



Preble Today

Volume 7, Number 1

For the People of Preble

Spring 2016

Meet the Town Board



Jim Doring - This is Jim's seventh year as Town Supervisor. Prior to that, he has served as Councilperson for two years. His interests are organic gardening and skiing at Song Mountain. Jim has lived in Preble for 18 years and is well-known for his positive efforts to make improvements to the town, while maintaining the regions' rural character.



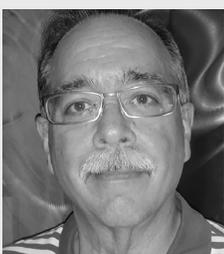
Linda Riehlman - A Little York Lake resident for 54 years, Linda has worked for Family Health Network for 22 years as an Administrative Assistant, is a supporter of the United Way of Cortland, a five year participant of the United Way Polar Challenge and Co-chair for two years. Linda believes in community service and that the best way to effect change and protect our local way of life is through local government. She is proud to represent the people of the town of Preble on the Town Board.



Don Fisher - Is a retired hi-tech entrepreneur with several successful startups. He has been a Preble home-owner for over 20 years and is actively involved with the community as a board member of Little York Lake Improvement Society and Cortland-Onondaga Federation of Kettle Lakes Associations. He has deep local family ties and a strong commitment to the community.



Dave Morse - Preble's longest serving councilman, Dave was elected to the Town Board in 2003, starting his term in January, 2004. Dave is a lifelong Preble resident. He's an avid Yankees fan and, curiously, a Miami Dolphins fan.



Al Socha - Retired aerospace engineer, with over 30 years systems, project engineering and contract performance management. Al has been a member of the Preble Town Board since April 2015, and was a member of the Preble Zoning Board of Appeals for over three years. He was tasked with facilitating the Preble Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee to revise and update current zoning codes. Al is a fair-minded person working for everyone in the Preble community!



Join Us on Memorial Day
Our annual Preble Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony will commence at 11 a.m. on Monday, May 30th at the Boulder on Preble Rd. Guest speaker this year will be Major (Retired) Jamie Snow, who is an Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran and Bronze Star recipient from Central New York.

Jamie spent over 20 years in the Army National Guard and served in various roles throughout his career, including: Battalion Executive Officer within the 27th Brigade, Force Protection Officer while deployed to Tikrit, Iraq in 2004 and Personnel Officer while deployed to Tuzla, Bosnia in 2001. Jamie grew up in Marathon and now lives in Canastota with his wife, Stacey and his two sons, Sam and Will.

Preble Today

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

Town Supervisor: - James Doring
Email jdoring@twcnynyrr.com

Deputy Supervisor: Linda Riehlman-607-749-3790
Al Socha - 315-810-4049
Town Council: Linda Riehlman - 607-749-3790
Dave Morse- 607-749-2856
Don Fisher- 607-218-2550

Town Clerk and Tax Collector:
Jane Davenport - Phone 607-749-3199
Email prebletownclerk@centralny.twcbc.com

Deputy Town Clerk: Elizabeth Pittman

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
Maureen Knapp
Jim Seaman
Don Armstrong, Attorney
Deborah Putman, Secretary

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

Zoning Board of Appeals: Daniel O'Shea, Chairman
Jay Currie
Robert Lieber
Nancy Dalley
Amy Bertini
Don Armstrong, Attorney
Deborah Putman, Secretary

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

Board of Assessment & Review:
Mike Compton
William Underwood
Charles Dalley
Bob Allen

Recreation Chairman: Josh Mowers
Phone 845-476-0738

Historian: Anne Henderson, Phone 607-749-0133

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

Town of Preble website: www.preble-ny.org
Cortland County website: 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:
Deborah Putman at sec@preble-ny.org
or call 315-729-1422

Message From the Supervisor...

With the warmer weather and lengthening daylight, our thoughts and plans turn to outdoor activities. The Preble Recreation Committee has an active season planned for this year. There will be baseball, softball and Tuesday night volleyball. There will be children's activities and family reunions under the pavilion along with the Old Timers Band playing on August 11th. The online registration system has also been very successful in helping residents schedule time for the pavilion.



*Jim Doring
Town Supervisor*

We are also very fortunate to have signed a five-year agreement with the Homer High School baseball program. We will be allowing them to use our ballfield in exchange for their work and investment to upgrade the field to their standards. This is a great improvement in our park! The renovated baseball field is currently being used for practices and scrimmages. Next year we intend to see varsity baseball games being played along with Babe Ruth summer ball and fall baseball. Our field has been transformed from a deteriorating and unused section of our park into a prized and useful asset that is now buzzing with activity. By next summer, Preble baseball fans need go no further than Preble Park to watch high quality baseball.

Construction on our new highway garage has had a setback in the engineering phase, but is now back on track.

The U.S. Postal service is in the process of moving their mailboxes from Uncle Tom's store to a shed behind the Town Hall building.

On preble-ny.org, there will be a new link for all those who wish to be kept up to date on local issues via e-mail.

On Monday, May 30th, the Town of Preble will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony to honor the men and women who have served in our armed forces. This is the biggest event of the year for the Town of Preble. Please come out to support the event and to mingle with your friends and neighbors.

Have a great summer and drive safely.

At Your Service,

Jim Doring

Town Supervisor

Our Warming Waters

By Tarki Heath and Don Fisher

Regardless of beliefs about why the earth is warming, the science is in, and it is real. This is true on a global and local scale. As part of the New York State, Citizen's Statewide Lake Assessment Program, three Preble lakes: Little York Lake, Tully Lake and Song Lake, have the data to show that this warming phenomenon is taking place in our watersheds.

To help us understand this better, the Cortland-Onondaga Federation of Kettle Lake Associations is sponsoring a three part, Kettle Lake Speakers Series: Our Warming Waters. These three events take place at the Tully High School Auditorium.

The first in the series, Effects of Warming Waters on the Lakes in New York State took place on April 18th, focusing on the impacts to the

fish, plants and others that inhabit our lakes. Drought, pests and negative impacts on our drinking water are some of the possible consequences of global warming on our watersheds, according to Scott Kishbaugh, Chief of the Lake Monitoring and Assessment Section at DEC. He presented startling data and explored these and other implications. "Nineteen out of the 20 hottest years on record have occurred since 1980," he noted. "More importantly, thanks to our CSLAP program and the great work by our local lake volunteers, we have data showing the impact on New York State lakes and we can already see changes occurring." Scott has spent much of his life studying the lakes of NY . Professor Kimberly Schulz and several SUNY-ESF Limnology

students were also on hand to present and discuss their work on our lakes.

One of the most notable and alarming consequences of climate change is the explosion of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) in our lakes. During the second presentation on Monday, May 23rd, Dr. Gregory Boyer, will address this issue in his presentation, The Effects of Warming Waters on Harmful and Toxic Algae. Dr. Boyer is the Director of the Great Lakes Research Consortium, Chair of the Environmental Chemistry Department at SUNY- ESF and an internationally recognized, leading expert on HABs. This particular group of algae is actually cyanobacteria. They can cause minor to serious health issues in humans and pets, cause fish-kills and make drinking water toxic. While our small kettle lakes experience these blooms periodically, the forecast is for more frequent blooms, and increasingly toxic conditions.

The third in the series takes place on Monday – June 20th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. The Effects of Warming Waters on Farms and Farming, will be a bit different from the other formats as we plan to have Amanda Barber, the Director of Cortland County Soil and Water, facilitate a panel discussion with farmers in our region.

These discussions are important for all of us as we face climate changes. All presentations are free and open to the public. For more information go to www.cofokla.org and on our Facebook page.

Recreation News



If you are looking for a place to host a reunion, have quality family, hang out with friends, or just relax, the Preble Park is an excellent place to choose! Many families take advantage of reserving the pavilion for various events or activities. The fields also provide a great opportunity to play a game of soccer or throw around a frisbee. There is great fun for all to be had. The park also plays home to the Preble Park Youth Program, a great opportunity for kids to come and have fun together mixed with a little fun learning. Each week will have a theme that the weeks activities will center around. Also be on the look out for a weekly evening of volleyball. Come get to know your neighbors and build new friendships in the community. The Old Timers Band will be back this summer along with other great events for the whole family to enjoy. We are so excited to provide this great location and resource for the community!



Players from the Homer High School Varsity Baseball team practice at Preble Park

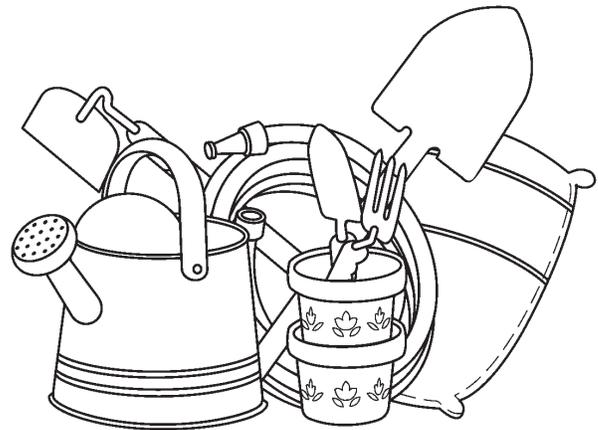
Preble Garden Club News

Each spring, our Garden Club plants flowers at the Town Hall and the Preble Cemetery. Throughout the summer months, members take turns watering and caring for the plants in both locations. We also make Christmas decorations and display them at the Town Hall and Preble Fire Station. In addition we have educational themes for each meeting and enjoy field trips to interesting garden related venues.

This year promises to be another exciting year of programs and activities for the Garden Club members. At our April meeting we had an educational presentation on Bee Keeping by Lisa Leubner. We all got to see a honeycomb, taste the honey and some homemade Honey Whip. Lisa's 12 year old daughter Leah shared some amazing pictures she'd taken of bees on assorted flowers. At May's meeting we made some spring wreaths under the direction of Nancy Dalley. We also enjoyed a trip to Crazy Daisies on Kasson Rd in Syracuse, where we made Fairy Gardens. The June Meeting will include an educational program on Monarch Butterflies and a plant exchange. Upcoming programs include Different Types of Gardening, Cutting Back Flowers for Winter, the Backyard Photo Contest, Annual Picnic, Harvest Dinner, and a Christmas Gift and Cookie Exchange. In 2015 we all brought a canned good or a non-perishable item to each meeting to be donated to the

Preble Congregational Church Pantry and also made a monetary donation at Christmas time. Our club gave our three Highway Dept. workers platters of homemade Christmas cookies and a \$25 gift certificate to Dunkin' Donuts. We wanted to express our appreciation for their long hours of hard work keeping our roads clear and safe for us to drive on. In addition, we donated \$50 to the Preble Fire Dept. in support of our local firefighting heroes.

The Preble Garden Club welcomes new members. Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 P.M. The location varies, at either the Preble Firehouse or a member's house. Contact Garden Club President Esther Hoose 607-749-3382 for more information.



A Message from the Highway Superintendent

As this article was written, we had just finished our annual PESH (Public Employee Safety & Health) training. It is required each year by every Municipality in New York State. We have finished switching all the equipment over from winter to summer mode. The truck replacing the one that burned last fall should be here by the end of May. Also we are ramping up for "Town Clean-Up".

The highway garage project is moving along. The Board has been holding meetings as needed to help keep the process going.

As for this summer's roadwork, we will be working on most of East Hill Rd & East Clark Rd.

I am also evaluating which roads will get sealed.

Each year the State of New York allocates resources from the Budget to all municipalities for the purpose of maintaining the roads. This year Preble is to be given an increase of \$14,000 above our normal allocation which would be enough to pave 500' of

roadway.

We would also like to let the residents of Preble know that the Highway Department experienced a fuel tank failure in February. This failure was the result of an old corroded tank that was inspected by Cortland County just six months prior. We immediately called the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and subsequently followed their instructions. We had contractors here to dig a significant hole adjacent to the Highway Garage for the purpose of cleaning the fuel from the soil. Afterwards test holes were dug to monitor any fuel migration. Subsequent reports by a third party hydrologist have been favorable.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the Highway Garage at 607-749-2710. Have a safe summer.

Jeff

Preble Park Youth Program Summer, 2016

On your mark, get set.....ready for a fun summer full of events that include field trips, activities and time spent with friends? The Preble Park Youth Program will begin on July 12 and end August 18. There will be activities in the park Tuesday through Thursday, from 10 a.m. until noon. A hot lunch will then be served between noon and 1 p.m.

Each week's games as well as arts and craft activities will be planned around weekly topics/themes. Fridays will be filled with field trips to various areas in the surrounding counties. Trip destinations include: a Syracuse Chiefs Baseball game, the Chittenango Zoo and Green Lakes State Park. There will also be an outing involving Mini Golf, ice cream and playground time at a local park. The destination for a 5th trip is TBD.

A Hot Lunch Program, sponsored by Cortland Catholic Charities is returning to the Preble Park for any youths aged 18 or younger. They do not have to be participants of the PPYP. Lunch will be served Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at Preble Park, but it must be eaten on the premises.

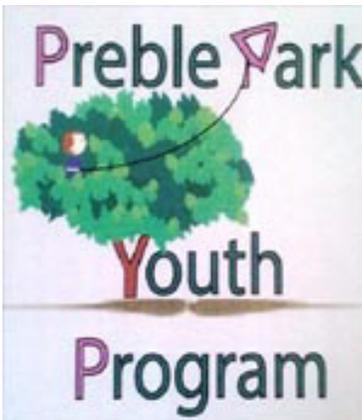
Family Movie Nights are also back and will be held on Friday, July 29 and Friday, August 5. Each of these nights will

be an enjoyable evening featuring a family movie and refreshments. Movies usually begin at dusk and are finished by 9 or 9:30 p.m. More details will follow.

Beginning on July 21, the PPYP will take trips to the Tully Library and have swimming outings (weather permitting) on alternate Thursdays. The bus will leave Preble Park for Tully at 1:15 p.m. The return time will be dependent on the weather, but will be no later than 3:45.

As always, all youth are welcome to join us. Please keep in mind permission slips are required for participation in the PPYP. These are available on the Preble website: preble-ny.org . They can also be picked up at the Town Hall from 9 to noon, and 1 to 4 on Monday and Wednesday. Forms can also be obtained at the park when the PPYP is in session or by contacting Mrs. Compton. The staff of PPYP is looking forward to another wonderful summer of fun with your youth!

Mrs. Renee Compton
Director of PPYP
607-749-4227



Tully Area TimeBank

By Deb Putman and Kathy Vernay

Preble residents are invited to learn about a new way of interacting with their neighbors; building a stronger community while exchanging services with fellow members of the Tully Area TimeBank. There will be a Pot Luck Dinner at the Tully Train Station on Tuesday, June 7th from 6 to 8 P.M. when potential members can bring a dish to pass or just come for information about the TimeBank.

The Tully Area TimeBank was started by Kathy Vernay with the help of local residents. It is a concept that is becoming popular, both locally in Cazenovia and around the world as a way of promoting community interchange without the use of money. Services are exchanged between members for hours, instead of money. The value of each person's time is equal, regardless of the skill involved. Services are not exchanged between just two people but within a group. Each member keeps track of their own time debits and credits on the Internet. Members without computers can access the system through a coordinator or the Tully Free Library staff.

The services can include things like pet care, sewing, providing transportation, giving drum lessons, snow shoveling or performing yard work,

handyman help, accounting, computer help...the list is endless. Anything you spend time doing that might be needed by someone else is a service you could offer. Almost anyone has something to offer, even the disabled and elderly. Some people choose only to provide services and their TimeBank hours can be donated to the system or transferred to a specific member who needs them. A person might spend an hour raking a member's lawn and enter that info on the website. Then a connection can be made with a different member offering a desired service or a specific request can be put on the site.

TimeBank membership is available to all organizations in the area and to all individuals 18 years and older. There is no membership fee. For more information, email Kathy Vernay at kvernay@twcny.rr.com. Or visit the site at <https://tullyarea.timebanks.org> and click JOIN. You will be contacted by one of the 3 coordinators. Background checks are done on all prospective members in the interest of security. The Tully Area TimeBank also has a Facebook page where you can learn more about this great local resource. Contact Kathy Vernay with any questions at 315-416-6629.

Trouble on the Tracks

An Account of Two Railroad Accidents in Preble

By Ann Henderson-Town of Preble Historian

Up until 1854, when the Syracuse and Baltimore Railroad arrived in our town, the main choice for long distance transportation was to travel by stagecoach. A very busy stage coach stop was located over on Rt. 11 in Baltimore, near the end of Preble Rd. There was a day of great celebration on October 18, 1854 when the train finally stopped at all of the stations. Formal speeches were made and bands played.

All went well for several years. An area located south of the town was known as Tallman's Swamp and was a bad spot for quicksand. Today this area would probably be between East Clark Rd. and the trestle that crosses between Goodale Lake and Little York Lake. Laborers widened the roadbed and laid a second track. Late October, 1880 had brought heavy rains that caused the second track to settle a little more each day. In a matter of days the roadbed disappeared into the mire.

On November 5, 1880 a passenger train passed safely through this

area, but during the night the tracks settled even more. The next day, on November 6, a train ran into the dangerous spot and its load of gravel was dumped. The track foreman had noticed settling of the road bed and ordered men off the train for safety. The train was backed up three times to ease slack on the cars so the coupling pin could be pulled. Suddenly that section of the track started to sink. The marsh rose and all the cars were covered with earth and water. Soundings taken the next day identified train cars nearly 30 feet below the surface of the water. Seventeen cars were lost, and remain buried in the marsh to this day.

On December 1, 1895 another accident occurred. A night train heading south through Preble went through an open switch and onto a siding where it crashed and burned. The engineer and fireman were killed as a result. All of the cars, except the sleeper, left the track. Passengers barely got out alive after the baggage car exploded

in flames. This happened by the old depot, where Preble Rd. passes today. After the accident it was determined that an unknown party had opened the switch.

A happier railroad memory involves the time when Theodore Roosevelt made a stop in Preble. He was travelling on the D.L. & W on his way to the 1903 New York State Fair in Syracuse. Hundreds waited to see him in Cortland, but he only bowed from the observation deck as he passed through. The train did make a stop in Preble, but only about 20 people were there to greet him.

Freight trains still pass through Preble daily. Long gone are the milk trains and passenger trains with waving travelers in the windows. Even after fifty years of doing so, this writer still enjoys watching out the window to see the north and southbound trains rush by when the Clark Rd. whistle blows.

Editor's Note: For more information on this subject, see Richard F. Palmer's book: *Rails Through Cortland*



Fire Department News

The Preble Fire Department participated in Recruit NY 2016 on Saturday, April 23. In addition to tours of the fire house and equipment, there were numerous activities for kids of all ages. The event was well received and signed up several people who are interested in becoming members. We are always accepting applications from anyone interested in becoming a member, so email us at preblefiredepartment@yahoo.com. Or, better yet, stop by the Fire Station on the first Monday night of the month at 7 pm and introduce yourself.

We now have a dedicated web site, Preblefiredept.org. The site is a work in progress, but currently has information about our equipment, activities and history. It will also feature a member login area for important communications.

Finally, the Department appreciates the generous support of the community during our annual calendar drive, chicken barbeques, pancake breakfasts, and throughout the year. This helps us to ensure a strong Fire Department and a safe community.

Notes from the Town Historian

Ann Henderson

Memorial Day in 1906 was also the opening day for the new Little York Park, with its uncompleted pavilion. The eight mile trolley ride from Cortland to the park was a wonderful experience. It was estimated that 5,000 people attended the event.

With a fare of 10 cents, the 52 livery boats were in constant use. The largest launch carried 445 people. The other 3 carried about 600 passengers. Visitors came by trolleys, automobiles, carriages, bicycles and on foot.

2016 History Picnic: The annual History Picnic will be held at Preble

Park on Friday, July 15, starting at 11 a.m. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. The presentation will address the history of early homes in the town.

New Plaque: Recreation in Preble has come a long way from ball-games held in George McEvoy's cow pasture and Harold Strong's hayfields over in Baltimore. The land for Preble Park was pasture and cropland when it was purchased in the 1970's from longtime Preble residents Elmo and Dorothy Rofe.

Many people worked together

over the years to make the park into the local treasure that it has become. Some former members of the recreation committee wanted to pay tribute to the many people who gave of their time and labor to bring the Preble Family Park into a reality. In 2015 they had a plaque inscribed with the names of more than 50 residents and businesses who contributed to the creation and development of the park. Soon visitors to the park pavilion will be able to view the names of many of their friends and family members and remember.

Preble Benefits from DEC Grant



C-OFOKLA, the organization representing our lakes, was recently awarded a \$100,000 grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to help protect our waters from aquatic invasive species (AIS). The Preble Town Board wrote a letter in support of this grant proposal in January.

The grant will fund:

- **Boat stewards at public boat launches at Little York Lake and Tully Lake**
- **Outreach program including a C-OFOKLA Speakers Series event**
- **School outreach to train our youth on the issues surrounding AIS**
- **A website and social media pages**

This program will help support the maintenance of our valuable lake assets.

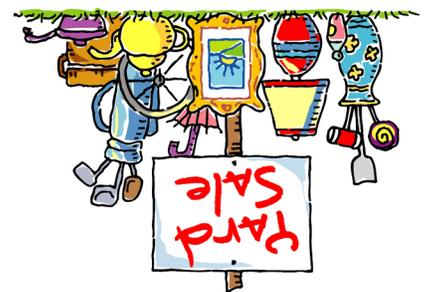
Town of Preble Building Permits Spring 2016 Report

Date	Property Owner	Notes
10/25/15	Blue Top Management	Footers for new home-Lot #49, E. Lee Rd.
10/26/15	Mary Belle Mobile Homes	Footers for new home-Lot # 90, Mary Belle Lane
10/26/15	Blue Top Management LLC	Footers -Lot #78, E. Lee Rd.
11/23/15	Brenda Morgan	Solar panels, Preble Cross Rd.
11/30/ 15	Mary Belle Mobile Homes	8x10 deck, Mary Belle Lane
12/2/15	Mary Belle Mobile Homes	Install mobile home Lot #49, Mary Belle Lane
12/2/15	Mary Belle Mobile Homes	Install mobile home Lot # 90, Mary Belle Lane
12/14/15	Ricky and Peter McClure	Solar roof panels, Preble Rd.
12/14/15	John Morgan	352 sq. ft. addition, Steger Rd.
12/21/15	Mary Belle Mobile Homes	New mobile home-Lot #20, Mary Belle Lane
1/4/16	Peter Werner	Woodstove, Green Lake Rd.
3/21/16	Peter Werner	New home-20'x34, Green Lake Rd.
3/7/16	Glenn Craig	Demolition, Preble Rd-Permit Renewal
3/28/16	Mary Belle Mobile Home	Deck, Mary Belle Lane
4/25/16	Evelyn Petit	Solar panels, E. Homer-Baltimore Rd.
4/25/16	Michael Reagan	12'x22' deck, Starr 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 by telephone number 607-591-9898.

Clean Out Your Closets and Join the Fun

Annual Preble Garage Sale
Sat. June 4, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Rain or Shine.
This event will be advertised in
the Cortland Standard for three
days preceding the sale, court-
sy of the Preble Rec. Comm.
Call Donna Wheelock (607-
749-4805) before May 30th to
include your sale items/address
in the ad.
Help make this fun event a
success.



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