Welcome to the Pulteney Grapevine, a newsletter about services and happenings in Pulteney. This newsletter is compiled and distributed by the Pulteney Free Library to help spread information throughout the community. The Pulteney Grapevine community newsletter is made possible through funding from Steuben Senior Services Fund, the Town of Pulteney, the Pulteney Presbyterian Church, and the Pulteney Fire Department.

PULTENEY FIREMEN’S AUXILIARY

Wanted: Volunteers!
Pulteney Firemen's Auxiliary is now accepting applications for membership. We are looking for all kinds of folks: women and men 18 & older who have 2-3 hours a month to spend supporting the Pulteney Fire Department and giving back to the community. Please join us for camaraderie, laughter and fun with a purpose. We also have opportunities for youth in need of volunteer hours to assist us with some of our special events. If you enjoy being part of a team, organizing, decorating, working with children, helping with food, have a sense of humor, have good ideas, are reliable, and can attend a monthly meeting and special events 3-4 times a year please contact Rita 868-4393 or Lori 868-3702 to learn more about us.

Pictures from Breakfast with Santa.
New at the Library is our Teddy Bear Club Story Hour for young children on Thursday mornings at 10:30. Follow the bear prints and join Jessica Cornell, our new assistant, for an hour of stories, music, and lots of fun.

Art Time has moved from Friday nights to the first and third Saturday at 10:00. All ages are welcome to come and create. The Library has drawing and painting supplies or you can bring your own.

The Library Trustees want to thank everyone for the very positive response we’ve had to fundraising for the new building. We still have options available for sponsoring areas in the new Library. Naming part of the Library after someone is a wonderful way to honor them. We also welcome any ideas on creative ways for us to raise money for the building.

Coming out soon will be the Pulteney Free Library Cookbook. This cookbook is full of recipes from community members and visitors. Cookbooks will be on sale at the Library and other places locally. All proceeds will go towards the new building.

Volunteers are needed for both the Fire Department and Ambulance Corps. If you are interested contact 868-3003 or info@pulteneyfire.com. These organizations depend on volunteers to ensure the safety of our community.

Are you aware that the Pulteney Fire Department can provide assistance during power outages for those on oxygen? Just call 911 if you need help.

The Ambulance Corps recommends having a File of Life or a list of medications and any out-of-hospital directives (DNR, MOLST, etc.) easily found during an emergency. The best place is your refrigerator.

Are you an oxygen dependent citizen? We can help with oxygen delivery and portable generators for your oxygen machines during power outages. If you find yourself in one of these situations and need assistance we ask that you call the firehouse at 607-868-3003. If there is no answer we ask that you dial 911 and tell the dispatcher exactly what your need is and that you need the fire department’s assistance. The dispatcher will then contact us.

The Pulteney Lunch Bunch gathers on Mondays at 11:30 am at the Presbyterian Church Fellowship Room during January through March. Come April, they will start back up on Thursdays as our “snowbirds” return.

Anyone can join, but sign up in advance at the church or call 522-5121 to make a reservation at the Pulteney site. Sixty and over the meal is $3.00. Younger folks are asked to contribute $6.00

Come and enjoy a warm healthy lunch, visit with friends and chat about the happenings in the world around us.
PULTENEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“where the vineyard is bearing fruit”

Even though winter is upon us once again, the spiritual life of the church continues to forge ahead. Each Sunday brings us familiar faces of pastors from the Presbytery of Geneva to the pulpit, each bringing their own special spiritual message and talents. The church is looking at how we can go into the future and remain “the little church overlooking Keuka Lake”

Although we are small, we show our faith in several ways. Each month we collect items for the Prattsburgh Food Pantry. Everyday staples like canned vegetables and fruits, soups, pasta and sauce, crackers, breakfast foods, cake and cookie mixes, baking supplies, pudding, jello, and fruit snack packs along with school supplies help to stock their shelves.

Noisy Cans occurs every second Sunday of the month. Loose change, hence “noisy”, is collected and these monies are used within the Presbytery of Geneva and local food pantries to help fight hunger close at home.

The Prayer Shawl group meets Monday at 10 o'clock in the fellowship room. Thus far they have made around 80 shawls which are given to folks both in the church and community who are in need of warm spiritual comfort. Experienced or not, come and join them. Questions, contact Harriette Potter at 315-536-6792.

Once again our small church participated in the Crop Walk, a part of Church World services in October and seven members raised $1,146.

Holiday time at the church begins in November with Operation Christmas Child and this year the church packed thirty-one shoeboxes. The Presbyterian Women's group had their annual gathering in early December. Instead of a gift exchange we all brought personal items to be given to shelter for domestic violence for women. The Advent season ended with a Christmas Eve Candlelight of readings and hymns.

The pride of the church is our 1897 Frank Beman pipe organ. We hope that in 2018 we can begin some restorative work to help preserve the organ so that our Sunday music will be ring throughout the church.

Join us for church and Sunday School at 9:15 am and then stay for coffee hour and fellowship.

Pulteney Presbyterian Church

GRACE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

We have recently added a handicap accessible ramp to our church building to help those who have difficulty with steps.

We are currently studying the four gospels at our Wednesday night Bible study, focusing on the supernatural aspects of Christ's inauguration of the kingdom of God and the resulting spiritual warfare.

We will be replacing the church roof as soon as the weather permits, thanks to a gracious gift from some dear friends.

We continue to support the ministries of Ravi Zacharias, Voice of The Martyrs, Care Net, and Operation Christmas Child, as well as local needs through our missions offerings.
Greetings from Your Town Supervisor Mark Illig,

Best wishes to all of the Town Residents from myself, the Town Board, and the employees of our great little Town!

We are starting 2018 and I wanted to bring you up to date on a few things regarding your Town Government.

**Highway Department:**

After careful consideration and much debate, the Town Board has included in the 2018 budget to add another employee to the Highway Department. This new employee will start on June 1st. For the past several years we have operated the Highway Department with a staff of three along with our Highway Superintendent, Terry Gibson. We have a great crew but decided that for a program to maintain and improve our roads we needed this additional person. Also, later this winter we will take delivery of a new dump truck. This will complete our five-year plan to replace aging equipment. We now have the equipment we need—the older the piece of equipment the more shop time required to keep it running and the less time our crew can be out working on the roads. With our new crew member and our equipment in good shape we can concentrate on the never-ending road work for our 37 miles of Town road.

If you have concerns about any road issue please contact either myself or Terry Gibson.

**Water Department:**

At the end of 2017 our Water Department now has 379 customers hooked up to the system. As the number of customers continue to grow we have been able to reduce the water rate from a high of $132.00 to our 2018 rate of $105.00. With new construction and residents in Town, we will soon reach our goal of 400 customers for the system. That level will help us maintain our water rates per quarter at the most affordable rates.

**Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals:**

We have two very important committees within the Town that work to maintain our quality of life in Pulteney. The Planning Board, chaired by Terry Gibson, is charged with creating and updating the zoning laws in our town. This task is ongoing as new issues come up from time to time. For example, in 2017 the Planning Board developed a policy and procedure for solar power installation. This committee also reviews applications for new businesses, sub divisions of existing parcels of property, and many issues that need review and direction.

The Zoning Board of Appeals is chaired by Larry Fischer. This group reviews all building applications that may not conform to our zoning laws. If a resident has a proposed project that does not meet zoning laws (i.e. set back from the road, large enough lot for the project) we first contact the contiguous neighbors and conduct a public hearing to review the issue. The ZBA then renders a decision based on all input concerning the issue. There are times when the Planning Board and/or Zoning Board of Appeals must render a decision that is not agreed upon by all neighbors in the affected project area. This to me is the most difficult part of local government when we are required to decide on a project where there is not agreement among neighbors. I attend many of these meetings and our groups do a great job and we thank them for their service to Pulteney.
STEUBEN COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE AGING
HOME REPAIR AND ACCESS GRANTS

Several housing rehabilitation agencies provide funding for Steuben County residents for necessary home improvements for energy efficiency, health, safety and improved access. Eligibility varies by program and is based on income, resources, length of residency, type of dwelling, and location. Sometimes there is an applicant waiting list due to high demand for these funds, and fund availability in the grant cycle. Examples of projects include; ramps, replacement windows, wells, septic systems, electric service, roofing, door widening, and walk-in showers. Please call the Steuben County Office for the Aging for further information at 607-664-2298.

UTILITY AND FUEL ASSISTANCE

If you are facing a discontinuation of natural gas or electric service due to an inability to pay your utility bill, or if you are not able to afford your next deliverable fuel supply (such as propane, oil, coal, wood), please call the Steuben County Office for the Aging at 607-664-2298 to learn of available assistance.

PULTENEY COMMUNITY GARDEN

Winter is here and the garden has been put to bed. But spring will be here before you know it! The first meeting for the garden will be held at the Town Hall on April 10th at 6:00 PM and every 2nd Tuesday of the month through October. All community members are welcome to participate. We will be planning the completion of the pavilion as well as the cleaning of beds and planting.

Special thanks to Krooked Tusker Distillery for their generous monetary gift for the community garden. It is truly appreciated. And we have an interested Eagle Scout candidate that is interested in building picnic tables for the pavilion. The community spirit is much appreciated!

BONE BUILDERS EXERCISE PROGRAM

Sponsored by: Pro-Action of Steuben & Yates County

**This Program has been available in Pulteney since 2007**

Men & women age 50 or older are invited to join us at the Pulteney Fire Hall, Mondays & Wednesdays at 9am for this FREE program.

Remember to dress in loose fitting clothes & sneakers or comfortable shoes with rubber soles & bring the following: Bottle of Water & Bath towel or small pillow.

Once you have a doctors clearance, you will be able to use weights. It takes approximately 1 to 1 ½ hours out of your morning, but is worthwhile. Any questions call 607-868-4008.
CALENDAR:
March 3 & 17, April 7 & 21 -7:00 pm - Pulteney Free Library Art Time
March 8, April 12 - 7:00 -Pulteney Free Library Food for Thought Book Club
March 17, April 21 -Pulteney Free Library Crocheting Group
April 10—6:00 pm -Pulteney Community Garden Meeting at the Town Hall
May 5 -Pulteney Free Library Dinner -Pulteney Fire Hall
Bone Builders -Mondays & Wednesdays - 9:00 am -Pulteney Fire Department
Pulteney Free Library Story Hour -9:30 am -Saturdays
Senior Lunch -Mondays & Thursdays -11:00 am -Pulteney Presbyterian Church

NEWSLETTER SPONSORS:
• Pulteney Free Library
• A grant to the Steuben Senior Services Fund (SSSF) from Keuka Area Fund of the Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes.
• The Town of Pulteney
• First Presbyterian Church of Pulteney
• Pulteney Fire Department