of \$87,310,780.

Finally, as many of you may know, my wife, Laura Doring passed away on July 15th from brain cancer. Laura was editor of the Preble Today newsletter and she contributed photographs to the website which were a product of her extensive hiking around the area. She also initiated the "Spruce Up America" tree planting project for the Park and she partnered with Renee Compton last spring to kick off the summer youth program. She very much wanted to work with the young people over the summer, but that was not meant to be. I would like to thank all the friends, neighbors and people of the area who helped out in so many ways during Laura's last weeks and days. I would also like to thank the Preble Congregational Church for all their

help and support in facilitating her celebration of life on August 23rd.

Should anyone have any questions, comments or be interested in serving in some capacity in the community, please email me at [jdoring@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jdoring@twcny.rr.com) or call me at 607-749-5315. Please have a safe winter on the roads, the snowmobile trails and on the ski slopes and enjoy the holiday season.

At Your Service,  
Jim Doring  
Supervisor



Preble Valley

## Park Youth (Cont'd)

a summer youth program for Preble. Then the work began.

Throughout most of May, Laura and I continued to meet, e-mail and communicate through phone calls to finish what we had started months before. Laura began typing the program up with all the necessary forms, making sure they covered all the pertinent information. Meanwhile, I worked on the lunch program, calendar and coordinating trips. A survey was available for the community's input via the web based Survey Monkey.com and/or Preble Today.



We collected the data and prepared for the June Town Board meeting. We wanted to have as much of the program completed as possible. The field trip schedule was very important! The surveys were in and field trips were planned with the youth's wishes guiding the destinations. The calendar was just about ready and would be finalized in the next few weeks.



It was Laura who had an idea that we should have a logo for the Preble Park Youth Program. "A tree, maybe as the Y" she said, "And some youths climbing the tree." Laura's logo was now a reality, thanks to Sarah Carmen.

At the June Town Board meeting, the Preble Park Youth Program was presented to the Town Board and the Preble community. At that meeting we received final approval. July 8, 2014 was the first day of

PPYP.

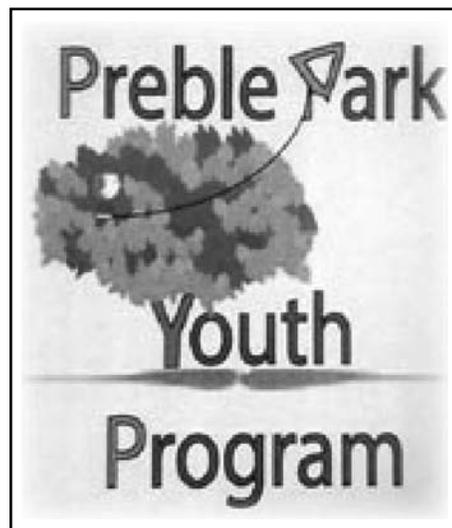
July arrived and the Preble Park Youth Program began! The planning came to life. Could we do it all? The youths participated in cooperative group games. Arts and crafts were enjoyed on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Each day a hot lunch sponsored by Catholic Charities was served at noon. The PPYP kids enjoyed seven fun filled field trips on Wednesdays and/or Fridays with our Community Partners. Two special events: Community Helper Day and Family Movie



Night were also well attended. A walk over to the Town Hall to look at the Exhibit of Rocks, Gems, and Minerals was also a favorite event, thanks to Pam Poulin. We absolutely did it all! Sixty-two youths participated in the program. On any given day of PPYP, rain or shine, a person could drive by or stop in to see children playing and learning. Yes, we played on rainy days too! On our field trips we had between eleven and twenty participants. The fifteen volunteers (community members, parents, and RSVP volunteers) who gave over 486 man hours of their time, gave truth to the saying "many hands make light work." Thank you to all. The smiles, friendships, memories, and experiences are priceless for the children.

Community Helper Day on August 5th was very successful. Thanks go out to Michael Compton, Preble Fire Department Chief, Doug Smith, Tully Ambulance/Medical Car, Officer Kemp, Cortland County Sheriff, K-9 Right and Sgt. Hommel and Trooper Grunder of the New York State Police. The youths enjoyed the information, demonstrations, handouts, and time spent with the 'Helpers'.

On Family Movie Night at the Preble Park, a youth asked, "A movie outside in the dark?" You bet! It was a fun night watching Zoom, sponsored by Encore Entertainment from Tully, under the bright moon. This was an experience some had never had before. Popcorn, big screen, drinks, candy..... it was almost the Drive In.



As we began getting closer to the days leading to the end of the program, many youths were already asking, "What are we doing next year?", "Can we go to Skate Estate again?", "Can we have a Sprit or Career Day next year?". I also heard, "Mrs. Renee, can we have camp 5 days next year?", "I liked Snakes in the Grass the best", "more Water Play Day - Bat n Splash and water balloons", "my favorite was Nature Week and building the bird houses", "I wanna go to the MOST". All these comments, questions, hugs, posters, and smiles affirmed what many of us knew would be true. The Preble Park Youth Program was a much needed opportunity for our youth

# Laura's Tribute

by Debra Brock

Laura accepted the job of managing the Preble Today newsletter in the beginning of 2011. Those of us who worked with her on the May 2011 edition discovered what fun it can be to join a team led by someone with endless positive energy. For the next six editions, we enjoyed the time spent with Laura as the Preble Today newsletters unfolded.

In her capacity as editor, Laura made sure the newsletters were factual, entertaining and useful to the Preble community. She set a high standard for composition, grammar, spelling and punctuation. Her organizational skills assured the work was collected, edited and ready for press on time.

When choosing content, Laura's work was guided by sincere concern for publishing only articles that would have no negative consequences for our community. She considered each article carefully in order to make certain, as much as possible, that the end result would be positive.

With this edition, we go forward without Laura's direction. We treasure the energetic conversations and positive outlook for Preble



Laura Doring

that Laura always shared with us. We hope the many good qualities she brought to her work for the Town of Preble are reflected in this and future Preble Today editions.

## SNOWMOBILE NEWS FOR WINTER, 2014-2015

Although most people call us the Tully Trailblazers we are actually the Trailblazers of Cortland and Onondaga Counties. Our top priorities are safety and respect for all land owners and riders. We appreciate all the support the club receives from local towns such as Preble, Tully and Otisco. We especially appreciate the support of the land owners. Our club would not be here today without it!

Please watch for our upcoming events: Hill climb race at Song Mountain, date in early March, TBA and Ride for persons with special needs. Anyone can come and get a ride in the groomer or on a snowmobile. Date to be announced in late March.

You can watch us on face book at The Tully Trailblazers or go to [tullytrailblazers.com](http://tullytrailblazers.com). Anyone interested in joining the club can call:

Michael Dannan  
315-391-1090.

## HOW INTERSTATE 81 CHANGED THE TOWN OF PREBLE AROUND 1966



Interstate 81 came inching up the valley from the south. Suddenly, we had a loud super highway roaring through the middle of our rural town. Route 81 divided acres of rich, fertile cropland. It was the best in New York State. Today, there likely would have been huge protests over the loss of such prime farm land.

For better or for worse, our exit became number 13. Business people quickly wanted to locate there for the proximity to the new highway. A gas station sprang up at the interchange and the Smith family of Preble opened a gift shop nearby. Saulsbury Fire Equipment was the first large company to move here. It's founder, Sam Saulsbury was a town resident and longtime fire chief. Others soon followed to the new area.

Today Paul Bunyan Wood Products, owned by the Gutches Family, is a large company making wood pallets and large varieties of mulch. To the south on West Clark Road, the Dick Kennedy Family has been operating Kennedy Hardwood for many years. They make sheds and other wood products. Many of you will remember when Hank Hallstead had a gun shop on the road.

In 1977, a large rest area was built south of Clark Road and a few years ago, Flying J tried to build near the interstate. The town was nearly torn apart over conflicting opinions surrounding this project. In the end, the company located elsewhere. Today Suit-Kote, Northeast Transformers, Comet Flasher, Ferrell Gas, Mirabito, Dunkin' Donuts and Subway are all doing business in that section of town.

The super highway enables our residents to work farther from town and return home in the evening. We have seen more year round homes spring up on Little York and Song Lakes.

This past year, the overpass in town was replaced. This snarled our traffic pattern, but it was badly needed.

Today, many travelers pass through our area: truckers, tour buses, folks going north to Canada and others south to warmer climes. President Obama even came through our area a while back. My young grandson and I went to the end of my road and he climbed up on a fence and waved at

the bus as it went down through. He was SURE President Obama saw him on the fence.

Preble will continue to change, yet the lighted steeple on the church in the center of town still shines as a beacon to the night travelers passing by on I-81. As the holidays are fast approaching, take time to give greetings to your friends and neighbors.

ANNE HENDERSON  
Town of Preble Historian



# A MESSAGE FROM THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:

With the leaves on the ground and snow around the corner, I just wanted to take a moment to recap some regulations in Preble that are only valid in the winter months. Effective from November 1 through April 1, there is an ordinance prohibiting parking on any town road. Effective from December 1 through April 1, certain roads in town are designated as "seasonal." No plowing or sanding will be done on the following roads during this time: Campbell Rd., Cemetery Rd., Dawson Rd., E. Hill Rd (from the turn-around to Dawson Rd), Foley Rd., Maycumber Rd., Preble Hill Rd., the hill on Wright Rd., Maple Ridge Rd. from seasonal sign to the town line and Vormwald Rd.

The Town of Preble maintains 25.4 centerline miles of roads. Sixteen miles of the 25.4 are plowed, making up 34 plowing segments. We also plow school bus pull-offs, turnarounds, the Fire Station and the Town Hall. Average route time is 2 hrs. 45 minutes.

The crew consists of:

Highway Superintendent Jeffrey Griswold (15 years), Equipment operators Dale Mosher Jr. (29 years) and Kevin Baldwin (15 years).

The Town hopes to start a new highway garage at the site of the salt building soon. This building will replace the current 60 year old building located on Otisco Valley Road. The money for the building has been saved by the Town Board over the past 8 years. The Board can pay for this building with no tax increase and without borrowing. This project will consolidate highway operations to one location for the first time in 17 years. The move will allow most machinery to be housed inside, save money on utilities and increase department efficiency. These improvements will allow the department to provide better service to the taxpayers.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the Highway Garage at 607-749-2710. Have a safe winter.

~Jeff~

## Town of Preble Building Permits Fall 2014 Report

Date	Property Owner	Notes
06/16/2014	Anthony DiGiovanna	Pre-built shed 7685 Mallard
06/16/2014	William Rapp	Replace existing deck 1922 Rittenhouse Sq
06/23/2014	Paul Bunyan Wood Products	Security fence 7101 NYS Route 281
06/23/2014	Paul Motolo	Porch/Shed 7563 Pirates Cove
06/30/2014	GS of Penn NY Pathways, Inc	64' x 40' pole barn 2065 Song Lake Xing
07/14/2014	Nancy Dalley	Fence 1933 Preble Road
07/28/2014	Theodore and Dawn Larison	12' dormer 6238 Little York Lake Rd
08/04/2014	Judy Welch	Shed 2406 Marybelle Lane
08/04/2014	Lawrence E. Mennig	24' x 24' storage 2379 East Hill
09/15/2014	Currie Valley Dairy LLC	Replace trailer 2267 Currie Road
09/15/2014	Shane Stone	Pellet Stove 1874 Preble Road
09/15/2014	Carol Levine	12 x 18 shed 1872 Fulmer Road
09/15/2014	William Finn	Deck 7551 Saulsbury Rd
09/29/2014	Michael N. Piano	New garage 1779 Song Mountain Rd
10/06/2014	Keith Taber	Pellet stove 7650 Saulsbury Rd

Code Enforcement Officer Rick Fritz holds office hours in the Preble Town Hall each Monday afternoon from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M., and can be reached other times at telephone number 607-591-9898.

## PREBLE FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY

*Betty Ann Pittman*

Preble Fire Department Auxiliary was started in 1954 when Paul Currie donated five dollars to purchase post cards to be sent to all firemen's families to start an auxiliary. A group of forty plus ladies from the town gathered at the fire station. Fran Bays from Virgil and Pat Fitts from Dryden explained what the auxiliary could do to help the firemen.

At that gathering the Preble Fire Department Auxiliary was formed with the following officers being elected: Wilda Saulsbury President, Jane Simon Vice President, Jane Whiteman Secretary, Betty Ann Simon Treasurer. It was agreed to hold meetings on the third Monday of the month at 8:00 p.m. at the Fire Station. Anyone over 18 years of age could join the Auxiliary. It was agreed to help the firemen with their many activities if asked, and to serve coffee and refreshments at fires when requested by the chief.

The Auxiliary has helped families who lost their homes due to fire or had bad accidents. When Interstate 81 was shut down because of bad snow storms, the auxiliary served drinks and food until the

road was open again. The Auxiliary also assisted town residents in any other ways that might be needed.

The Auxiliary sponsored Halloween and Christmas parties for the children and helped supervise the ice skating rink behind the fire station. Firemen were hosted at Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day and Christmas parties planned by the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary held suppers, bake sales, variety shows and sponsored a cake booth at the Preble Fire Department field days. They cooked and served annual dinners for the Preble Milk Co-op as a fund raiser. They purchased dishes, pots and pans, coffee pots, thermos jugs, and silver ware. They furnished a stove, refrigerator, tables and chairs for the Fire Department kitchen. They also helped purchase fire equipment for the firemen.

The auxiliary is currently looking for new members. Anyone who is 14 years or older and interested in becoming a member is welcome to come to a meeting at 5:00 p.m. on the third Monday of the month at the fire station or call any member.

# State Grant Awarded to the Gladtime Farm in Preble

William Underwood has been running Gladtime Farm, a 145 acre Preble dairy farm on Route 281, for around 50 years. Bill and his wife Jeanne recently learned that the farm has been

chosen for a Farmland Protection Implementation grant, awarded by New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

The award of \$936,260 is in exchange for the development rights on the Underwood's land and guarantees that Gladtime Farm will remain farmland, protected from conversion to non-farm uses. Carol Weddle, one of the Underwood's daughters, milks a dairy herd of 100 cows on the farm. Daughter Linda Underwood has a produce operation on the farm, including the Gladtime Farm Market.

As stated in the endorsement from the Town of Preble for the grant, William and Jeanne

Underwood's farm anchors the Northern gateway to the Town of Preble and Cortland County. The farm meets a key goal of supporting agriculture in order to preserve the present economy and open space character of the community, as set forth in the Town's comprehensive land use plan.

The farm is located on a state route corridor currently experiencing increased development pressure due to proximity to Interstate 81 and railway access.

Conserving the William and Jeanne Underwood Farm for agricultural use is supportive of the Town of Preble's commitment to agriculture made with the adoption of the Homer, Preble and Scott Farmland Protection Plan in January 2014.

*Congratulations to the Underwood Family!*



*Photo by Deb Putman*

## Talking Turkey by Deb Putman

Did you know that Ben Franklin wanted the wild turkey to be the symbol of our newly formed country, rather than the bald eagle? Or that turkeys can fly up to 55 mph for short distances and can swim as well? As one of many local residents who enjoys observing and photographing flocks of turkeys in our area I was surprised by these facts.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's website has pages of interesting information about the *meleagris gallopavo*, commonly known as Eastern Wild Turkey. For starters, they are native to North America and their presence may have pre-dated the earliest human inhabitants. Yet by 1840 none were to be found in New York State. This was largely due to loss of habitat as forested land was cleared for development of farms throughout our state. By the late 1800's, seventy-five percent of the state was cleared land.

After 1900 the rapid growth of agriculture declined and gradually conditions were much more favorable to support flocks of wild turkey once again. In 1948 wild turkeys from northern Pennsylvania crossed the border and settled in western New York State after a one hundred year absence. The DEC worked hard to rebuild the population and currently there is an estimated 250,000 to 300,000 birds in New York State.

The DEC conducts a Summer Wild Turkey Sighting Survey annually during the month of August.

The results are broken down by region. The turkey population in our area (Region 8) was down from 2013 but still close to the five year average.

Locally the average ratio of poults (offspring) to hens is 2.8 poults per hen. The five year average is 3.2.

Wild turkeys are a legally protected game species and the spring and fall hunting seasons are highly regulated. In the spring only bearded turkeys can be taken. This includes males and only about 10 percent of females. You can help monitor the wild turkey population by becoming a Citizen Scientist. Visit the DEC website to find out more.

According to the DEC, some of the best wild turkey habitat is provided by small, family owned dairy farms. These provide plenty of nesting areas, such as hedgerows, field edges and woodlots. Brood habitat is provided by hayfields and pastures. In the late summer and fall, food is provided by waste grain from silage, corn and small grain production.

In addition, manure spread on farm fields is also a constant winter food source.

This is yet another reason to support our local small farms. They are critical to sustaining our wild turkey populations.

Turkey is often the centerpiece of the traditional Thanksgiving meal, but whatever your family's tradition entails, we want to wish all of our readers good fortune and a bright future.



## Happy Thanksgiving to all.

# A SEPTEMBER AFTERNOON AT LITTLE YORK LAKE

By Tarki Heath

With water in abundance in Central NY, the region is particularly well suited for water festivals and picnics. That said, few places can compete with the Little York Lake Main Pavilion (Dwyer Park) for its rustic architecture, central location, green spaces, and access to the lake. For the past six (of seven), years Little York Lake has been the venue for the Cortland-Onondaga Federation of Kettle Lake Association's (C-OFOKLA) Annual Water Festival and Picnic. To have a little fun and increase community participation, each September we invite the lake communities



and friends for a picnic with music, food, games and community sharing. This year our event was held on September 21st. Approximately 170 community members joined us for another lovely afternoon at on Little York Lake. The weather outside was accommodating for lawn games and walks by the lake. Inside the pavilion there were tables with access to important information about our common watersheds. These sparked discussions about our experiences in protecting

# PREBLE RECREATION

The Preble Park is an asset of the Town of Preble. It is a park for the people of this community to use and enjoy. The Town of Preble originally bought the land from the Rofe family with the intention of turning it into a community park. Volunteers from the town have worked over the decades to build the park into what it is today. The maintenance of the park is funded not only by tax dollars, but also through the donations of many individuals in the form of both money and labor. For example, the ball field dugouts needed new roofing last summer and Tom Kile stepped up to the plate to donate labor and some materials for the repair. Mike Dannon donated his labor and creativity to build a new gate for the park entrance and Tom Pittman donated his time and labor to smooth out the fields with a roller donated by Beck Equipment. Every spring the kitchen and bathrooms need to be cleaned to get them ready for the summer. This job has been handled by members of the Recreation Committee. These members

include Jane Davenport, Betty Ann Pitman, Anne Henderson, Nancy Baldwin, Jill and Bill Sears, Donna Wheelock, Teena Griswold, Connie Griswold, Theresa Pitman and Babe Carroll. In addition, the Recreation Committee also maintains the park flower bed. The Town Board approved the tree planting project through "Spruce Up America" with the help of corporate donations and community volunteers to plant 70 pine trees along the eastern border of the park and ten hardwood trees around the play areas. John Morgan has donated his painting expertise for the park. Carolyn and Ashlyn Swanka had donated a tent and chairs when the Old Timers' Band performed last summer. Not all work in the park is done by volunteers. The Preble Highway Department is involved with some maintenance along with Hank Carroll, who is employed by the Town for the summer to take care of the grounds and facilities. We want to express a big "thank you" to all of the volunteers and staff who help take care of Preble Park.

and maintaining our water resources. In this relaxed and friendly atmosphere, folks enjoyed each other's company with a variety of delicious food from our community kitchens and this year, Michael Crissan provided excellent music for singing, dancing and listening.

With the main mission of outreach and education on local watershed issues, C-OFOKLA has hosted over 25 scientists and other professionals, who have graciously shared their expertise on a variety of watershed issues. Some of the topics have been quite serious and scientific in nature, such as preventing and managing invasive species, understanding toxic algae, the potential impact of climate change on our lakes and the shared hydrogeology of the kettle lakes. Other topics have been a bit less scientific, but no less important, including presentations on landscaping, bird-watching, and videography and photography from around the world and the Finger Lakes. The education and awareness presentations are varied



and the discussions are lively.

C-OFOKLA works with many partners throughout the year, including our state and local water resource agencies, towns and universities. It's a lot of work, but with great rewards. If you would like to know about our 2015 presentations, follow us on Facebook, keep in-touch at [www.cofokla.org](http://www.cofokla.org) or sign up for email information at [cofokla@gmail.com](mailto:cofokla@gmail.com)

All presentations are open to the public.



## Letter To the Editor

I live in Preble and go into Tully several times daily. I am writing to you concerning bikers, walkers and joggers who use Lake Road, Long Road, Route 281, Route 80, Route 11 and other local roads for exercising. The speed limit on these roads are between 45 MPH and 55 MPH.

I am very concerned about two things in particular. I recently approached a teenage boy skateboarding in the road. I honked my horn twice and came to a complete stop as he failed to even look around to see what was happening. Then I noticed his earbuds. He finally unplugged and was able to hear me. I see people all the time doing the same thing. With the earphones on, a pedestrian cannot hear traffic.

Secondly, I will see people walking in the early AM or later PM. They do not have on any reflective clothing. It can be very difficult to see them even if they are wearing white, red or light colors. I think they think they are visible, but they really are not.

Let's share the road, but please unplug and wear reflective clothing when you are out enjoying these beautiful days. Motorists also need to slow down and get off their phones as well.

Thank you.  
Tom Murray

*Editor Note: Song Lake Road has a maximum speed limit of 35 miles per hour posted along the Song Lake residential area. Please abide by the speed limit on all Preble Roads.*

# Preble Fire Department

The Preble Fire Department thanks the community and surrounding neighbors for your continued support. Preble Fire Department continues to proudly serve our community with dedication, care and compassion.

Just a few community reminders: Please take time to replace batteries and test smoke alarms & carbon monoxide detectors. New York State Law requires these in your home.

Come join us:

**Pancake Breakfasts:**  
Sundays from 7:30 AM -11AM



November 30,2014  
January 25,2015  
February 22,2015  
March 22, 2015  
April 26, 2015

Is there Fire in YOU? We welcome you to join our department. Preble Fire Department meets the first Monday of each month at 8 PM.

Do you need a Reflective Fire Number sign for your address? If so, please contact our Department for more information.

Questions, Comments, Concerns.:  
Preble Fire Department  
1911 Preble Road  
Preble, New York 3141  
Preblefiredepartment@yahoo.com  
607.749.4237



## Preble Congregational Church Repairs Steeple, Bell and Weather Vane

On Sunday, November 2, the Preble Congregational Church dedicated and consecrated the church steeple, bell, and weather vane. The project, which began in the spring of 2014 with the discovery of a large leak in the foyer ceiling, is finally completed, including all of the outside work on the siding and steeple lighting!

During worship, the liturgy included verses from Psalm 100, read by Wayne Swindon, and a brief

presentation by Linda Underwood, chair of the Trustees. Dick Martin read the names of those who were remembered by donations given by friends and family, and also the names of local and area businesses which supported the project. Statements, a congregational response, prayers, and a ringing of the steeple bell celebrated the occasion.

Steve Wilson, Music Director, led the Chapel Choir in a special

anthem, purchased for the occasion, "Sanctuary," by John Thompson and Randy Scruggs. The congregation joined in for the chorus.

In the afternoon, a "Steeple Fest" party included the engineer, Wayne Amato, and the contractor, Todd Warner of Morgan Hill Construction, and his family. Both men did outstanding jobs for the church, and the congregation is very grateful. The trustees kept excellent

records and took many pictures to document the process of repairs. All of this data is preserved in the church archives for generations to come.

The historic steeple has been a beacon of light for travelers on Interstate 81 as well as for those using local streets and roads. The structure is safe and sound. The bell rings for all to hear, and the weather vane turns in the wind again as it once did.

***Thanks to everyone for your support and enthusiasm during these last months!***  
***Church Counsel and the Board of Trustees***