FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May is Building Safety Month
Building Safety Month – An International Celebration of Safe and Sensible Structures

PENFIELD, N.Y., APRIL 29, 2011 – When people enter a house or building, they typically assume it is properly constructed and safe. Fortunately, local safety experts work hard to assure building safety and fire prevention every day. To help raise awareness of building safety, the Town of Penfield proudly celebrates Building Safety Month this May.

The theme, “An International Celebration of Safe and Sensible Structures,” highlights four areas: Energy and Green Building; Disaster Safety and Mitigation; Fire Safety and Awareness; and Backyard Safety. Across the nation, leaders and communities are promoting the use and understanding of these topics to protect lives and property.

“Building safety and fire prevention experts inspect buildings during and after construction to ensure the places we live, learn, work, worship and play are safe,” said Harold Morehouse, Town of Penfield Building and Zoning Director.

Building safety and fire prevention codes address all aspects of construction, such as structural soundness of buildings, reliability of fire prevention and suppression systems, plumbing and mechanical systems, and energy efficiency and sustainability. The safety of structures requires the active participation of building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, builders, engineers and others in the construction industry, as well as property owners.

“Public safety is our number one concern,” said Supervisor Tony LaFountain. “During Building Safety Month—and throughout the year—building safety and fire prevention officials help protect every
News from Penfield, page two of two

individual in our community. It’s important to remember this as we enter our busy season for permits as people work on home additions, decks, pools and other projects.”

Over the last two years, nearly 4,000 people and more than 70 jurisdictions across the United States have issued proclamations, declarations and letters of support for Building Safety Month.
The ICC is a membership association dedicated to building safety, fire prevention and energy efficiency. It develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools.

Most U.S. cities, counties and states choose “International Codes,” building safety codes developed by the International Code Council. The International Codes also serve as the basis for construction of federal properties around the world, and as a reference for many nations outside the United States. Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council Foundation (ICCF), the non-profit subsidiary of the International Code Council (ICC).

###

**Media Contacts**

R. Anthony (Tony) LaFountain, Penfield Town Supervisor  585.340.8631
Phyllis Ely, Communications  585.340.8647