The town board votes to adopt the 2016 Final Budget at the October 21 legislative meeting. The 2016 budget has a tax increase of $0.05 per thousand of assessed valuation, or $9.00 per year on an $180,000 household. This is the first time we have had to raise the rate since 2010. Every town, as well as our individual households, are battling double-digit increases on medical premiums and insurance. Additionally, we have seen revenues drop as other governmental agencies look to reduce their own costs. I believe the 2016 budget is fiscally responsible and provides the same level of services as we have provided in the past. Penfield’s property tax rate remains one of the lowest in Monroe County. The Town of Penfield receives approximately $0.08 of each tax dollar (8 cents). I would like to thank all of the department heads, the comptroller, and the town board for their efforts in preparing a fiscally responsible budget that reduces spending and maintains services for Penfield residents.

Last week I had the honor of attending the annual “Lakeshore-Rochester Kiwanis Clubs Law and Order/Firefighters Day Luncheon” to recognize members of law enforcement and the fire service who respond above and beyond the call of duty. The reputations of Rochester and Monroe County public safety providers are held in high esteem across the country. It is extremely moving to hear individual accounts of those who risked their lives to save others. On behalf of the Penfield Town Board I want to recognize and thank everyone involved in public safety—not only in Penfield but across the entire county—for their dedicated service in protecting us all. You are our heroes!

Your community theatre presents “Private Lives” by Noel Coward and directed by Diane Schaumberg. This comedy will run October 30 through November 14. The Penfield Players are celebrating their 51st year of providing outstanding entertainment to the Penfield Community. “Private Lives” follows the adventures of a rich and reckless pair of exes. Elyot and Amanda have been divorced from each other for five years and are now both honeymooning with their new spouses on the French Riviera. Is it fate or just a chance encounter when they meet again across adjoining balconies? With champagne in hand and caution to the sea-salted wind, passion is immediately ignited in this dazzling whirlwind of love, lust, and conflict. **Show dates and times** are as follows: October 30, November 6, 7, 13, and 14 at 8:00 pm; November 1 at 2:00 pm. All performances will be held at Penfield Community Center, 1985 Baird Road. For tickets, please call the box office at 340-8655 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to charge by phone, or visit [www.penfieldrec.org](http://www.penfieldrec.org) to purchase online. Please note: advance tickets ($12) must be purchased online or called in by 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to each show date. There is no guarantee of availability after 4:00 p.m. Tickets at the door are $15.

As the leaves continue to fall over the next several weeks, please keep an eye on yard inlets and roadside catch basins to make sure they are not blocked with leaves and debris. Keeping them clear will help to minimize any flooding with the fall rains...thank you!

Important dates and events in history: October 19, 1845 – U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis is founded; October 22, 1861 – the transcontinental telegraph is completed; and October 22, 1962 – The Soviet Union pulls its missiles out of Cuba.

Until next week, be well and be safe!

Tony