FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Penfield Town Board to Appoint Paula Metzler as Councilwoman

PENFIELD, N.Y., SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 – The Penfield Town Board will appoint a new Town Councilmember at its Legislative meeting, Wednesday, September 16 at 7:30 p.m., in the Penfield Town Hall Auditorium, 3100 Atlantic Avenue.

Ms. Paula Metzler will be sworn in as Penfield’s newest Town Councilwoman, filling a seat left vacant by Councilwoman Debbie Drawe, who was appointed to the Monroe County Legislature in August.

“Paula is a Penfield native who is truly invested in our community,” said Supervisor George C. Wiedemer. “Paula’s experience as an advocate, advisor, mediator, and consensus builder, along with her excellent communication skills, will add tremendous value to our Board.”

Metzler has significant legal experience and is currently employed by the New York State Office of Court Administration as Counsel to the New York Committee on Criminal Jury Instructions, a distinguished committee of judges, retired judges, court personnel and attorneys which researches and publishes the pattern criminal jury instructions used in all state, county, town, village, and city courts. She is on the faculty of the New York Judicial Institute and is a frequent lecturer to judges and attorneys on matters related to jury trials and criminal law topics.
News from Penfield, page two of two


After the birth of her daughter, Metzler resigned from her clerkship with Judge Marks and entered private practice with Evans and Fox, LLP in Brighton. Paula is a trained mediator, and is one of only 25 mediators in the United States selected to be an arbitrator for disputes involving the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. She is also called upon to mediate disputes and differences within congregations across the country, assisting churches with the goal of consensus building, problem solving and reconciliation.

“I am encouraged and humbled by the tremendous amount of bipartisan and independent voter encouragement and support I have received in seeking this position. I appreciate the willingness of the Town Board to listen to my credentials, and thank them for believing in my commitment to and vision for my hometown,” said Paula Metzler. “I look forward to using my critical thinking skills to be an effective participant on the Board as we strive to lower taxes, decrease spending, and encourage and manage smart growth, without compromising but rather improving the quality of services received by each and every resident of Penfield.”

Supervisor Wiedemer stated, “The Town Board received many applications from qualified individuals who asked to serve our community. After reviewing applications and meeting candidates, Paula emerged as the outstanding candidate because of her knowledge, communication skills, and commitment to the residents of Penfield.”

Paula Metzler is a graduate of Penfield High School (1986), the University of Rochester (1990) and Boston College Law School (1993). She will be sworn in by the Honorable Patricia D. Marks, also a Penfield resident. The Town Board meeting will be broadcast live on PCTV Cable Channel 12 and WebTV from the town website, www.penfield.org.

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