The Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf (PEFS) held an open house last week to showcase improvements they have made to the inside and outside of the building at 1618 Jackson Road. Many volunteer hours have been invested to repair, update, and enhance this wonderful facility in our community that provides a necessary service to residents who may need some extra help and support. Our town DPW employees have supported a number of projects to provide safe ingress and egress for residents visiting PEFS. From now until mid-December we will be collecting non-perishable food goods at the town hall and community center to be donated during the critical Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Please feel free to stop by with donations during normal business hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Every little bit helps to keep the shelves stocked. Thank you in advance for generosity, you do make a difference!

On November 6 we hosted Harris Hill fifth graders for their annual visit to the town hall to learn about local government and town operations. Our staff enjoys the energy, interest, and questions these young adults bring to the floor for discussion. The students enjoyed presentations by DPW, Building, Zoning, Fire Marshal, Animal Control, Planning, and the Town Clerk’s Office. I was extremely impressed on how well behaved these students were and their interest to learn and understand the services and support local government provides to their community and families. With this caliber of students coming through our school system, we are in good hands for the future.

I am reminded by our Recreation Department of two holiday events coming up, so please mark your calendars. The first is the Holiday Luncheon on Tuesday, December 2 at noon. This popular luncheon is a tasty meal with all the trimmings plus entertainment. Luncheon tickets are $6.00 and may be purchased at the Rec Office through Tuesday November 25. The second event is the family holiday celebration on Friday, December 5 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. This fun evening for all ages includes dinner, games and crafts, and special guests from the North Pole. More details are available at www.penfieldrec.org.

Like it or not, the snow and cold is just around the corner. Winter parking rules are in effect from November 15 through April 1. This means no parking is allowed on all roads and highways between 2:00 and 7:00 a.m. to permit highway crews to safely and effectively plow and maintain roads. Thank you in advance for your understanding and support on this matter.

The Penfield Public Library offers many children’s programs throughout the year. Several have recently caught my eye that I would like to share with you. There is a Gingerbread House Workshop on Saturday, December 6 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. for children in first through fifth grade accompanied by an adult. Next up is a Library Lego Lab on Monday, December 22 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. children ages 6 to 11. The season wraps up with a Happy “New Year” Game Day on Wednesday, December 31 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. for children ages 4 and up accompanied by an adult. For more information on these programs and more, please log on to www.penfieldlibrary.org. These programs are sponsored by the Friends of Penfield Public Library.

Important dates and events in history: November 17, 1869 – The Suez Canal opens for business in Egypt linking the Mediterranean and Red Seas. November 19, 1863 – President Abraham Lincoln gives the Gettysburg Address in a ceremony dedicating the battlefield at Gettysburg, PA. November 22, 1963 – Youthful President John F. Kennedy is tragically cut down by an assassin’s bullet in Dallas, Texas.

Until next week, with all the recent rain, please consider cleaning fallen leaves from catch basins and inlet grates to allow water to flow so it will not back up into your yard or the yards of your neighbors. Thank you in advance for your support!

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