A resolution was passed by the Town Board at the Wednesday, April 4 meeting, for the direct purchase of the Clark House from the Town’s general fund reserves rather than by bond. This option is available to the Town Board because sales tax revenue for 2017 was higher than projected. Purchasing the Clark House parcel outright will benefit the Town and taxpayers by lowering the overall bonding amount, reducing financing costs, and lowering the projected per household payback cost from an estimated $11 per year for 30 years to between $9 and $10 per year.

Direct purchase of the Clark House will lower the overall costs for this parcel from the projected $260,000. And, separating the Clark House parcel from bonding also eliminates IRS tax implications that could restrict or complicate future uses of the property. After closing, the Town will perform general maintenance to the Clark House and its grounds. The Town will bond the purchase of the remaining 206 golf course acres as originally planned.

While the spring weather is still trying to reach our area, now is the time to start the process of getting a building permit if you intend to add a pool, deck, shed, or addition to your home. Pre-planning and early application will help avoid delays. As the weather improves permit requests increase significantly. The Building Department needs time to review applications and plans prior to the issuance of any permit. The sooner you are in the queue the sooner a permit can be issued—so don’t delay, get your application in early so you can enjoy your project this season. If you have any questions about the process, please go to www.penfield.org (Departments/Building and Zoning) for more information or call 340-8636.

The summer edition of the Pen-Rec brochure will be hitting mailboxes as I write this column. Please take a minute to scan through the extensive lineup of programs for residents of all ages—another great job by the Recreation Department team for continuing to look at new and interesting programs to serve you. Remember to sign up early as our programs tend to fill up quickly. This brochure is also online at www.penfieldrec.org.

You have heard me say many times, “healthy businesses make for a healthy community.” As you are looking through the current Pen-Rec brochure you will see a number of businesses that help to underwrite our programs to keep costs as low as possible. Please consider supporting these businesses and thank them for being so involved with our town. I know they will appreciate your patronage and kind words.

The Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf (PEFS) is sponsoring a new program called “Summer Food for Kids.” This program will help ensure that our youngest residents have access to healthy food during the summer months. You can help by donating tuna, mac & cheese, canned pasta, beef stew, applesauce cups, microwaveable bowls, and mayonnaise and jelly in plastic jars. Please drop off your food donations in the chute at the back of the Food Shelf, 1618 Jackson Road, by June 15. For more information on this program and all of the other great things PEFS does to support our great community, please go to www.penfieldecumenicalfoodshelf.org.

Seasonal jobs...applications are being accepted for the following positions: school-year lifeguard/WSI, program specialists, and volunteers. Applications are available at the Recreation Department Office, 1985 Baird Road.

Bri-Pen Senior Rides continues to look for volunteers to drive Penfield and Brighton seniors to their medical appointments, religious services, and town community centers. Drive at your convenience, any availability is a great help. Please call 340-8674 for more details and to sign up. Thank you in advance for assisting your fellow residents who may not have access to transportation that helps to keep them healthy and connected.

Until next week, bundle up and brave this latest winter weather blast...spring has to be just around the corner!