



WHEELOCK NEWS

Wheelock Community Initiative on the Web: <https://wheelockcmty.org/> and on Facebook!

Email: wheelockcmty@gmail.com Phone: 802-626-3109, leave message



Meeting notices are on the Town Hall message boards and online <https://townofwheelockvt.org/>

You can join **regular Selectboard meetings** by phone or computer. On the Town website click on the **“Government”** drop down, then **“Agenda & Minutes”**

The agenda document for each meeting lists **unique** phone numbers, Zoom links, meeting IDs, passcodes

SELECTBOARD

2025 BUDGET MEETINGS

- **Tuesdays 11/26 and 12/10**
6:00 pm
Wheelock Town Hall

VILLAGE STORE REOPENS UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

- **Sunday December 1**

HOLIDAY FOOD/TOY DRIVE

Donations Collected at Wheelock Town Hall

- **Tues. Dec. 3 8:30-3:00**
- **Wed. Dec. 4 10:30-5:30**
- **Thurs. Dec. 5 8:30 -3:00**
(See page 2 for details)

SHEFFIELD FOOD PANTRY Sheffield Town Hall

Also serves Wheelock residents

- **Wed. Dec. 11 11:30-1:00**
Holiday schedule, one day only
Please bring your own boxes/bags

WHEELOCK COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

- **Thursday Dec. 12 2:30 PM**
Meets in person at Town Hall
All are welcome!

Selectboard News and Notes

The steady stretch of mild, dry weather has provided a great opportunity to finish many town road projects before the snow flies.

FEMA funding of **\$93,845** for the summer **2023 flood** damage has all been received. The administrative portion -\$6,000 is still to come. In welcome news, the rate of reimbursement will be 90%, rather than 75%; the additional 15% is expected.

The request process for **2024 expenses for the July 10 floods** is ongoing; that reimbursement rate will also be at the 90% rate. At Town Hall drywall was removed, as was the silt on the town green, and the parking lot has been graded.

The town crew is down to one staff person (interviews are in progress). Several contractors were key to completing the many road projects: **Damon Smith, Lawrence Riendeau, Kevin Riendeau, Garrett McHarg, and Kyle Foster.** They were assisted by **Nate Bartlett,** who agreed to their vehicles parking on his property overnight.

The new town truck is still a work in progress. It will not be ready in the anticipated timeframe because the dealer is unable to get some parts.

An extra-special thank you to **Marc Brown,** who has served Wheelock residents as our Emergency Operations Center Director since 2002 (earlier title “Emergency Coordinator”). **Shane Lanpher,** chief/president of the Sheffield-Wheelock Fire Department, will serve as the interim director.



Village Store Under New Ownership

Starting Sunday **December 1,** the Wheelock Village Store will be re-opening with new owners, Hannah Morris and Wyatt Moreau of Danville. Hannah also operates the **Concord Station.** Plans for the Wheelock Village Store include upgrading the store and deli, improving the gas pumps, and creating apartments in the living space.



Town Clerk/Treasurer: Carol Rossi

Hours: Tues./Thurs. 8:30-3:00; Wed. 10:30-5:30
Email: wheelocktown@gmail.com **Phone** 802-626-9094
P.O. Box 1328, 1192 Route 122, Wheelock VT 05851



Selectboard:

Ann Lawless, Chair
Mike Richardson
Scott Lange

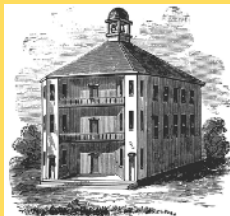
GOT HISTORY?

There's no time like the present to learn more about Wheelock's past.

Wheelock's Early Representatives

Wheelock sent its first town representative, **Col. John Bean**, to Montpelier in **1794**. Over the next 20+ years six men represented the town, rotating in and out of the position. Bean (b.1751-d.1814), served 5 years (1794-96, 1799, 1805), was the only one born in Wheelock and had nine children. He also served in the Revolutionary War at Bunker Hill.

The first Vermont Statehouse built in 1808 was designed by Sylvanus Baldwin. The third and current one on the site was designed by Thomas Silloway and completed in 1859.



Abraham Morrill

(b.1756-d.1845) served 10 years, (1797-98, 1800-04, 1806, 1808, 1812). He was prominent in Danville before moving to Wheelock where he had 11 children and also served as town clerk and justice of the peace.

There is little known about **Samuel Fellows, Jr.'s**, background (1807, 1813, 1816-17), but he also served Wheelock as an auditor (the first), selectman, deputy sheriff, moderator, and lister.

Col. Edward Fifield (b.1775-d.1836) served 1809-10 and then in the War of 1812. He married John Bean's daughter, Sarah. Bean conveyed his tavern to him, and it was renamed for Fifield.

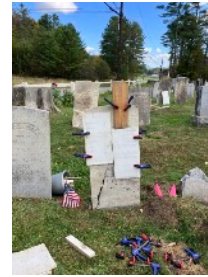
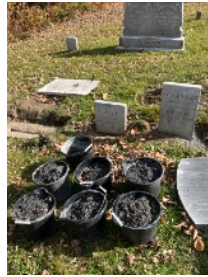
Abner Morrill (b.1769-d.1851) served 10 years (1803-04, 1813, 1816, 1818-19, 1822-23, 1825-26, 1929-30) moving from Danville to Wheelock in 1798, where he also served as highway surveyor.

Elijah Sargeant (b.1766-died unknown date, also spelled "Sargent") was the town rep in 1814. He also served as selectman (1806-08) and had eight children with Abiah Foster of Danville.

"Town of Wheelock: Vermont's Gift to Dartmouth College" by Eleanor Jones Hutchinson

Cemetery Taskforce Honors Ancestors

Since the Selectboard appointed **Liz Muckerman and Patti Baker (co-chairs)** to the Cemetery Taskforce, the town's cemeteries are much improved. Together with other town volunteers; **Wendy, David, and Hannah Tidhar; Wendy Bora;** and **Joan Alexander** (Glover resident with a camp in West Wheelock), they have completed some ambitious goals in 2024. Joan is known locally for her considerable experience and expertise with this work, so she has provided expert advice and instruction to the group.



Images left to right: Staymat prepared to reset sunken and tipped stones. Epoxy and clamps are used to repair a stone, and a hoist puts it back in place.

The Selectboard has supported some small grants that make it possible to purchase tools, equipment, and materials, for cleaning, repairing, and resetting broken/sunken ones, such as special epoxy and 'Staymat'.

Having the know-how and the right tools for the job is a plus, but the task still requires time and energy, and a willingness to get dirty.

While digging out one sunken stone they discovered a second stone buried beneath it commemorating a 12 year old boy. Patti did some research and discovered he was listed as buried in a Lyndon cemetery!

Donations of perennial flowering plants from Wheelock residents have been a huge addition to the project this summer. As the cemeteries emerge from years of neglect, the flowering plants add to the feeling of care and respect for those interred there.

An additional goal for the Taskforce in 2025 is to repaint the fence around the Village Cemetery. Volunteers of all skill levels are welcome and needed next year, whether you have a little or a lot of time to spare.

Holiday Food and Toy Drive

The Sheffield Food Pantry serves the Sheffield, Wheelock, Sutton, and Newark communities.

WCI collects donations for the pantry 3 times a year. Thanks to Wheelock residents' generosity, the Thanksgiving drive netted 12 boxes of food and \$410. Thanksgiving is later than usual this year, so the next **drive for food and toys**, is right around the corner with a short collection schedule **(Dec. 3-5)**. The Wheelock Town Hall basement is the collection site.



Financial donations are welcome too; each dollar goes far! Mail checks to: Sheffield Food Pantry, P.O. Box 36, Sheffield, VT 05866. If you are needing a meal box, contact Sara Camber saracamber68@gmail.com