On behalf of the Town Board, I would like to wish all Penfield residents a very healthy, prosperous, and happy New Year; I look forward to serving you as Town Supervisor in 2019.

The next Flapjack Saturday Community Fundraiser sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Penfield (FBP) will be held on Saturday, January 19 from 8:00 to 10:00 AM at 1862 Penfield Road. FBP invites you for delicious pancakes, pure maple syrup, scrambled eggs, sausages, and more—all for just $5.00 per person. All January proceeds will go directly to help support the Shepherd Home, a hospice care facility in Penfield providing 24-hour care for the terminally ill in a residential setting. Shepherd Home offers physical, emotional, and spiritual support to those facing the prospect of death. They also provide hospitality and support to family members and friends as well as bereavement counseling and community education. For more information on the Shepherd Home go to www.shepherdhome.org. Please note that Fellowship Hall is handicap accessible and the breakfast is outstanding! For more information and details, please visit www.fbpenfield.org.

Work on the solar array located adjacent to the DPW facility on Jackson Road is progressing nicely. Most of the rack bracing that supports the 3,648 solar panels is completed and the contractor has begun installing the first few rows of panels. This task will continue over the next two to four weeks with a goal of all having all panels installed and wired by end of January if the weather cooperates. Finally, we remain optimistic that we continue to run ahead of the projected February 22 “permission to operate” from RG&E. Stay tuned for further updates on this project.

The cleanup of compromised trees and hazardous conditions continues at the former back nine of Shadow Pines. The mild stretch of winter weather has given DPW crews more opportunity to work at the site rather than responding to the usual snow and ice removal expected this time of year. Our large excavator recently experienced some mechanical problems and will be in the shop for the next several weeks, thus our cleanup efforts will be slowed a bit. Our goal continues to have the property ready for cross-country skiing, sledding, and snowshoeing once we receive significant snow. We will keep everyone updated via this column and the website once this area is officially open.

More on Shadow Pines...we have recently heard from different sources that an individual or individuals have been seen bow hunting on the former back nine—this is troubling for many reasons. First, NO hunting is permitted on any town-owned property and no hunting is permitted anywhere in this part of town. Secondly, the back nine of Shadow Pines remains closed to the public and no one should be on the site for any reason. We have informed the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation of this concern. Anyone caught hunting on this or any town-owned property will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

With the recent mild weather many residents are already thinking about getting their spring gardens organized. If you are in the garden planning mood please mark your calendar for the “Seed Swap” hosted by the Penfield Community Victory Garden on Saturday, January 26 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Penfield Community Center. Participants will share seeds, learn from some fun talks, practice making seed-starting tools, and enjoy refreshments. There will be a demonstration on making your own environmentally friendly paper pots and a couple of really neat methods for creating your own seed tapes and “square-foot” pre-seeded papers.

Christine Froehlich (www.gardeningwithwhatyouhave.com), an instructor, garden designer and author, will present a slide-talk on winter-forcing flowering branches. This program is co-sponsored by the Penfield Community Victory Garden and Flower City Garden Network. This event is free and open to the public; however, pre-registration is requested by emailing flowercitygardennetwork@gmail.com.

Remember registration for all Pen-Rec Winter/Spring programs begins January 2, so do not delay in signing up!

Until next week, be well and be safe...happy New Year!

Tony

supervisor@penfield.org