At the close of 2014 the town took possession of an 18-acre parcel on the west side of Route 250 between Northrup and Plank Roads that was donated by the Amish family in memory of their parents. This property is to be known as “The Four Mile Creek Nature Preserve.” It will be added to our open space inventory to be preserved for generations to come. A sign to identify the parcel will be installed in the spring.

More than 100 volunteers serve on various town boards and committees. Openings occur when terms expire or when members step down due to relocation, job commitments or retirement. If you are interested in serving on any board or committee please send a letter or email of interest along with a brief resume to the town board. The board keeps an active file of interested candidates in the event openings occur during the year. Go to www.penfield.org, “boards and committees,” to learn more about opportunities for service. Email your interest to supervisor@penfield.org or send a letter to the supervisor’s office, 3100 Atlantic Ave, Penfield 14526.

I am often reminded of the many great ways service and religious organizations support the Penfield community. As I was preparing this week’s column I received a call from a neighbor, Kathy, who is active in the First Baptist Church at 1862 Penfield Road. Kathy asked me to remind the community of their monthly pancake breakfast, which is open to the public. The breakfast is held on the third Saturday of every month (except July and August) from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Proceeds go to various charities in and around Penfield. The January 17 breakfast will support the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf. Mark your calendars and come to the First Baptist Church for good food and great conversation. I hope to see you there!

If you see Penfield Central School District (PCSD) vehicles pulling in and out of Philbrick Park off Rt. 441 it is because of a partnership between the Town of Penfield and the PCSD. In recent years the town has consolidated Highway, Parks and Facilities departments into one location at our DPW complex on Jackson Road, freeing up space at Philbrick Park. For many years the PCSD Transportation & Facilities Complex on Five Mile Line Road has been experiencing a space problem. Working together, we were able to facilitate moving PCSD’s Grounds & Facilities group to the Philbrick park site, creating a win-win situation. The town building is now occupied instead of sitting empty, and the cost to the PCSD is for utilities and any incremental improvements. Other discussions between the town and PCSD are ongoing as we look for ways to further partner and reduce costs to taxpayers.

As we are getting hit with the latest blast of winter, I want to remind everyone of important winter safety behaviors. Please keep hydrants clear of snow. Make sure all car windows are free of snow and ice for the best visibility, and drive according to conditions, allowing for extra travel time. Remember that winter parking rules are in place and no overnight parking is allowed on streets to permit safe and effective snow removal. Thank you in advance for your support.

Winter break (February 16–20) is just around the corner, and now is the time to sign up for programs offered by PenRec and the Penfield Library for our young residents. For all the details please see the PenRec Brochure pages 18–42, or log on to www.penfieldrec.org and www.penfieldlibrary.org. Both groups have planned some great activities!

Reminder...all of the Town of Penfield offices will be closed Monday, January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Until next week, be well and be safe!

Tony

supervisor@penfield.org