The Elderwood Assisted Living at Penfield, located on Route 250 north of Route 441, recently held its ribbon cutting ceremony. This 90-unit facility is a blend of independence and care, as well as private life and social life. With various sized units to select from, amenities include a conservatory, computer room and library, a movie theater, courtyard, chapel, beauty and barber shop, gift shop, and much more.

This is another example of the variety of housing offered in the Penfield community to allow our residents to remain in this wonderful community…to the entire Elderwood family and staff, welcome to Penfield.

All of the Town of Penfield department heads have turned in their budgets for 2011. Over the next 45 days the Comptroller and I will be meeting with them to review additions, deletions, and other proposed changes. It is my intention to present a realistic and fiscally responsible budget to the Town Board for its adoption in the fall.

The rest of the budget calendar is as follows; once we have completed our meetings with department heads, I will prepare the “tentative budget” proposal for 2011 and submit it to the Town Board by mid-September; a public hearing will be held the first week of October, with the final budget being adopted by the Board before the end of October, consistent with past practices of more than 38 years.

Exciting news…I was notified last week by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) that they will be installing a three-color signal light at the intersection of Atlantic Avenue and Jackson Road. This signal light comes after years of ongoing efforts to improve the safety of the intersection including construction, signage, and education.

I commend past town officials and our town staff for their focus on improving this intersection over the years. The Town Board looks forward to working with NYSDOT on this very important and necessary project. Design is underway and it is hoped that construction can start as early as this fall.

The weather was perfect, the parade the largest that I can recall over the past 25 years, the food and music wonderful, and the fireworks spectacular! Yes, it was another very successful Fourth of July celebration in Penfield. I would like to recognize and thank everyone from our Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Departments who made this two-day event as special as it was for our residents, friends, and visitors…great job team!

I close with a story that many of you have seen reported over the last week on many of the news outlets — that is the story of Don Alhart’s induction into the New York State Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame on June 28. I had the honor to first meet Don early in 1981 as I was chairing the Zoning Board of Appeals when he and several of his neighbors attended a meeting. Don’s reputation preceded him as a bright, articulate, and hardworking professional.

Over the years all of us have seen him become a very well known and dominant figure in the broadcasting business in this region. Penfield is fortunate to have Don call this community home. On behalf of all the residents of this great town…Mr. Don Alhart, thank you for everything you have done to affect all of our lives and congratulations on this very well deserved and prestigious award.

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