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## RECYCLING

Items that can be recycled\* may be brought to the Pelham Elementary School at 45 Amherst Road on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month, from 9:00am - 12:00pm. If the first Saturday falls on a holiday or Town election, then the recycling date will be delayed by one week.

### \*What Can Be Recycled:

Paper - newspaper, magazines, catalogs, white paper, cereal type boxes, corrugated cardboard, junk mail, & brown paper bags;

Containers - glass bottles, metal & aluminum cans, foil, plastics #1 - #6, wax-coated juice / milk cartons, & drink boxes.  
Please do not use plastic bags for any recycling.

Upcoming Dates for 2019:  
August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2, & December 7

# THE PELHAM SLATE

SUMMER EDITION 2019, Page 1

## TOWN OFFICE IMPROVEMENTS

If you have visited the Rhodes Building lately you may have heard construction, seen an increase in traffic, and/or seen employees moving around boxes and furniture. The 2018 Annual Town Meeting approved funds to install a handicap accessible bathroom. It will be located on the main floor. This building will serve as an additional accessible meeting space for Pelham Boards/Committees to use. The upgrades are in compliance with the protocols described in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This project will be completed soon. The 2019 Annual Town Meeting approved funding to install new energy efficient windows and to have the outside of the Rhodes Building painted. The window project began on July 15, 2019 and should be completed by the time you read this article. Thank you for your patience.

## COMMUNITY HALL PROJECT UPDATE

Community Hall has been undergoing handicap accessible upgrades since January 2019.

The bathroom inside was upgraded and new doors were installed both inside and out. As you can see from the outside of the building, a new handicap elevated walkway is being installed next to a new parking area.

If the project stays on schedule, work should be completed very soon. Thank you for your patience.

## TAX COLLECTOR REMINDERS

The Town of Pelham has recently upgraded to a new software program for tax bills, which means your tax bill will look different than previous versions. Both the first and second quarter payment vouchers are attached on the top of the printed page enclosed in the mailing envelope. If you have any questions, please call the Tax Collector.

### Reminder:

**The next Real Estate Tax Payment is due August 1,**

**2019.**

**Please call (413) 253-2267 with any questions.**

## HAVE YOU SUBSCRIBED TO E-ALERTS?

**Did you know that the Town of Pelham can communicate urgent alerts, town news, announcements, meeting agendas & minutes to you electronically at no cost?**

The steps are easy! Visit our web site, [www.townofpelham.org](http://www.townofpelham.org), click on the tab on the right side of the home page or perform a search on Subscribe to E-Alerts. When the Subscribe page opens, enter your email address, choose which items you wish to receive, and finally click on Subscribe Me. You will receive an email with information related to your subscription choices when the information is posted to the town website.

**Stay connected with what is going on in your community!**



## PLANNING BOARD SPOTLIGHT: NEWEST MEMBER LINDA SPINK



I grew up as a tumbleweed kid. My father was in the Air Force so by the time I reached high school, I'd lived in Georgia, Spain, Texas, Nebraska, and California, learning along the way to be at home wherever I was at the time. My high school years were spent in a small conservative town in Southern California where there was always

one more bar than there were churches. Leaving California I headed for Hawaii where I worked as a lifeguard and attended the University, receiving my BA in psychology and a Masters in Social Work. Sadly, I never mastered surfing.

Having caught island fever after five years, I joined the Peace Corps as a community health worker and lived in a small village in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. After Peace Corps I traveled for three months, landing in Washington D.C., where serendipitously I built a career in international management and

training. For 20 years I was a senior consultant and CEO for Training Resources Group, an employee owned consulting firm, which allowed me to travel to over 60 countries to work with government officials, diplomats, scientists, health workers, farmers, and environmentalists.

After 31 years in Washington DC, my wife and I moved to Pelham MA, so I could serve as the Executive Director of Insight Meditation Society in Barre, MA.

I recently retired to slow down and invest more time being available to family and friends, volunteering, and giving back to my community. When not turning our hill into a garden, I've enjoyed serving on the Pelham Cultural Council for the past 2 years, joining the Hampshire Gym classes, and learning to cook. I'm excited about joining the Planning Board. I can't think of a better way to put down roots, get to know more about Pelham, and give back to the place I want to call home for life.

## COMMUNITY GARDEN COMMITTEE

Summer is in full swing and crops are growing at the Community Garden. There is still one plot available for planting, and time to plant any starts you may want to grow. Also, think Fall crops...kale, lettuce, winter squash if you start now. And don't forget wintering over your garlic as one of our gardeners did last year. You can also come by and check out the Pollinator Garden. See the flowering plants and what pollinators are taking advantage of. As the season continues there will be monarch

butterflies taking advantage of the milkweed which grows abundantly at the garden space.

We can always use an extra hand in the Pollinator Garden's upkeep. If you are interested in helping out while learning about pollinator plants get in touch with the Garden Committee. You can reach us by emailing [pelhamn2n@gmail.com](mailto:pelhamn2n@gmail.com).



## ENERGY COMMITTEE UPDATES

Over the last year, the Energy Committee has been busy using a variety of state grants to consider how to reduce the town's energy consumption and improve resiliency.

Most of our efforts have focused on evaluating options for replacing the HVAC system in the Community Center. The HVAC system is closing in on its 20-year life span and is requiring more maintenance. The committee has evaluated options and costs for two types of heat pump systems, a VRF system (a type of air-source heat pump) and a ground source heat pump system. Each of these would reduce the town's annual energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions. We also commissioned an engineering study to evaluate options and costs for simply replacing the current boiler and other worn and corroded parts of the HVAC system. Based on these engineering studies and some quotes from vendors, the committee decided that the VRF system has the most advantages and the least costs to the town.

We used additional grant funds to get a complete design for the VRF system, including drawings and specifications for a bid package, if the town decides to proceed with this project.

We used grant money to evaluate options and costs for installing solar panels over the library parking lot area or on the school roof. Either option would provide significant energy to the town. We are looking at ways to get funding for building a solar PV canopy over parts of the library and police parking lots. Together, these would provide more than twice the energy needed to operate the Community Center and, with the use of the VRF system, would make the community center a net-zero building.

Finally, we had a consultant evaluate what size of a stand-alone power system (a solar PV and battery energy storage system) would be needed to allow the Community Center and School to operate as a self-powered heating/cooling facility in emergencies, when the electric grid goes out.

We have a pending grant application for funds to help the town pay for a VRF system for the community center. Our plan is to start discussions with town boards and residents to get input on options for replacing the Community Center HVAC system. Our overall goal is to have a system that saves the town significant money over time and that makes a significant impact on our climate-warming emissions.

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY?

It's a universe of fun here at the Pelham Library. We're in the middle of the annual happy chaos of the Summer Reading Program, with this year's theme being "A Universe of Stories". We've enrolled over 100 children and teens and kicked things off by making galaxy tote bags to carry all our books. We welcomed Kevin from the Springfield Museums who brought his inflatable planetarium, allowing 50 lucky patrons a real star show right here at the library! Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Pelham Library and the Pelham Cultural Council we're able to host more fantastic programs this summer than ever before, including Jonathan Keezing's Caravan Puppets, Jackson Gillman (the "stand-up chameleon") performing songs and stories, and Ed the Wizard, teaching everyone to make their own balloon aliens. We'll of course conclude with our Grand Finale Party in August. Come check out the fabulous decorations, too—we have a model moon lander and rockets as well as giant planets, all made by the Pelham School Kindergarten and a great bulletin board in the picture book area made by Lennie and the Pelham After-School Program. Lennie, you and your great creative bulletin boards will be missed!

Pelham Players, our resident summer theater, continues under the direction of Solomon Goldstein-Rose, with Cindy Naughton returning this summer as musical director. This year they're performing Shakespeare's "As You Like It," learning to stretch their dramatic skills. We have 16 kids and teens performing as well as more helping with sets, costumes and props. The performances will be in August.

Our teen group, under the guidance of Ruthie Sterling, has been busier than ever. They finished up their school year during finals week with a de-stress animal program featuring snakes, a gecko and a hedgehog. Check out our Facebook or their new Instagram for pictures of these critters being cuddled by some happy teens! They've also held movie nights, crafts workshops and a tarot workshop. We're thrilled to welcome our rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders into the fold!

Although we have great children's and teen offerings here, we have plenty for the grown-ups, too. Yoga is on hiatus for the summer, but we're loving Monday evening Qi Gong classes with Rema Boscov, which will continue through July, then hopefully resume in September. Mondays are also drop-in knitting nights. Do you have a pattern you're stuck on, or just want to sit and create with your neighbors? Drop by any time between 6pm & 8pm and our friendly knitters will welcome you with open arms.

We recently hosted a senior meet-and-greet in collaboration with the Council on Aging, welcoming Jerry Weinstein back for one of his signature concerts. Wanda Kelly, their new outreach coordinator, has done a beautiful job of sprucing up the senior information table, organizing some of the resources available there. We love collaborating with the many groups in town. Other joint programming includes the Virginia Davis memorial lecture series with the Pelham Historical Society, the SGREE gender diversity series with the Pelham School PTO, as well as a number of programs on climate change and resiliency with several groups in town working hard on these issues. Look for even more joint conversations and programs in the fall.

Finally, a reminder that though we are lucky to have a wonderful, talented and dedicated staff, volunteers are crucial to the functioning of any public library. If you have an hour or two to spare each month (or more!) please consider volunteering. We can always use a hand with shelving, organizing, watering the plants and general tidying up. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Jodi Levine, Director

## Library

### Hours

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Monday    | 3:00pm-8:00pm   |
| Tuesday   | 3:00pm-8:00pm   |
| Wednesday | 1:00pm-8:00pm   |
| Thursday  | 3:00pm-8:00pm   |
| Friday    | 10:00am-12:00pm |
| Saturday  | 10:00am-2:00pm  |

## Pelham Historical Society Museum

Located in Pelham's Historic Complex, Corner of Amherst Road and Daniel Shays Highway

FREE!

FREE!

FREE!

OPEN Sunday Afternoons (1:30 to 4:30 p.m.) From June 2 to September 29, 2019

Check our website, [www.pelhamhistory.org](http://www.pelhamhistory.org), for updated information

## PELHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Pelham School staff and students are very appreciative of the town's allocation of funding at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting to replace the crumbling school sign. On Tuesday, June 11, we officially unveiled the new Pelham School sign with the help of

Superintendent Dr. Michael Morris and School Committee member, Ron Mannino. All staff and students received a new t-shirt to celebrate the occasion and build school spirit. The entire school gathered around the new sign to watch it be unveiled. It was great fun and perfect closure on a project that was several years in the making.



I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Town of Pelham for providing us the funds to pay for the sign, the group of parents and staff that met in the planning phase, Kenney Masonry for their donation of the granite posts and their time installing the sign, McAnney sign company, and finally David Bosch and Brigade for the development of a vibrant new school sign and logo. Our next steps are to landscape the area surrounding the sign so that it is more noticeable and presents a welcoming entrance to our school.

Please note the updated school logo version on the top left of the newsletter. Happy Summer!

Lisa Desjarlais, Principal

## COUNCIL ON AGING UPDATES

The Council on Aging has been working on a number of things to help better serve our Pelham constituents. Our next event is our Summer Social, which will be held on August 17, 2019 from 1 PM – 3 PM in the Ramsdell Room in the Library Complex. This is replacing our Summer Picnic that we usually hold in the Elementary School Cafeteria. We have decided to eliminate the meal portion of the event and serve light refreshments instead. PLEASE mark your calendars and come and have some fun and talk to us and share your ideas. More information will be available on the town website. We have been in discussion with the Community Hall Committee and as soon as the accessibility renovations have been completed. We will be using that building more. We used some of our grant money to help with funding the grating by the ramp for that project, and also to get a storage and file cabinet so we can eliminate the use of space in the closets in the Ramsdell Room which the Library needs for the events there. The Library Building has a lot of use and we have plans for activities that have space needs that we cannot meet using the Library Building. For instance, if we start a foot care program, it needs to have a different set up than what is currently available in the Ramsdell Room. A lot of our use is projected to be in daytime hours. We are planning to have more programs in the future.

The COA Outreach Worker, Wanda Kelly, has completed her basic Shine Counseling training and is in a mentoring program with Highland Valley and the

Amherst Senior Center. She is available to meet with our residents. Her phone number is (413) 253-8851. Please consider joining us as we have vacancies on our Board. In the meantime, have a safe and happy Summer.

Kathy Martell, Chair

## TOWN CLERK NEWS

Kathy Martell returned to work on June 3, 2019. There had been a lot of re-organization in the office while I was out, including the hiring of a Records Information Clerk. Regaining access to secure systems like Vital Records and Voter Registration took some time, but things are back on track. Three Pelham citizens died in the first few weeks back, Dorrance Hill, Donald Shepard, and Roger Conant. Condolences to their families. The By-law submissions to the AGO's office were completed and I am awaiting approvals. Our Records Information Clerk is on a leave of absence. If you do come in, ongoing projects including the "Accessible Restroom" in place of the supply/storage closet and installation of replacement windows have caused noise and disruption. The next project will be painting the outside and then possibly painting the inside of the building. Street lists are now available and cost \$2.00. On another note, preparations for our October Fall Town Meeting are underway. Dog licenses are in the Second Offense Stage, so the late fee is \$25.00 per dog. The third Offense Stage begins August 1, 2019 and the late fee becomes \$50.00. Next, there will be a non-licensing fee of \$50.00 as well. Please be reminded that while these licenses are required by law, they also fund the Children's Library Resources at the Pelham Library.

Kathy Martell



# Pelham Paw Prints

A student-run newspaper

VOL. 2. No. 3

6/13/19

## PERSUASIVE SECOND GRADERS

### Carl Larsen

Everyone should play basketball! Team sports are fun. Shooting hoops is good exercise for your arms. Basketball is fun. I think everyone should play basketball!

Team sports are fun. You never have anything to do. You have to cooperate. You can make new friends.

Shooting hoops is good exercise for your arms. Shooting hoops is exercise for kids. The more you play basketball the stronger you get. Shooting hoops will help you grow muscles.

Basketball is fun. You get to learn new skills. The practice is fun. Games are competitive and fun.

### Oumoul Deme

Ms. Katie should go to Senegal. It is warm and hot in Senegal. It does not get too cold that much. Senegal has very very good and delicious food. Senegal has big houses. Everyone should go to Senegal!

It is warm and hot in Senegal. When it is hot or warm you can go to the beach. And you can go to camp. In camp there is gymnastics, swimming, yoga, and Taekwondo. You can come outside and run and play.

Senegal has very good food. It has vegetarian food too (It's delicious)! Ms. Katie loves the food my mom and I make. The food in Senegal has a lot of nutrients.

Senegal has big houses. You can have two bookshelves full of books. There is a lot of space for playing. You can sleep in a bed and you can fit three or more beds in one big house.

Ms. Katie should go to Senegal. It is warm and relaxing. The food in Senegal is delicious. Senegal has big houses. I love Senegal.

### Matthew Carey

I think everyone should go to New York. There is a water park there. There is also a river. Everyone should go to New York.

It is covered with trees. The leaves change colors in the fall. The leaves don't change color everywhere so New York is special. There is a lot of fresh air because of the trees.

There is a water park. You can learn how to swim. It is fun. There is a ride named the Silverback Gorilla. You drop down into a bowl and it shoots you out.

There is a river in New York. You can catch frogs and toads. You can raft or go down the river in a boat. It's very fun to have a river next to your cabin.

I think everyone should go to New York. There is a water park there. I love it there and I think you will too!

### Maximilian Frazier

Everyone should go to Whole Foods! The food is healthy! The food is so, so, so yummy. The store is big. Whole Foods is the best!

The food is healthy. The fruit is very healthy. They do not put as much sugar in their food. Most of their food is fresh. The food is so, so, so yummy. The meat is so flavorful.

There are choices for everyone. A lot of people love Whole Foods. The store is big. It has a lot of food. They have a kids club. They have a lot of checkout counters. Everyone should go to Whole Foods. The food is healthy. I love Whole Foods!

### Zaddock Jean-Louis

I think that Ms. Katie should get more Legos. Legos are very fun. Legos are creative. A lot of people play with Legos and Ms. Katie should buy more.

Legos are creative. You can make a lot of things with Legos. There are a lot of shapes and colors. You can make whatever you want.

Legos are very fun. You can grab a big pile and make something. You can play alone or with a friend. There are a lot of kits to build things.

A lot of people play Legos. People ages 4-85 can use Legos. Boys, girls, men, and women can all use Legos.

I think that Ms. Katie should get more Legos. Legos are good for your imagination. I think Legos are a great way for me to calm down when I am upset.

### Kody Palmer

We should have a Legos party in the classroom. You can use your imagination. You can build lots of cool stuff with your friends. Legos are fun for everyone. A Lego party in the classroom is a good idea.

### Gavan Walker

I think that Ms. Katie should get a dog! She does not have one. Dogs are very cute. It would like to play with her. Ms. Katie should get a dog!

She does not have one. She likes dogs. I know this because she has a picture of a dog on the classroom wall. Ms. Katie already has two pets so I know she likes animals.

Ms. Katie should get a dog because they are very cute. Dogs have the cutest faces. It's cute that they like to cuddle. It's cute when dogs are little puppies.

This dog would like to play with her. They could get along with the cats. When she is bored it could play with her.

Ms. Katie should get a dog. DOGS ARE VERY CUTE! I love dogs and I think Ms. Katie would like them too.

## VACANCIES: PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING!

Are you looking for a way to get involved in town? If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering and filling any of the vacancies below, call the Board of Selectmen's Office (413) 253-7129 or contact the Board/ Committees respective chair by phone or email listed online at <https://www.townofpelham.org/boards>.

- **Board of Registrars**, 1 member vacancy, Chair, Sharrie Reydak
- **Cable Advisory Board**, 1 associate member vacancy
- **Community Hall Committee**, 2 member vacancies, Chair, Linda Hanscom
- **Conservation Commission**, 2 member vacancies, Chair, Dana MacDonald
- **Council On Aging**, 2 member vacancies, 2 associate member vacancies, Chair, Kathy Martell
- **Energy Committee**, 2 member vacancies, Co-Chairs, Tony Rogers & John Larson
- **Historical Commission**, 2 member vacancies, Chair, Karl Martini
- **Personnel Board**, 5 member vacancies, No members currently
- **Recreation Commission**, 5 member vacancies, No members currently
- **Space Needs Committee**, 5 member vacancies, No members currently
- **Zoning Board of Appeals**, 1 associate member vacancy, Chair, Jeffrey Eiseman

\*The Selectboard is grateful to all members as well as other volunteers in Pelham who give their time and do so much work for the Town. Their willingness to participate is essential and does not go unnoticed. Thank you!

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## FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER INFORMATION

The Housing Committee is happy to announce the start of the Pelham First Time Homebuyer Program. At last year's October Town Meeting, voters approved Community Preservation Funds to help two first-time homebuyers cover closing and home acquisition costs. Valley Community Development Corporation will administer the program on behalf of the town.



The program will make available loans of up to \$15,000 for two income-eligible families purchasing a home in Pelham. The loans require no payment of principal or interest and will be forgiven at 1/5<sup>th</sup> per year with no repayment required after 5 years provided borrowers remain in compliance with the terms of the Note. To be eligible for the First Time Homebuyer Program, applicants cannot have owned a home within the last 3 years and household income cannot be above the following guidelines:

### Household Size/Income Limit

|                        |                        |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Person.... \$51,730  | 2 Persons.... \$59,120 | 3 Persons.... \$66,510 | 4 Persons.... \$73,900 |
| 5 Persons.... \$79,812 | 6 Persons.... \$85,724 | 7 Persons.... \$91,636 | 8 Persons.... \$97,548 |

For information and application:

Valley Community Development Corporation  
Donna Cabana, (413) 586-5855, ext. 180 OR [dc@valleycdc.com](mailto:dc@valleycdc.com)

Applications will also be available at the Pelham Library.

Pelham Housing Committee,

Tilman Lukas, Chair, Gail Kenny, Barbara Cooper, Jim Lumley, Ruth Elcan, Amy Spaulding-Fecher



## Town Office Schedules & Phone Numbers

**Assessor's  
Office,**  
Lori Turati  
(413) 253-0734  
Tues & Thurs  
8am-12pm

**Collector/  
Treasurer**  
June Massee  
(413) 253-2267  
Mon-Thurs  
8am-4pm

**Selectboard  
Office**  
Admin.Assistant,  
Susannah Carey  
(413) 253-7129  
Mon-Thurs  
9am-3pm

**Town Clerk**  
Kathy Martell  
(413) 253-0512  
Mon,Wed,Fri  
10:30am-  
1:30pm

## STAY INFORMED!

Go to [TownofPelham.org](http://TownofPelham.org) and click on the **CodeRed** icon to be notified by your local emergency response team in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts. Examples include: evacuation notices, missing child reports, bio-terrorism alerts, boil water notices, and missing child reports.



You can also sign up online at [pelhampolicema.com](http://pelhampolicema.com).

## MEETING SCHEDULES

### REGULAR

#### **Board of Assessors**

3rd Tuesday 7:30 PM  
Rhodes Building, 351 Amherst Rd

#### **Board of Health**

2nd Tuesday 7:00 PM  
Rhodes Building, 351 Amherst Rd

#### **Board of Selectmen**

1st and 3rd Wednesdays 6:00 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

#### **Cemetery Commission**

2nd Tuesday 7:30 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

#### **Conservation Commission**

2nd and last Thursdays 7:00 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

#### **Community Preservation Committee**

3rd Thursdays 7:00 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

#### **Council on Aging**

2nd Wednesday 3:00 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

#### **Energy Committee**

1st Tuesdays & as needed 7:30 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Road

#### **Historical Commission**

3rd Tuesdays 7:30 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Please note that these are only anticipated meeting times and locations:

By law, definitive meeting information is posted 48 hours in advance 24/7 on the [TownofPelham.org](http://TownofPelham.org) website.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Due to accessibility concerns, meetings not reliant on records are not currently held at the Rhodes Building until further notice.

#### **Library Trustees**

3rd Wednesdays at 7:30 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Road

#### **School Committee**

1st Wednesday 6:00PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

#### **Planning Board**

2nd Mondays at 7:00 PM  
Library, 2 South Valley Rd

Public Bodies that also meet as needed:

- Cable Committee
- Capital Planning Committee
- Community Garden Committee
- Community Hall Committee
- Community Hall Accessibility Committee
- Cultural Council
- Finance Committee
- Housing Committee
- IT Committee
- Regional School District Planning Committee
- Zoning Board of Appeals

Town of Pelham  
Rhodes Building  
351 Amherst Road  
Pelham, MA 01002

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# THE PELHAM SLATE

Summer Edition 2019

## WHATS INSIDE:

- ◆ Improvements at Community Hall & Rhodes Building
- ◆ Tax Payment Reminder: Due August 1, 2019
- ◆ Planning Board New Member Spotlight
- ◆ Elementary School Report & Paw Prints Newsletter
- ◆ Housing: First-Time Homebuyer Information