PENFIELD, N.Y., AUGUST 21, 2009 – Penfield Town Councilwoman Debbie Drawe announced August 21 she is resigning her seat on the Town Board to accept an appointment to represent Penfield (District 9) in the Monroe County Legislature effective August 21. Drawe was appointed to the seat by Monroe County Legislature President Wayne Zyra to fill the vacancy of Legislator Tony LaFountain, who tendered his resignation August 19.

Ms. Drawe was elected to the Penfield Town Board in 2005. Her four-year term began in 2006 and expires Dec 31, 2009. Drawe will remain the chairperson of Penfield’s Comprehensive Plan Update Committee. The Comprehensive Plan is updated every ten years and functions as the legal foundation for all land use decisions, defines the community’s vision, provides guidelines for development, and establishes goals and objectives for the next 10 to 15 years.

As a Town Board member, Drawe served as chair of the Public Works Committee, and liaison to the Conservation and Historic Preservation Boards and the Watershed and Public Safety Committees. Throughout her term, Drawe held monthly open office hours at the Penfield Community Center to meet informally with Penfield residents to listen to concerns and share ideas. Drawe was an advocate and chairperson of the Bicycle Facilities Master Plan, a project called for in the Town’s 2007 Recreation Master Plan and funded by the Genesee Transportation Council. The project brought the community together with consultants to evaluate the town’s bike-friendliness and bicycling needs. The Bicycle
Facilities Master Plan, completed in the spring of 2009, identifies priority bicycle routes to make Penfield’s roads safer for all levels of bicyclists, commuters and children.

Ms. Drawe is regarded for her community involvement in Penfield and greater Rochester. Prior to her role as councilwoman, she served on the Penfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for six years. In addition to Town government, Drawe is a proponent of physical fitness and an active community volunteer for Missing and Exploited Children, Cystic Fibrosis and Special Olympics. She has been an active volunteer in the Penfield School District and St. Joseph’s church.

“Debbie has brought tremendous energy to the Town Board. She has always been eager to connect with residents and bring their concerns to the Board. Her office hours and work in the community made it easy for those connections to happen,” said Penfield Supervisor George C. Wiedemer. “Knowing that same energy is headed to the County on our behalf is good for Penfield.”

Councilwoman Drawe says, “I’ve raised my family in Penfield and have been honored to serve the community in elected office and as a volunteer. Tony LaFountain has represented Penfield with great attention and diligence. I will follow his example.”

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**Media Contacts**

George C. Wiedemer, Penfield Town Supervisor 585-340-8631

Phyllis Ely, Communication 585-340-8647