



ENCHANTED FOREST: WHO'S AROUND UNDERGROUND, A NONSCARY HALLOWEEN EVENT
Friday, October 15 & Saturday, October 16, 5-8:30pm. The pumpkin-lit trails at the **Hitchcock Center** will come alive with characters from underground! Adults and children of all ages will enjoy this magical guided walk. Walks leave every 15 minutes and last 45 minutes. Enjoy crafts, games and snacks for sale. Pre-registration required. Register early as this event fills fast. Call 413-256-6006.



We have been together now for a month, and consequently we are seeing an increase in colds, sore throats and stomach viruses. Looking ahead to the flu season, I would like to encourage two simple and very effective health practices. The first is drinking more water. I know that keeping children, especially sick children, adequately hydrated is a challenge for all parents. At school I find that children who bring their own water bottle from home tend to drink more water. I would like to encourage students to get into the habit of bringing a reusable water bottle **LABELED WITH THEIR NAME** to school every day.

The second practice is good hand washing – another parental challenge! Encourage your children at a minimum to wash their hands before meals, before and after handling food and after using the bathroom. I have heard so many hysterical excuses and observed poor technique that I frequently have students demonstrate their hand washing when they visit the health room. I often tell the students to look at their hands and wiggle their fingers. These are ten sources of infection. Please keep reinforcing good hand washing at home, and we will do the same at school..

Thanks, Paula Russell RN

Hello everyone,

This is my first Pelham Press of the year and I am happy to welcome everyone back so school, (if not belatedly) and report that our school year is going quite well so far. Since I am the “feelings teacher”, that is the perspective I am coming from in my reporting.

We have had two assemblies so far, with the second one including the traditional circling around the gym of the entire school. We were lucky enough to have Mrs. Desjarlais music accompanying us. We walked around the gym to the Macarena and YMCA !! It has also been fun for all of us, staff included, to welcome our new principal to Pelham School.

One of the biggest projects for me this year is integrating the new bullying law into our school plan. I have been to two conferences thus far regarding the implications of this new law on our community. Even though, Pelham School is far ahead of many others, there are additional systems we need to put into place. We are lucky to have had access and use of the states recommended bullying and teasing curriculum for eleven years. Rena Moore applied for a grant to provide a full community bullying/teasing program in 1999. Therefore, the prevention part (in class education) of this new law has been part of our school for eleven years.

However, the new law holds all school personnel to a higher standard and increases schools’ reporting and investigative responsibilities. Pelham school will continue to create an environment where all people are welcomed, supported and feel safe in school: socially, emotionally, intellectually and physically. We will continue to provide a school climate that foster’s children’s development, learning and achievement. By 12/31/10, we will update a school plan that will have clear procedures for reporting and investigating bullying and/or harassment. Mrs. Desjarlais has already formulated a draft of a bullying/harassment complaint form that will assist everyone (staff and children) with reporting a bullying incident. There will then be an investigation carried out by the principal. We will keep the school community aware of the procedures involved with this law.

As many of you know, I visit most of the classes in the school weekly. We have been having wonderful conversations so far this year regarding different social situations and feelings. We have been using the Second Step Curriculum, The Steps to Respect curriculum and the Bully Proof Curriculum. There have been lively conversations

Getting back “into the swing” of fall and the return to school, can sometimes offer a challenge for all of us. Getting up at a certain time and adhering to a new schedule can invite some morning mayhem. Unfortunately, the negative feelings from the morning can linger through the day. If the morning experience begins the night before, this can sometimes lead to less nagging and cajoling in the morning. Taking time before bed to preview the next day and preparing for it will not only save time in the morning, but also help things go more smoothly. This preparation can also become a comforting night time ritual. It will all set a nice tone for the day.

I will be writing occasional pieces for the Pelham Press. I would appreciate any feedback or thoughts you may have regarding my piece. I look forward to working with all of the Pelham families. I feel so lucky each day.

Thanks, Deb King

Thanks to entire Pelham School Community for making the 2010 **Book Fair** a huge success!



The Pelham PTO thanks everyone who stopped by to shop at the Book Fair last week. The proceeds from the Fair will allow the **Pelham School Library** to purchase almost **\$2,000** in books and supplies. This is an incredibly important contribution as the School Library budget gets tighter and tighter.

And thank you to all the families who purchased gifts for Pelham teachers from the **Teacher Wish Lists**. Your gifts have put many new books into the Pelham School classrooms.

Special thanks to the parents and students who volunteered their time to organize, set-up, staff and pack-up the Book Fair, including:

Ruth Carolan, Leif Corp, Diane Curtis, Sarah Frenette, Elaine Fronhofer, Chris Gould, Bridgette Hasbrouck, Jamie Leuchs-Curtis, Maryann Lombardi, Kristin Mattocks, Alicyn Mindel, Barry Parker, Sarah Rogowski, and Elise Stromgren.

We also received invaluable help from four great UMass students.

And particular appreciation to **Lisa Desjarlais, George Graiff, Janet Scott, and Lennie Ware** for all of their help, as well as all the teachers and staff for their patience and help making the Fair a success.

On behalf of the Pelham PTO,
-Ellen Leuchs

SEPAC Mission

SEPAC is to work towards the understanding, respect, support, and appropriate education for all children with special needs in our community. As a means to accomplish its mission, the Amherst-Pelham Special Education Parent Advisory Council SEPAC will:

- Promote and support an innovative educational environment where children with disabilities have equal access to all educational opportunities and a school and community environment where all children are encouraged to reach their full potential.
- Promote a network for parents of children with disabilities and provide a forum to share information and discuss matters of relative interest and concern regarding our children.
- Promote communication and programs within the community to encourage understanding, respect, acceptance and inclusion of children with disabilities.
- Collaborate with the school community, School Committee, as well as the community at large, to continually improve the educational opportunities available, within and without our schools, that promote improved outcomes for children with disabilities.
- Provide advocacy to families regarding systemic issues/concerns and empower families to be self advocates and become knowledgeable about special education laws, regulations and parental rights.

SEPAC

**ARPS Special Education
Parent Advisory Council**

**Who are we?
and
What do we do?**



www.arps-sepac.info

Childcare for Early Release Days

Childcare for the two early release days, Oct. 28 and Nov. 2, is available from the end of school at 1:20 until 3:00 P.M. The cost for this session is \$6 per child per day. There is a discount for siblings and for families that qualify for free or reduced lunch.

There is also a 30-minute childcare option for students while their parents are in a conference. This cost is \$2.00 per child, and parents or guardians must be in the building. Sorry, preschoolers cannot be accommodated.

Space is limited for both programs and pre-registration is required. Please contact Lennie Ware (265-3766) to register. *(Please note: the After School Program will start at its regular 3:05 P.M. time on both days.)*

2010

MULTIBAND
POPS

→ *Got Pops?*
We do!

36th Annual Multiband Pops

Great Fun, Great Entertainment with our Minuteman Marching Band, Dance, Jazz, Vocal, Wind, Percussion, Choral & Orchestral Music Ensembles!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

Homecoming Weekend
8pm • Fine Arts Center Concert Hall

Jeffrey W. Holmes, producer

~~UMass Lowell~~ Department of Music & Dance

College of Humanities & Fine Arts

Tickets: 413-545-2511 or www.umassfix.com

The title "HARVEST NIGHT" is centered in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. It is surrounded by several stylized orange maple leaves of varying sizes, arranged in a circular pattern around the text.

HARVEST NIGHT

5TH – 6TH GRADE FUNDRAISER

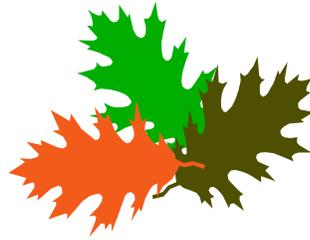
PROCEEDS TO FUND 6TH GRADE TRIP TO NATURE'S CLASSROOM
SCHOOL CAFATERIA

OCTOBER 22, 2010

6:30 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

- COME CARVE YOUR HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN
(BRING YOUR OWN PUMPKIN AND CARVING TOOLS)
- ENJOY FALL DESSERTS (PUMPKIN PIE, APPLE CRISP AND CIDER)
 - 50/50 RAFFLE (GUESS THE WEIGHT OF THE PUMPKIN)

THERE WILL BE PUMPKINS FOR SALE



Saving Makes “Cents”

We hope you had a great summer. Florence Savings Bank and the Pelham Elementary School are starting the school banking program once again.

Saving Makes Cents “Bank Day”

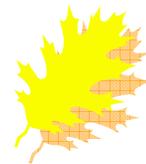
Pelham Elementary School

Every Wednesday

By the gym - between 8:15 – 8:45 a.m.



If you did not participate in the school banking program last year, ask a volunteer on “Bank Day” for the information packet needed to open an account.



If you already have a Savings Makes “Cents” account you may start banking any Wednesday.

Again, welcome back. We’re looking forward to another great year!

Pelham Town Events Page



HARVEST SUPPER AT HISTORIC TOWN HALL IN PELHAM

The Pelham Historical Society will hold its traditional New England boiled dinner and pie auction on Saturday, October 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the historic Town Hall on the corner of Amherst Road and Route 202. For his twentieth year, Senator Stan Rosenberg will conduct the pie auction. As space is limited, reservations should be made soon with Elva Anderson (252-3970) or Doris Holden (253-5993). Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children under ten.

PELHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO VISIT LEVERETT

On Saturday, October 16, members and friends of the Pelham Historical Society will leave from the Pelham Library parking lot at 12:30 p.m. to learn about Leverett. They will meet historian Dan Bennett at the Co-op in Moore's Corner for coffee and pastry, go across the way to the old school house, which is the historical society's museum, then drive to a sawmill undergoing restoration and to the Leverett Family Museum to meet with curator Edith Field.

The group expects to return to Pelham about 3:30 p.m. For more information and to sign up, call Barbara Jenkins by October 14 at 253-2929.

Doris Holden Publicity Chair

Pelham School Council

I am currently home with my three boys: Quinn, in 1st grade, Emil, at the Amherst Preschool at Crocker Farm, and Desmond, 14 months. I also work part time as a knitting teacher at WEBS.

Before our children were born I was a primary teacher and a Literacy Coordinator. I was fortunate to love my job as a teacher. I am just as fortunate to love working at home with our young children but I do look forward to teaching again when my youngest is old enough. In the meantime I am eager to help out in my community and hope to be able to contribute to the Pelham School Council.

Annie Foley



School Council
Sarah Frenette

I am happy to extend an offer to serve on the Pelham Elementary School Council. I have always been passionate about schools and schooling and am thrilled that our children have the opportunity to learn at The Pelham Elementary School. My sons are in kindergarten and second grade.

We literally jumped for joy the day our oldest was accepted as a school choice student. It has been our pleasure to become members of such a fine learning community. We value the social and academic learning opportunities that are offered to our children and have enjoyed playing an active role in their school experience.

I currently serve as the coordinator of teacher licensure at Mount Holyoke, Hampshire and Amherst Colleges. In this role, I visit local classrooms and talk with teachers and administrators weekly. I also have the pleasure of teaching methods courses to students that aspire to teach in early childhood and elementary classrooms. Prior to this position, I was a student teaching supervisor for the Smith College Department of Education and Child Study. I have also taught in public school kindergarten, first, second and third grade classrooms.

I am confident that my personal and professional history has prepared me to contribute to the process of school based decision making regarding the budgetary process, School Improvement Plan, and other decisions related to school vision and educational goals.

School Council Selection Form

Please select one of the following candidates to represent the parent community of Pelham School, and return this form to the office. Each candidate has written a brief paragraph in the preceding pages about themselves. Thank you for your participation in this process!

_____ **Annie Foley**

_____ **Sarah Frenette**