NEWS FROM THE TOWN OF PENFIELD

R. Anthony LaFountain, Supervisor
3100 Atlantic Avenue
Penfield, New York 14526-9798
Phone: 585-340-8630

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Penfield observes “National Drive Electric Week” with free event Sept. 18
- Penfield Town Hall campus, 3100 Atlantic Ave, 2:00-7:00 PM -

PENFIELD, N.Y., SEPTEMBER 11, 2014 – The Town of Penfield will join more than 125 cities and towns in 35 states and abroad to observe “National Drive Electric Week,” September 15-21.

Penfield’s free “Drive Electric” day is Thursday, September 18, 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Penfield Town Hall campus, 3100 Atlantic Avenue. The event is being coordinated by Bob Kanauer, an electrical engineer, member of the Town of Penfield’s Energy & Environment Advisory Committee, and owner of LTHS Solar. Event hosts are the town’s Energy and Environmental Advisory Committee, Genesee Region Clean Communities, and the New York State Electric Auto Association.

The public is invited to learn about the convenience, clean-air benefits, cost-savings and fun of electric vehicles. Visitors will see the newest electric vehicles, have an opportunity to speak to local experts on electric vehicle technology, see how electric vehicle charging stations operate, and drive/ride in some of the vehicles. Electric car owners who wish to participate may register at http://www.pluginday.org.

The Town of Penfield installed the first publicly available electric vehicle charging station in Monroe County at the Penfield Community Center in 2012. In May of 2013 the Town of Penfield installed a second public electric vehicle charging station at the town hall complex on Atlantic Avenue, and a third is underway in Harris Whalen Park. In April of this year 24 electric vehicle stations went live in the City of Rochester.

“Three years ago Penfield was the first community in the county to install a public charging station,” said Supervisor Tony LaFountain. “We are currently working on our third unit based on usage and demand. Penfield continues to be a leader in sustainability in a variety of ways, which is among the
reasons families choose to move to our community, raise their families, and live as responsible stewards of the environment.”

National Drive Electric Week (formerly National Plug In Day) has quadrupled in size since its 2011 launch. It is expected to draw at least 35,000 total attendees this year. Many cities are participating for the first time and others are going on their fourth consecutive year. Penfield is participating for the third straight year. Just as U.S. plug-in vehicle sales are expected to reach their first quarter-million mark, cities will offer one-day activities or observe the celebration’s entire week, organized nationally by Plug In America, the Sierra Club and the Electric Auto Association.

"As we celebrate the first quarter-million plug-ins sold, these vehicles continue their inevitable march toward mainstream adoption," said Plug in America President Richard Kelly. "Plug-ins offer the industry’s most efficient technology, freedom from gas stations, costly car repairs and reliance on foreign oil, and the option to drive on renewable energy, delivering tremendous public health and environmental benefits. National Drive Electric Week offers everyone the chance to learn this first hand."

**LEARN MORE**
For details about individual events, visit the National Drive Electric Week Events page.

**Plug In America:** Plug In America, a San Francisco-based national nonprofit organization, works to accelerate the shift to plug-in vehicles powered by clean, affordable, domestic electricity to reduce our nation’s dependence on petroleum and improve the global environment. [www.pluginamerica.org](http://www.pluginamerica.org).

**Sierra Club:** The Sierra Club’s national electric vehicles campaign advocates for a switch to EVs as one important way to reduce emissions and cut our addiction to oil. [www.sierraclub.org/EVGuide](http://www.sierraclub.org/EVGuide).

**Electric Auto Association:** The Electric Auto Association, formed in 1967, is a nonprofit educational organization with 75 chapters worldwide that promotes the advancement and widespread adoption of electric vehicles. [www.electricauto.org](http://www.electricauto.org).

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**Media Contacts**

**R. Anthony (Tony) LaFountain, Penfield Town Supervisor**
585.340.8631 or supervisor@penfield.org

**Phyllis Ely, Communications**
585.340.8647 or ely@penfield.org

**Bob Kanauer, LTHS Solar, 585. 415-2191 or kanauer@frontiernet.net**