Last week I was passing through the Four Corners at noon to stop for a slice of pizza. This, by itself, was not unusual. What was unusual was this: As I approached the intersection, I saw that left-hand turn arrows were operating for the northbound and southbound lanes of Five Mile Line Road—a fantastic sight!

Here’s a little history on the subject. Back in the mid- to late-1980s, former Supervisor Don Mack had the vision that this busy intersection warranted turn arrows in all four directions. His idea began an almost quarter-century quest of letter writing, petitions, traffic studies and more. Persistence has paid off! Through a lot of effort from the NYS Department of Transportation, local businesses, and many Penfield residents, we have finally realized the turn arrows which I believe will make this intersection safer and flow more effectively. I would like to thank the contractor, Caccamise Electric Co., for recognizing these improvements needed to be completed sooner rather than later for the safety of all vehicular traffic passing through this intersection. Congratulations and thank you to all who helped make this early vision for turn arrows a reality, they will make a big difference in our community!

The Department of Public Works (DPW) recently held two events for Penfield residents. The first was at the Community Center in conjunction with the Penfield Public Library’s “Dig it! Haul it! Construct it!” program for children. DPW brought in several trucks, back hoes, excavators, and more to help with show and tell for the children. The word back from DPW is that the adults had as much, if not more, than the kids! There’s something about big equipment and digging in the dirt that seems to bring the kid out in all of us!

The second event was an open house at the DPW Operation Center on Jackson Road. DPW employees had an opportunity to showcase various types of equipment including plows, loaders, sewer flush and TV camera truck, specialty mowers, excavators, and loaders. There were also discussions and demonstrations on our energy management system, electric charging stations, rain gardens, street sign replacement, solar power, and various types of recycling. I want to thank everyone for stopping by to meet our employees and learn more about what Penfield DPW does to support our residents day in and day out.

For those who are Time Warner Cable (TWC) customers, we have recently received correspondence about the company’s initiative to convert analog channels to digital-only format on or around July 23. So what does this mean for Public, Education and Government (PEG) channels 4, 12 and 15? Will you still be able to tune in to meetings for town, planning and zoning boards? What about community special events, school board meetings and information meetings? What can we tell you is we are working with TWC to try and make sure our residents still have full access to these channels. PEG access may be moved to the digital channel 98 series, or they may require special equipment or adapters depending on television equipment. After nearly 40 years of PEG channels being located on 4, 12 and 15, we are committed to helping residents watch community programming as best we can. We will learn together, and we will be providing you with additional information, updates, links and diagrams on our Penfield Community TV website at www.penfieldtv.org. Log on and provide us your questions and thoughts about these changes; I’m sure TWC would welcome your questions and comments as well. They can be reached at www.twc.com scroll down and click on ‘contact us’ or call 800.756.7956.

Please note…this will be my last column to appear in the Penfield Post for the next sixteen weeks to respect the upcoming 2013 local election blackout period and ensure no one political party is receiving an advantage or disadvantage between now and Election Day. That doesn’t mean news from the town will stop coming your way! I have asked town staff and department heads to be your guest columnists to share information about their many projects and programs. You can expect to hear updates regarding the Penfield library, planning and zoning, drainage, traffic safety, code enforcement, recreation, local history, community television and more. While I cannot have my column published in the paper, it still will be available online at www.penfield.org. I look forward to this column resuming in the newspaper the week of November 11.

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