



Town of Jewett Newsletter

Spring 2008

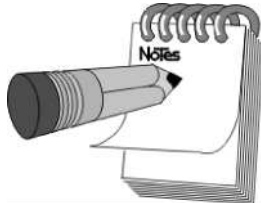
Greene County, New York

Website: <http://www.townofjewett.com>

Tax Assessor's Corner

Nancy Bower

There are several mailings going on that I thought were important enough to bring to everyone's attention.



There is a mailing currently going out to property owners that urges you to get a certified copy of your deed. It looks quite official, and the company charges \$59.50 for this service.

Usually, certified copies are only required for court proceedings. If you purchased your house within the last 10 years, chances are very good that I have a copy of your deed in my office, which I would be happy to copy for you at .25 cents per page. You can also get a copy of your deed in Catskill at the County Clerk's Office on 411 Main Street (new building) for .25 cents per page if you go in and make the copy, and have the copy certified for \$5.00; OR you can mail a request to the County Clerk with a stamped return envelope, and they will copy the deed for you for \$1.00 per page and mail it back to you.

Also being mailed out is a notice from the IRS about the Economic Stimulus Payment Act of 2008. This notice contains information about the one time payments to households of up to \$600 per person, including children. The payment is reduced or phased out if your adjusted gross income is more than \$75,000 per person.

What is important to some of our Jewett citizens is that **if you normally do not have to file a tax**

return, the new law provides for payments to individuals who have a total of \$3,000 or more in earned income, Social Security benefits, and/or certain veterans' payments. **To qualify, you must have filed a tax return for 2007 no later than April 15th, 2008.**

As almost everyone is aware, the real estate market has changed over the past year to a more stagnant state. Although still in negotiation, our equalization rate, determined by New York State, will show a very modest change in what the state calls "Market Value". For clarification, your tax rate is applied to your assessed value, not your equalized market value. Jewett is not being re-assessed in 2008, so your assessment will remain the same in '08 unless you have done a physical change to your property such as subdivision, assemblage, construction or renovation, etc.

Town of Jewett Website

Maps and information of your property are now available online from Greene County Government. If you'd like to have instant access to tax map data, aerial views and assessment information, www.townofjewett.com and click on **Greene County GIS Web Map** at <http://gis.greenegovernment.com/giswebmap/>

Also available on the Town's website are board minutes, forms, applications, local laws, phone numbers and the latest information on Jewett.

Greene County Solid Waste Transfer Station

Household Garbage: Windham and Hunter Station
hours: Mon., Tues, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 7:30-3:30. Sunday 8:00-3:30. For more specific information visit <http://www.greenegovernment.com/department/solidwaste/index.htm>

This newsletter is also available online.

Helpful Tips When Going Before the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Appeals

If you have plans to go before the Town Planning Board or Zoning Board of Appeals, check out the Town's website for helpful information at <http://www.townofjewett.com/forms.htm>. Click on the *Building and Zoning Permits Information Checklist for Applicants*.

Information included on this checklist are items you should bring with you to the meeting, how to prepare for your appearance and also included is a rundown of what to expect from the entire process.

The Checklist can also be picked up at the Jewett Town Building.

East Jewett Fire Company Celebrates 50th Birthday with Open House

Everyone Welcome!

When: Sunday, July 6, 2008

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Where: East Jewett Firehouse
County Route 23C and Colgate Road

Come enjoy food, refreshments and good company. Help celebrate 50 years.

~Also~

**Town of Jewett Volunteer
Appreciation Day**

~ ~

Highway Employees Form Laborers Union

Town of Jewett Highway Employees are in the process of forming a union. Negotiations will be ongoing throughout 2008 until completion.

Interesting Places to Visit and Things to Do



Festivals and Events in NY

<http://festivalandevents.com/festival.php?state=NY>

NYS Canals

<http://www.nyscanals.gov/exvac/calendar/index.html>

Arts, History, Nature, Culinary Finds in Columbia & Greene County

<http://www.greenetourism.com>

Online Travel Guide for Upstate New York

<http://www.roundthebend.com>

NY Art & Craft Shows, Craft Fairs & Festivals

<http://www.smartfrogs.com/ny.html>

Uncork NY - Discover NY Wine Country

<http://www.newyorkwines.org>

New York State Cheesemakers

<http://www.nyfarmcheese.org>

Visit Catskills Region

www.visitthecatskills.com

Hudson Valley Region

www.travelhudsonvalley.org

Jewett Food Pantry Serves the Mountaintop Community

The Jewett Food Pantry was established in 1993 to meet the needs of the towns of the Mountaintop of Greene County. People receive enough food for three meals for six days, and this is due to the Food Pantry joining the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York in Latham.

Monies are awarded based on their grant application for Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistant Program, Operation Support Program, FEMA through Greene County Community Action and through generous donations by organizations and individuals. Need is based on income and number of individuals in a family, or having a social services benefit card or wage statement.

The pantry is located at the Jewett Presbyterian Church in Jewett, at the back entrance. Hours are on Sundays from 12:00-2:30.

For further information please contact Jeanne Soule at 518-734-4473.

**** For the latest on Jewett news visit the Town's website at www.townofjewett.com ****



Town of Jewett Historical Society

Gerry Loucks of East Jewett is one of the people instrumental in creating a new historical society on the mountain top, specifically a Jewett Historical Society. He has been in contact with the State Education Department and the department of New York State Museum, and has researched the steps to obtain a provisional charter. The charter falls under the direction of the State Education Department since an historical society is considered educational. Currently, bylaws and a constitution are being drafted by Gerry.

Gerry explained the next step is to hold a general meeting to gauge the level of interest in the historical society's creation. At the first meeting it will be necessary to set up a slate of officers and also to get approval on the draft of the proposed constitution and bylaws.

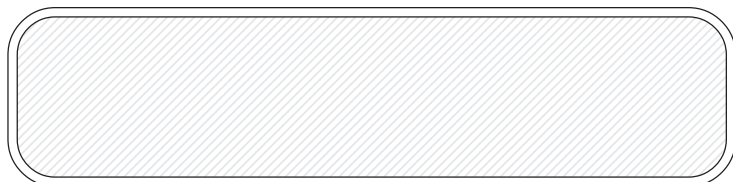
Gerry plans to place a notice in the local newspapers regarding the meeting, and is hopeful that word-of-mouth, like in the old days, will also generate interest and bring people to the meeting.

Anyone who has lived in Jewett for at least a few years knows Gerry from the wonderful slide shows he has presented at the East Jewett firehouse. Gerry is also a collector of memorabilia from years past and would like to see his collection enjoyed as part of an historical society. Gerry feels Jewett's history has always focused on the people of the area, and there are -- and have been, a lot of talented people throughout the years, in this town.

Anyone interested is welcome to attend and join in the formation of this new historical society, whether you live in the area full time, are a weekender or have past ties to the area. All comments, suggestions and support are welcome.

The first meeting will be Saturday, May 17th, 7 p.m., at the Jewett Town Building, County Route 23C and State Route 296.

For further information please contact Gerry Loucks at 518-589-5965.



P.E.T. International Update

Continuing with their mission to build and distribute Personal Energy Transportation vehicles to those with the greatest need and least resources, P.E.T. New York-East Jewett, Inc., shipped out its first 35 vehicles in November of 2007.

The 70 P.E.T.'s that are currently being built are destined for Sierra Leone, primarily for land mine victims -- and will be delivered under the sponsorship of Mercy Ships. Following this, they will work on a long-term commitment to supply Mexico with P.E.T.s, with many of these going to patients who have lost lower extremities to diabetes.

The group hopes to make about 100 P.E.T.s this year and welcomes material, volunteers and monetary donations. Each P.E.T. costs \$250 to build.

For further information please contact Don Muth at 518-734-3908 or Robert Lawrence at 518-263-4887. Website: www.petnyej.org

Jewett and East Jewett Fire Companies Seeking New Members

The two fire companies of Jewett are seeking active volunteers to add to their ranks. Training is provided. To contact East Jewett Fire please call Fire Chief Francis Benjamin at 518-589-5806 or Jeff Loucks at 518-589-6238, and for Jewett Fire, contact Clarence Soule at 518-734-4473.

Steven Jacobs Appointed to the Planning Board

Steven Jacobs has been appointed to the Jewett Planning Board seat vacated by J.R. Quackenbush. Steve has been a mountain top resident his entire life and lives with his wife in East Jewett.