Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column

Week of January 11, 2016

Last weekend I had the honor of attending the swearing-in ceremony for Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo. When I served in the Monroe County Legislature, I had the pleasure of working with Cheryl. She is a person of high integrity who consistently looks for ways to better the overall community of Monroe. It is important to have a strong relationship between county and local governments and I look forward to working with Cheryl as our county executive.

I also attended the swearing-in of the twenty-nine county legislators including my legislator, Debbie Drawe, representing the 9th district and our newest legislator, George Hebert, representing the 15th district and succeeding my good friend Dan Quatro who was term-limited. I look forward to working for the good of Penfield with both Debbie and George.

Lastly, local elected officials were sworn-in on Wednesday, January 6 including Linda Kohl and Rob Quinn for the Penfield Town Board; John Lomenzo, Jr. as Town Justice, and myself as your Town Supervisor. Following the ceremony the town board held the 2016 organizational meeting. Each year at this meeting all annual appointments are made, wage and salary schedules are adopted, banking arrangements are established, contracts are adopted, consultants are named, and fees established. We all look forward to serving you in 2016.

There have been several inquiries about Penfield Community TV (PCTV) channels 12 and 15 not broadcasting 24/7 as in the past. While I have reported about this at town board meetings and with other groups and organizations, I want to take a moment to update everyone on the current status. In late September of 2015 the playback system for PCTV failed. While we can still broadcast our meetings live and make video available for viewing on our website within 36-to-48 hours of the meeting, we are not able to re-play or re-broadcast meetings on your TV on channels 12 and 15 as we have in the past.

The cost to replace the playback system is more than $65,000. The town board has asked the PCTV team and me to explore all available alternatives, including partnering with other adjacent communities, as part of the governor’s encouragement of shared services. As technology advances are made, we also want to consider what other means of communications could or should be offered to expand opportunities for residents to access to their local government. While TV is an important media, the board continues to hear the need for additional quicker, faster, and cheaper ways to gain information from local government. Over the next several months I will keep you posted through this column as we look at various alternatives for enhancing and/or expanding ways to get information into the hands of Penfield residents.

February and April breaks are just around the corner. The Penfield Recreation Department has a complete lineup of activities for our young residents for those weeks. Programs include arts and crafts, special events, and physical and recreational activities. Check out page 19 of the winter/spring 2016 brochure for more information and details on all programs. You can also go to www.penfieldrec.org to view the brochure in detail and register.

On December 31 I attended the North East Joint Fire Department’s north station dedication ceremony located at 600 Phillips Road. The North East Fire District services the towns of Penfield and Webster. I would like to congratulate the fire commissioners, staff, and volunteers of the North East District on this wonderful new station that will serve our community for decades to come. Be well and be safe!

Until next week, continue to enjoy the relatively nice weather for this time of the year, it certainly is making for a shorter winter.

Tony

supervisor@penfield.org

supervisor@penfield.org 585.340.8630 www.penfield.org